

Official Minutes of the Rowlett Arts and Humanities Commission

Date: Tuesday, March 8, 2011

Location: Library Conference Room, 3900 Main Street

- 1) Meeting called to order by Hugo Martinez at 6:30 p.m. and a quorum was present.
 - Members present: Hugo Martinez, Jerry Barshop, Jerry Hickman, Veena Valiaveedu, Celia Barshop and Kris Kriofske.
 - Members absent: Mary Drayer, Andrea Plumlee and Judy Mitzner.
 - Staff present: Brian Funderburk and Brenda Kennedy.
 - Visitors: Donna Davis, City Council Liaison, Chase and Cristina Myrick.
- 2) Consider approving minutes of the regular meeting of February 8, 2011.
 - Hugo Martinez asked to correct the minutes to state "Meeting called to order by Mary Drayer". Motion made to accept minutes as corrected by Jerry Barshop; motion seconded by Celia Barshop; motion passed unanimously.
- 3) Review budget overview from prior month.
 - Members received budget overview, account balance \$1,599.23.
- 4) Finalize FY 2011 budget for contests/projects.
 - a) Discuss Westshore and More event.
Hugo Martinez reported it was decided to "shelve" the event until Rowlett has a Cultural Arts Center.
 - b) Discuss Arts in Education budget.
Last year, grants for Arts in Education were not awarded because none were received. Not sure if there was adequate publicity to generate interest. The intent of the grant is to promote the arts in standalone projects. This year, Commission will be more aggressive with publicity and if there is no interest again this year, will discontinue the grant.
- 5) Discuss plans to keep Cultural Arts Center in City's vision.
 - Hugo Martinez announced Facebook page is up, go to "Rowlett Visual and Performing Arts Facility".
 - Kris Kriofske asked that his report outlining the steps to proceed addressing the Council be added to the Facebook page. He also recommended making this report into a formal document for Council.
 - Without a venue for performing art organizations, it is necessary for groups to go out of the city to hold performances. This makes it hard to attract professional performers for various groups.
 - Celia Barshop asked if there is an economic development analysis. Jerry Barshop, who served on the City's Facility Subcommittee of the Bond Committee, said out of the 25 needs the Cultural Arts Center was 24th on the list. Celia said it's not just a building issue, would need funds for ongoing costs of staffing, equipment, etc. She asked if the City could subsidize?
 - If public is not aware of the need, they cannot support. Commission members asked for the Facility Subcommittee study to be forwarded to them.
 - Good time to update the Comprehensive Report to include the CAC.
 - Need to identify areas that would be suitable for the Center, how to engage.

- Kris will invite Patti Granville to the next meeting to discuss how Garland got started when planning and building their Art Center; what the Commission needs to know to make the Cultural Art Center happen.
 - Brian will invite Erin Jones, Planning Manager, to the April meeting to discuss steps Commission might want to take to begin.
 - Brian discussed upcoming City Sustainability Presentation, "My Community, My Money, My Choice". City Manager Lynda Humble will be attending meetings with citizens to present information as to how citizens' tax dollars are spent. Citizens will be able to vote during the meeting and to let staff know what services are important to them. City hopes to have 1,500 to 2,000 citizens vote.
- 6) Finalize standing committee assignments.
- a) Form an Arts in Education committee.
Veena Valiaveedu and Celia Barshop volunteered for committee. Brenda will email the current application to them for their review and give a report at the April meeting.
- 7) Update from standing committees:
- Writing Contest – Mary Drayer was absent from meeting, no report.
 - Photography Contest – Mary Drayer was absent from meeting, no report.
 - Young Artists Exhibit – received 133 entries. All winners and their families attended the award presentation at the City Council meeting. Jerry Hickman will send Brenda a letter to be mailed to art teachers along with the award and participation ribbons. Will plan the next Young Artists Exhibit using the 2012 Garland Independent School District calendar.
Arts in Education grant – Veena Valiaveedu and Celia Barshop volunteered for committee. Brenda will email the current application to them for their review and give a report at the April meeting.
- 8) Standing Reports.
- Update from the Lakeshore Symphonic Winds.
 - a) Joint Christmas concert planned with the Rowlett Community Chorale.
 - b) Concert planned for 7 p.m. April 17th in Garland at the Plaza Theater.
 - c) Discussed if funds are available in the Arts and Humanities budget, could the Commission subsidize Lakeshore Symphonic Winds and Rowlett Community Chorale to perform in Rowlett? Will add to the April meeting agenda for discussion.
 - Update from Rowlett Community Chorale.
 - a) Concerts planned in June 2011 at St. Mark's church in Plano and a combined Christmas concert with the Lakeshore Symphonic Winds.
- 9) Public Announcements.
- Brian Funderburk made announcement on behalf of the City of Rowlett that during March – May, the City will be conducting citizen surveys on new campaign of services, "Rowlett, My Community, My Money, My Choice". City Manager Lynda Humble will hold meetings, would like to have 1,200 to 1,700 citizens vote during a meeting or online at the City's website.
 - Hugo Martinez announced DART Rowlett Station groundbreaking ceremony planned for March 23rd. Future art contest winning entries will be on display at the station.
- 12) Future topics.
- Call to order

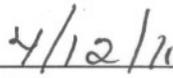
- Consider approving minutes from previous meeting
- Review budget overview of prior month
 - a) Discuss Commission subsidizing the venue costs to have the Lakeshore Symphonic Winds and the Rowlett Community Chorale to perform in Rowlett
- Discuss plans to keep Cultural Art Center in City's vision
 - a) Formalize document for Cultural Art Center
- Receive Arts in Education committee recommendations and finalize project
- Update on Standing Committees
 - a) Writing Contest
 - b) Photography Contest
 - c) Young Artists Exhibit
 - d) Art in Education grant
- Standing Reports:
 - a) Update from Lakeshore Symphonic Winds (Hugo Martinez)
 - b) Update from Rowlett Community Chorale (Mary Drayer)
- Public announcements
- Future topics

13) Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Approved by the Rowlett Arts and Humanities Commission:



Signature



Date