



Official Minutes of the Rowlett Arts and Humanities Commission

Date: Tuesday, March 12, 2013

Location: Library Conference Room, 3900 Main Street

- 1) Meeting called to order by Chair Hugo Martinez at 6:32 p.m. and determined a quorum was present.
- *Members present: Hugo Martinez, Jerry Hickman, LaQueata Brown, Brian Hokanson, Veena Valiaveedu and Steve Sauerwein*
 - *Members absent: Mary Drayer and Aimee Lanier*
 - *Staff present: Brian Funderburk, Assistant City Manager; Erin Jones, Planning Director; Kathy Freiheit, Director of Library Services and Brenda Kennedy, Senior Administrative Assistant*

Kathy Freiheit announced Commission member Jerry Barshop's resignation, effective immediately.

- 2) Consider approving minutes from the regular meeting on February 12, 2013.
- *Motion made by Jerry Hickman to accept the February 12, 2013 meeting minutes as written; Brian Hokanson seconded. Motion carried. Hugo Martinez noted a correction needed at Item 4, third bullet, second line, adding the word "be". Motion to approve minutes as corrected made by Brian Hokanson; Steve Sauerwein seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*
- 3) Discuss 2015 City fiscal challenges with Assistant City Manager Brian Funderburk.
- *Assistant City Manager Brian Funderburk discussed fiscal year 2015 funding and economic challenges faced by the City.*
 - *City is planning Phase II of "Rowlett, My Community, My Money, My Choice" meetings to determine what services citizens value and are willing to pay for. Challenge for the City is to do what is right for Rowlett.*
 - *Factors causing FY2015 to be a pivotal year include decreases in property taxes, senior tax exemptions, increased workers' comp and health insurance costs, proposed employee raises, increases in services costs and capital outlay.*
 - *Rowlett has not had a tax increase in 8 years.*
 - *Erin Jones reviewed "Realize Rowlett 2020" and the different phases with Commission members. Citizens attended meetings to offer input toward the City's Comprehensive Plan.*
 - *Question and answers period followed.*
- 4) Review budget overview from prior month.
- *Year-to-date expenditures \$2,472.04; project timeline reviewed.*
 - *Question asked about if grant reports were completed for the Cultural Art Grants. Reports are due 30 days after the completion. Brenda confirmed reports have been received from organizations who received a Cultural Art Grant in 2012.*
- 5) Receive update on DART Art Project.
- *Kathy inquired about status with Dawn Dorman at DART and is awaiting her reply.*
- 6) Update from standing committees:
- *Writing Contest*
 - Mary was absent; she plans to have the Writing Contest information to schools when they return from Spring Break in March.*
 - LaQueata will continue to send contest info to various media outlets.*

- Photography Contest
--Mary was absent, Hugo asked members to be thinking of a theme for 2013 contest.
- Young Artist Exhibit
--Exhibit was a success; Rockwall High School did not enter Exhibit due to conflicting schedules.
--Reception held for winners and families prior to the City Council presentation Tuesday, February 19th.
- Arts in Education
--Sub-committee members are Hugo, Steve and Veena. Grant information will be sent to public, private and home schools located physically in the City of Rowlett. When Brenda receive list from sub-committee she will email to schools.
- Publicity
-- LaQueata gave a publicity update for the Writing Contest. She has sent info to: City of Rowlett, Neighbors Go, Dallas Morning News, Lakeshore Times and Blue Ribbon.
--After the Council presentation on February 19th, she will send out info announcing Young Artists Exhibit winners.
- Cultural art center
--Nothing to report.

7) Public Announcements.

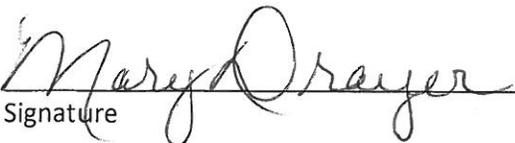
- No announcements.

8) Future topics.

- Call to order
- Consider approving minutes of the previous meeting
- Review budget overview from prior month
- Receive update on DART Art project
- July 25th Volunteer Fair
- Receive updates and take possible action from standing committees:
 - Writing Contest
 - Photography Contest
 - Young Artists Exhibit
 - Arts in Education grants
 - Publicity
 - Cultural arts center
- Public announcements
- Future topics
- Adjournment

9) Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Approved by the Rowlett Arts and Humanities Commission:


Signature

4-9-13
Date