



*MINUTES*

**SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Monday, May 18, 2009, 10:00 a.m.**

*City Hall Conference Room*  
*4000 Main Street \* Rowlett, Texas 75088*

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Present: Bobbie Jo Kelly, Clarence James, Susan Turek, Bobby Wright, Bob Landrum,  
Absent: Ruth James, Fred Cares, Ceaser Hancock  
Guests: Larry Beckham, Marvin Overstreet, Yvonne Watkins, Donna Davis, Lilly Gaytan  
Staff: Lynda Humble, City Manager, Heath Olinger, Recreation Manager; Dianne Zachary, Sr. Administrative Assistant, Katie Corder, Assistant City Manager, Blake Holder, Recreation Intern; Sandy Beffa, Recreation Coordinator

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1. The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am by the Chair.
2. City Manager Lynda Humble informed the Board that Cathy Cockcroft has been promoted to Library Director, and that she would respect Tim Hightshoe's request to resume his position as Parks Division Manager and step down as Interim Parks Director effective June 1, 2009. Advertising for a new Director of Parks & Recreation, after 2-year vacancy, will begin in June.

The City Manager asked for input from the Senior Advisory Board as to the qualifications they would like to have in a new Parks & Recreation Director. The following are suggestions from the Board:

- Experience in working with seniors
  - A good manager who has a good rapport with all ages.
  - Goal Oriented
  - People person
  - Good Listener
  - Decision Maker
  - Someone who is accustomed to building programs.
  - A planner with long term ideas
  - Strategic Thinker
  - Someone who considers all needs and get what they need.
  - Communicator
  - Someone who is not afraid to fail.
3. Clarence James was asked to serve as a voting member in the absence of a quorum.
  4. The minutes from the April 20, 2009 meeting were unanimously approved with one correction following a motion by Bobby Wright and a second by Susan Turek.



5. Bobbie Jo Kelly presented Certificates of Appreciation to Donna Davis, Yvonne Watkins, and Larry Beckham, and will present them to Gaylyn Beckham, Janet Grossie, Nancy Vermeer and Caroline Doyle who were unable to attend this meeting.
6. Donna Huerta, City of Rowlett Communications Manager, discussed Communication Outlets with the Board. There are several ways the city shares information with citizens:
  - Emails
  - Word on the Street
  - Community E-news email
  - I-Pods
  - Cell Phones
  - Facebook
  - Twitter
  - City Website
  - Channel 16
  - Water bills
  - Surveys at events
  - Signs on the street

The following suggestions were made:

- All communications in the future should include information about seniors.
  - Many seniors do not use computers.
  - Ask Lakepointe Hospital for partner with communications in their lobbies. Big TV with calendar on rolling screen
  - Donna is looking for grants for an AM Radio Station for the city on which we could advertise events.
  - A place for senior information on the city's website.
  - Partner with Aldies (in former Brookshires location) to place a large community sign at the corner of Rowlett Road and Highway 66 to advertise city events as well as their own advertizing.
  - Longest residents and veteran interviews shown on Channel 16 (Call Drew Rist, city videographer, at 972-6103 to set up appointment for interview.)
7. Heath introduced Blake Holder, Parks & Recreation Intern in charge of Volunteer Coordination. Blake will be officing at the RCC.

Staff updates by Heath Olinger on:

- a. Meals-on-Wheels program – initial service will begin in about 4 weeks on Monday and Fridays to start. Volunteers are still needed to take a 15 minutes training on how to serve the food. Susan Turek will canvass the seniors.
- b. RCC computers for seniors are to be used for classes only except on Friday mornings when they can be used by a qualified computer person to tutor seniors. Heath is in charge of establishing qualifications for instructors for all computer classes. The library has 2 laptops that can be checkout out and used in the library as well.

- c. Setting a uniform "Senior Age" to "60" will go to council on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. 55 to 60-year-olds who are already members will be "grandfathered".
8. Dissolution of the Resource Services subcommittee. (Tabled after a motion from Bobbie Jo Kelly, seconded by Bob Landrum and a unanimous vote.)
9. Report from subcommittees:
  - a. Senior Housing report:

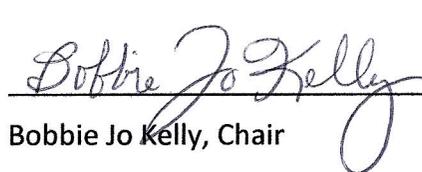
Bob reported that he called to set up a meeting with Ben White, Economic Development Director, but has received no reply. Bob will meet with his subcommittee on senior housing before the June SAB meeting.

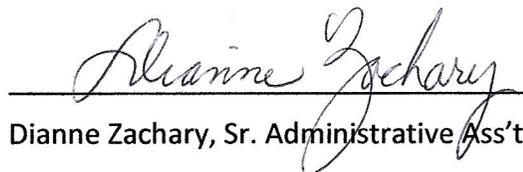
Two major questions need to be answered before June:

    - 1) Is senior housing needed?
    - 2) What kind would benefit Rowlett seniors?
  - b. Potential Grants for Senior Centers report:

Susan Turek reported that the Senior Talent Show raised enough money pay for becoming a non-profit 501c3. She will invite the senior population to be on the non-profit board. The City Attorney, David Berman, has offered to do the legal work for the senior organization, but there is a \$750 filing fee. This will save attorney fees.
  - c. Communication with Seniors (Fred Cares) {5 minutes}
10. Discuss potential senior mentoring with Rowlett businesses. (Tabled in Ceaser's absence.)
  - Heath Olinger shared the Recreation Division's Budget figures with the Board (Attached). The city will no longer subsidize senior trips per the City Manager. Senior membership at the RCC is 784. Heath was asked why snacks for Table Talk are paid for by the City, and not for the Rockers. He will look into it and report back.
11. Sandy Beffa reported on Senior Program Planning for the RCC. The Lakeside Leisure is bringing a good response, but there is a great deal of pre-planning to get programs in the brochure. There will be a 10am meeting tomorrow in Room D to get input on new and existing programs for seniors. Sandy needs input from seniors regarding computer training for the fall and spring. May 21 will be the trip to Corsicana to visit the Civil War Museum.

At 11:35 am the Board no longer had a quorum present and the meeting was adjourned by the Chair.

  
Bobbie Jo Kelly, Chair

  
Dianne Zachary, Sr. Administrative Ass't