



Official Minutes of the Rowlett Arts and Humanities Commission

Date: Tuesday, April 9, 2013

Location: Library Conference Room, 3900 Main Street

- 1) Meeting called to order by Vice Chair Mary Drayer at 6:34 p.m. and determined a quorum was present.
 - *Members present: Mary Drayer, Aimee Lanier, Jerry Hickman, LaQueata Brown, Brian Hokanson, and Steve Sauerwein*
 - *Members absent: Veena Valiaveedu and Hugo Martinez*
 - *Staff present: Kathy Freiheit, Director of Library Services and Brenda Kennedy, Senior Administrative Assistant*
- 2) Consider approving minutes from the regular meeting on March 12, 2013.
 - *Motion made by Jerry Hickman to accept the March 12, 2013 meeting minutes as written; Steve Sauerwein seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*
- 3) Review budget overview from prior month.
 - *Year-to-date expenditures \$2,472.04; account balance \$1,527.96.*
 - *Jerry Hickman asked if the Commission needs to reimburse the Library for the Young Artist Exhibit reception costs; Kathy Freiheit replied it wasn't necessary for the Commission to do so.*
 - *Discussion regarding the Cultural Arts Grants. To be eligible for future grants, the grant application states, "...recipients agree to provide one program or exhibit for the benefit of the City of Rowlett during the grant year. Program or exhibit will be provided at no cost to the City or to event attendees. Failure to comply will be cause for disqualifications for future grants." The Rowlett High School Art Department received a grant this year to purchase shelving; after discussion Steve will draft a letter to be sent to the teacher to ask them to provide a display of color photos to show how funds were used (to be in compliance Grant Application Assurances).*
- 4) Receive update on DART Art Project.
 - *Last month when Kathy contacted Dawn Dorman at DART, Dawn was out of the office. Kathy learned that she will be out for a couple of months. Kathy has received a new contact at DART and will follow-up with that person in Dawn's absence.*
- 5) Discuss ideas for July 25 Boards and Commissions Volunteer Fair.
 - *This is an annual event presented by the City to promote the various Boards and Commissions and what they do. This is a great way for citizens to learn about the City and to become active in City government.*
 - *Two members are needed that night; Mary volunteered to attend and asked for at least one other member to assist during the fair, please let Mary know if you are interested in attending.*
 - *The Commission does not meet in July.*
- 6) Update from standing committees:
 - *Writing Contest*
 - Contest entry deadline is Monday, April 29th
 - Mary emailed contest information to schools
 - Mary will contact Hugo for judge's contact information
 - Mary will contact judge to confirm the date Commission needs know who won in each division and category (Commission needs information by Tuesday, June 4th to include in the City Council presentation on Tuesday, June 18th and to request award checks)

--Brenda will scan entries and email to judge by Wednesday, May 8th; Brian Hokanson and Aimee Lanier volunteered to assist with scanning of entries

- Photography Contest
 - Suggested themes for 2013 contest:
 - 1) Up Close and Personal
 - 2) Rowlett the Beautiful
 - 3) Macro/Micro Rowlett
 - 4) Through the Looking Glass and What Rowlett Found There
 - Members asked to bring additional suggestions to May meeting; will vote on theme at meeting
- Young Artist Exhibit
 - Exhibit was a huge success
- Arts in Education
 - Sub-committee members are Hugo, Steve and Veena.
 - Steve will compose a cover letter by Friday, April 12th and email to Brenda who will forward with grant applications to private and public schools located in Rowlett (Steve will also include a list of email addresses for those schools)
 - Grant applications are due Friday, May 3rd
 - Brenda will forward grant applications received to sub-committee by Tuesday, May 7th
 - Sub-committee will make recommendations to Commission at the May 14th meeting
 - Schools awarded grants will be notified by letter in May
 - Checks will be issued to schools August 2013
- Publicity
 - LaQueata continues to send out publicity for the Writing Contest; Kathy showed Commission the article Denise Perrin included in the City's April newsletter about the contest.
- Cultural art center
 - In response to presentations made at the March meeting by Assistant City Manager Brian Funderburk and Planning Director Erin Jones, Brian Hokanson asked if the Commission wants to proceed with a survey and continue to research possible corporate sponsors and grant funding for a cultural arts center.
 - Some members shared their impression from the presentation, that the City isn't in a position to support a cultural arts center in the future.
 - Kathy reiterated that due to declining property taxes and other factors presented by Brian Funderburk, the City will face serious financial challenges in fiscal year 2015. Taxpayers may be asked to support a tax increase (to keep the current services) or decline a tax increase (reducing services). In sending out a survey, there is concern over sending a mixed message to citizens.
 - Will include item on May agenda for Commission to discuss and take possible action to continue to research a cultural arts center.

7) Public Announcements.

- No announcements.

8) Future topics.

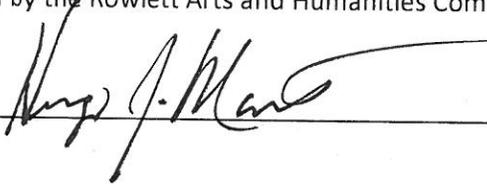
- Call to order
- Consider approving minutes of the previous meeting
- Review budget overview from prior month
- Receive update on DART Art project
- Discuss and take possible action for the July 25th Volunteer Fair
- Receive updates and take possible action from standing committees:

- *Writing Contest*
- *Photography Contest*
- *Young Artists Exhibit*
- *Arts in Education grants*
- *Publicity*
- *Cultural arts center*
 - a) *Discuss and take possible action to research cultural arts centers*
- *Public announcements*
- *Future topics*
- *Adjournment*

9) Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Approved by the Rowlett Arts and Humanities Commission:

Signature



Date

