



Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 10th, 2013
7:00 p.m.

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

PRESENT: Mike DeLatte, Rick Helpers, Lonnie Cornwell, Ken Romaine, Matt Grubisich, Rhetta Bowers, Bill Gilbreath

ABSENT: Wayne Baxter, John Macatee, Brownie Sherrill, Fredrick Bradshaw

VISTORS: Dave Holl

STAFF: Keith Flournoy, Parks Division Manager; Jermel Stevenson, Director of Parks and Recreation; Shelly Monroe, Sr. Administrative Assistant

1. The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.
2. Quorum: Chairman select voting alternative if necessary
3. Rick Helpers motioned to accept the June 12th minutes and Lonnie C. seconded the motion. All in favor.
4. Introduction of new Parks Division Manager, Keith Flournoy
 - a. Keith shared some of his background and experience.
 - b. Members welcomed Keith F.
5. Kids Kingdom— Jermel Stevenson
 - a. Jermel S. mentioned the Fireworks on Main event that was held July 4th was very time consuming therefore not much more has been much done in regards to Kids' Kingdom. Jermel S. continued that further soil sampling will take place next week which will determine if Pecan Grove is a possible location for the new Kids' Kingdom. There is a fundraiser on July 13, 2013. Ken R. asked if there is a separate fund for this project. Jermel S. assured members there is a separate fund for Kids' Kingdom. Mike D. asked when we could expect the results of the soil samples. Jermel S. said the last testing results only took about a week.
 - b. Rick H. asked if it is premature to know how much money needs to be raised. Jermel S. responded we really do not know because there are different types of kids' kingdoms which will require different amounts of funds. There is enough money for a phase 1 type of structure but mostly researching the types of models at this time. Ken R. shared he did some researching and the cost is expensive.
 - c. Lonnie C. asked if the committee is going to consist of staff or will it involve citizens. Jermel S. stated the committee will be led by staff but will involve other individuals from the community. Lonnie C. requested clarification on the \$100,000 from the city to go towards the park and the matching that is expected. Jermel S. told members the money is there for use towards the park even if the matching isn't made. Lonnie C. stated KRB raised \$322 at the July 4th event and KRB is looking at placing 5 gallon bottles in approximately five to ten business places to collect money for the rebuild. Lonnie C. brought to attention the idea of a more upscale event to raise money and wonders if there would be higher donations. Rhetta B. concurs with Lonnie in that donations may be larger with a more upscale event.

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- d. Rhetta B. asked about the purchasing of similar structure and will there be a similar issue. Ken R. said in reality what the EPA allows today may not be what is allowed in 5 years. Ken R. mentioned the possibility of putting up a sign in the recreation center for donations. Ken R. summed it up by stating there is a separate account for the rebuild and donated money is not going into a general fund.
6. Playgrounds Inspections Program – Jermel Stevenson
 - a. Jermel S. reminded members there are two other park playgrounds, Shorewood and Community, that failed the safety inspection. Shorewood’s playground equipment was removed and will be replaced. Shorewood is probably about 30 days out from being completed. Community Park playground has aspects of the equipment to be replaced and hopefully this can be completed within 30 days too.
 - b. Ken R. asked about the company who built these playground equipment structures and their liability for it not passing code. Jermel S. said he does not have an immediate response for this but will probably be something that can be reviewed and when it is time can be asked. Lonnie C. brought to attention that this equipment is going to have wear and tear since many use the play equipment. Jermel S. concurred and this is one of the main reasons there will be a program in place to work on a two year cycle for inspecting. Lonnie C. asked if there will be internal inspections. Keith F. said this is the goal but need the manpower to incorporate and education to staff.
 7. Fireworks on Main
 - a. Jermel S informed that attendance was around 20,000 for this event. He commented on the positive feedback received regarding vendors, Memphis Soul, and Mary Wilson. Overall the city is very pleased with the event. Lonnie C. asked how this number was counted. Jermel S. added in quadrants.
 - b. Ken R. described some of his feedback from a couple of the vendors on the far end from the stage were not as pleased because they did not sell much food. Lonnie C. asked if there will be a special events review committee meeting. Jermel S. said there has been a review with city staff but uncertain of the date at this time for special events committee review. Lonnie thinks in general the event was extremely well planned and it did not feel like there were that many people. Rhetta B. mentioned the food vendors she had contact with appeared to be very pleased.
 - c. Keith F. added with the layout of the event things were spread out therefore this may have contributed to it not looking like 20,000 persons attended.
 - d. Rhetta B. thought the layout for the event was great. She expressed the traffic flow chart was helpful. She shared positive comments from youth about the event. Rhetta B. asked if an aerial picture was made of the event. Jermel S. replied one had not been done but it has been mentioned and something to consider. She voiced that the event appeared to be successful and believes this is due to the advertisement and media on the event. She commended Jermel S. on the success. Jermel S. expressed appreciation but also stressed it was a team effort.
 - e. Ken R. questioned the expenses and profits from the event. Jermel S. stated the expense report is being worked on but does not have this information at this time. Visitors spent money in the city.
 - f. Mike D. wondered if DART brought in many persons. Jermel S. confirmed that DART definitely helped. He heard police making sharing that DART definitely helped with the ease of dispersion of people for the event. DART ran their system until everyone was picked up.
 8. Scenic Point Park
 - a. Ken R. remarked his concern of the wood structure being maintained at Scenic Point Park considering the situation recently occurring at Kids’ Kingdom. Jermel S. informed that the quality



of wood being compared is different than what was used at Kids' Kingdom and life span is approximately to 75 years because it is more like a bridge rather than wood materials for Kids Kingdom is about 10 – 15 years. There is high quality sealant that must be applied every 7 years. Ken R. wonders if the cost will be more expensive for the community to have wood versus concrete. Lonnie C. questioned why the project is going with wood rather than concrete if concrete last longer and has less maintenance. Jermel S. explained that the essence of the park is a natural setting. He offered to bring back LaTerra Studios to explain about the structure. Lonnie C. and Ken R. voiced they are interested in seeing the comparison of cost and maintenance. Members agreed La Terra does not need to return for this board questions and let the project proceed as planned as long as the concerns are being heard and considered. Members would like to be provided with details on a continual basis.

9. 4th Annual Boards and Commissions Volunteer Fair – July 25, 2013

- a. Ken R. addressed the decorating of the table. It was decided that Rick H. will be the lead for this event. Rhetta B. and Lonnie C. will assist. Mike D. will provide any items needed such as balls, gloves, bats, etc. Rhetta would like to compose a video if there will be electricity. Shelly M. will check into this and share results tomorrow. Members attending said arrival will be 6:30pm.

10. Director's Report: Jermel S.

- a. Monday, June 17 – Friday June 21 the Duck Creek area Boy Scouts of American hosted their Twilight Camp at Pecan Grove Park. The camp provided different activities for all ages of scouts and covered from the Community Centre to the open field behind Wet Zone. On Friday the final flag ceremony and "campfire" was held and the Boy Scouts made a donation to help rebuild Kid's Kingdom.
- b. The playground at Shorewood Park has been removed and City staff is now working on getting a new playground ordered and installed within the next 45 days.
- c. Movies on Main – Fridays, September 6, 13, 20 – Dusk – Downtown on Main St. Rick H. asked when these events will be advertised. Jermel S. stated probably in early August.
- d. Lonnie C. asked Jermel S. if there is a task of tagging trees. Lonnie C. shared through KRB trees are going to be tagged with QR code. He is excited with this project. Jermel S. asked if Lonnie C. can keep him informed so that the department can look at placing signs to show the trees are tagged.
- e. Rhetta B. asked if the city has any connection with track and field program. Jermel S. responded that discussions have recently been occurring to see how there can be some involvement to support them more but at present time there is not. Although Wet Zone has been running some specials and one of them was if person was participating in that track meet then there is a discount. Rhetta B. continued that she feels there could be growth and bring revenue for the city.

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.

Ken R. addressed Dave Holl, visitor, if he needed anything or just visiting. Mr. Holl mentioned he is keeping himself informed with any parks and recreation updates.

Mike D. announced there will be a softball tournament August 3rd and August 4th in which he is expecting about 5-6,000 people. He wants to put together packets of information for the families who participate to try keeping their business in Rowlett.

Ken R. shared there is track and field event on September 21, 2013 at Springfield Park all day.

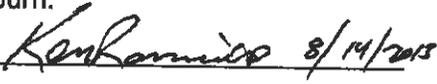


12. Members of the Board may request topics for future agenda meetings. No member of the board or commission may discuss any of the requested subjects until such matters have been properly placed on a posted agenda.

Ken R. requests that the sign for Paddle Point Park be an agenda item.

Lonnie C. requests to keep Kids' Kingdom on the agenda for continued updates, as well as the other parks such as Shorewood and Community.

13. Lonnie C. motioned to adjourn at 8:26 pm. Matt G. seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous to adjourn.



Ken Romaine, Vice-Chairman



Jermel Stevenson, Parks and Recreation Director