



**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Rowlett Community Centre, Room D**  
**5300 Main Street, Rowlett TX 75088**

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**PRESENT:** Lonnie Cornwell, Wayne Baxter, Mike DeLatte, Ken Romaine, Bill Gilbreath, , Matt Grubisich, John Macatee, Debby Bobbitt, Rhettta Bowers, Brownie Sherrill, Rick Helpers

**ABSENT:** Fredrick Bradshaw

**VISTORS:**

**STAFF:** Angie Smith, Recreation Division Manager, Michael Carmack, Parks Division Manager

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1. The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
2. Quorum: Chairman select voting alternative if necessary
3. Brownie S. motioned to accept the December minutes and Ken R. seconded the motion. All approved.
4. Tennis Program: Wayne B.
  - a. Angie S. shared she sent out survey to e-news subscribers with 1600 persons to open the link and received 218 responses. From these responses 69% are interested in a tennis program. Mainly youth interest and group instruction seems to be the preference rather than tennis leagues. As of January 7<sup>th</sup> the information is on the Rowlett home page for awareness. Once we obtain more feedback and as we prepare for the Summer Lakeside Leisure we will look for an instructor.
  - b. Wayne B reviewed how this originated from a previous meeting and that the information will be on the website for another month therefore we may obtain more feedback to look at this for a program to offer to the community.
5. Rowlett Softball Association: Mike D.
  - a. Mike D. shared a presentation to the members in regards to a brief history of Rowlett adult softball, league teams, 2012 income statement, highlights, and future challenges. 2011 was the best year and 2012 was the second to best year in regards to the number of teams. There was a discussion amongst members on the information included in the handouts provided.
6. Identify subcommittees and committee members: Wayne B.
  - a. The following subcommittees were identified:
    - Sports Association – Mike D., Fred B., John M.
    - Dog Park – Wayne B., Ken R., Rick H.
    - Keep Rowlett Beautiful – Lonnie C., Rhettta B.
    - PARDners – Debby B., Rhettta B.
    - Government – Brownie S., Wayne B.
    - Tree – Matt G., Lonnie C.
    - Bike – Bill G., Fred B.



7. Numbering System for Trails: Mike C.

- a. Mike C. handed out signage pricing and explained that the focus will be on the parks (Springfield, Community, Pecan Grove, and Katy) that have the largest trails. Introduced the options for the types of posts and signage. Mike C. stated that the emergency agencies would prefer not using the asphalt designs due to their tracking system therefore they prefer the posts and their recommendation is placing them every 10<sup>th</sup> of a mile.
- b. Members discussed the options for posts and signage as well as labor, longevity, safety, and budget. The topic brought about considering sponsorship options too. After a discussion on where the markers may be placed Lonnie C. made a motion to adopt there be .25 mile markers for the park trails and Brownie S. seconded that motion. Members were unanimously in favor.
- c. Wayne B. suggested a letter be sent to Traffic and Safety Committee stating what is needed and explaining the decision in regards to cost and esthetics. Unanimous vote in favor.

8. Explore possibility of requesting a new city ordinance in enclosed park areas for pets: Wayne B.

- a. Mike D. expressed concern for safety issues in relation to pets being in enclosed areas such as fenced in baseball fields or playgrounds, tennis courts, etc.
- b. Wayne expressed we need to be clear before we can make suggestions to the city council. A discussion took place regarding adding any "concentration of people" to the ordinance as well. Each member was asked to share an opinion: Matt G. mentioned that wording would need to be specific if stipulating pets but in favor of ordinance; Rick H. feels it is a personal responsibility but not completely sold for the city stipulating this but maybe for special events; Ken R. agrees in regards to the concentration of people; John M. is in favor of an ordinance; Brownie S. would support that the concentration of people; Rhetta B. supports due to concern of children and safety; Bill G. has concern of the language of ordinance when there is events that include animals but does agree in regards to the enclosed areas; Lonnie C. is in favor with the concentration of people but voiced we are all citizens and have good intentions but also have to recognize it does decrease an individual's freedom. Wayne B. agrees but stated we also need to look at tax monies and lawsuits if something happens to a citizen; Debbie B. is in favor of keeping the dogs out of the enclosed areas but okay with them at special events; Mike D. is in favor for the enclosed areas.
- c. Angie S. mentioned there is an ordinance for horses not being in parks.
- d. Wayne B. reminded that this is an advisory board and all we can do is make recommendations to the city council. Wayne suggested that we send a letter to the city council that we believe there should be an ordinance regarding pets in enclosed areas (i.e. Community park phase I baseball field, phase II softball, Kids Kingdom, new t-ball fields, Herfuth baseball/t-ball fields, Herfuth tennis courts, Twin Star Park). Wayne B. asked if there can be a hold on including special events until there appears to be a problem and the members present agreed. Wayne B. asked if this information can be provided to J. Stevenson and request him to do some more research on this before submitting a letter to the city council.

9. Dr. Pepper/Snapple grant received:

- a. Mike C. stated we applied for four separate \$750 grants. Dr. Pepper/Snapple will go to city council and make a presentation for awarding these grants. Kenwood Heights, Pecan Grove, Katy Railroad Park, Community Park and be used for surface materials for the playgrounds.



10. Angie S. gave Director's Report for Jermel S.:

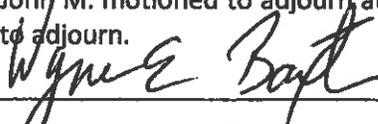
- a. First round of CAPRA documentation was submitted December 15<sup>th</sup> following a timeline that was developed over a 6 month period. The second submission of documentation is for January 15<sup>th</sup>. The team continues to progress on CAPRA and to attend bi-monthly update meetings.
- b. Quarterly Sports Association meeting was held on December 11<sup>th</sup> with Rowlett youth soccer, Rowlett hockey Association, and Rowlett adult softball. Updates were given on ongoing projects and addressed some wish lists for Spring 2013. Athletic facility utilization agreements were addressed because these new agreements were delivered on December 18<sup>th</sup> which took effect January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013. Fees did not change.
- c. Continuing zero-scaping efforts of low maintenance and low water requirements for plant materials around the city. Positive feedback from neighbors in the area. Added materials to the Princeton & Delrock road split and to the Princeton & Liberty Grove locations.
- d. On December 21<sup>st</sup> the project of planting fifty three new trees Cheisa & Dandridge road was completed. This consisted of 15 crape myrtles, 17 glory maples, and 21 chinese pistache. This was a 3 day project that utilized money from tree mitigation funds that was in the amount of \$10,438 to replace tree from previous road construction and enhance this area for the community.
- e. The second annual event for seniors to celebrate the coming of the new year was held on December 31<sup>st</sup> at noon with live entertainment and snacks. This was to help prevent seniors from being on the road at night. There were 51 persons who registered compared to 41 the previous year.
- f. Rowlett basketball leagues began at the RCC on January 5<sup>th</sup>. Games will be held each Saturday.

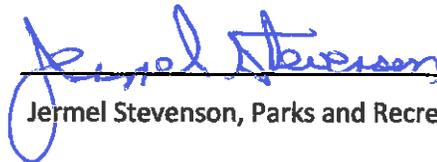
11. Public Announcement. Members of the Board and/or staff may make announcements of local civic events. No member of the board or commission may discuss nor take any action with regard to the announcements.

12. Members of the Board may request topics for future agenda meetings. No member of the board or commission may discuss any of the requested subjects until such matters have been properly placed on a posted agenda.

- a. Bike trails

13. John M. motioned to adjourn at 8:52 pm. Brownie S. seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous to adjourn.

  
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Wayne Baxter, Chairman

  
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Jermel Stevenson, Parks and Recreation Director