



**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, January 14, 2015**  
**7:00 p.m.**

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

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**PRESENT:** Mike DeLatte, Ken Romaine, Matt Grubisich, Lonnie Cornwell, Zabrina Martinson, E. C. Umberger III, Michael Moreno, Linda Fugitt, Rhetta Bowers, Eric Bonilla, Bruce Hargrave

**ABSENT:** Wayne Baxter

**VISTORS:**

**STAFF:** Jermel Stevenson, Parks and Recreation Director; Shelly Monroe, Sr. Administrative Assistant; Angela Smith, Recreation Division Manager; Keith Flournoy, Parks Division Manager; Elise Bowers, Recreation Assistant.

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1. The Director of Parks and Recreation, Jermel Stevenson, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Ken Romaine, Vice-Chairman arrived shortly afterwards.
  2. Quorum present.
  3. Mike Delatte motioned to accept the October 8, 2014 minutes. Lonnie Cornwell seconded the motion. The motion was unanimous for approval by those members present.
  4. Presentation of the Softball Association – Mike Delatte.
    - a. M. Delatte provided a handout and reviewed the history of Rowlett USSSA Softball then shared the yearly totals of the league teams per season in which resulted in increases each year since 2012. The only season that appears to remain the same is the winter.
    - b. 2014 highlights included awards, different items purchased, 2014 having the largest number of participants for Rowlett USSSA Softball, and internet live broadcasting.
    - c. Future Challenges included field maintenance, promoting the Rowlett Leagues via Rowlett Community Centre and RTN 16, umpire costs, concession sales and keeping players and fans in the park due to lack of shade.
    - d. 2014 income statement was shared.
    - e. Questions were asked and answers were provided.
  5. TRAPS: Walk the Halls at the Capitol in Austin on January 28, 2015 – Jermel Stevenson.
    - a. J. Stevenson said his attendance is now tentative due to meetings that were scheduled. Basically bills have been introduced for a constitutional amendment to dedicate the Sporting Goods Tax for its intended purposes but work needs to be done to get bills passed. He explained this is important because it helps in obtaining grant funding.
    - b. J. Stevenson shared information as to what to expect upon arrival at 10:00am. Shelly Monroe has emailed members details about the event. Additionally, there is a link to register so groups can be coordinated to get as much coverage with the legislators as possible.
    - c. J. Stevenson shared Rowlett City Council last month made a resolution to re-instate this bill.
    - d. Rhetta Bowers voiced it would be good for Rowlett to be represented at this event.



6. Update on Scenic Point Park

Keith Flournoy reported on January 6, 2015 York Bridges began clearing out the path for the boardwalk. Basically the grounds are being prepped for work to begin. The goal for completion is July 2015.

7. Kids Kingdom Discussion

a. Subcommittee reports

AA. Fundraising and Public Relations met to discuss plans in preparation for Design Day which led to the call for the Playground sub-committee to meet. Discussed possible communication plans for sub-committees to communicate.

BB. Playground: There is a significant need for volunteers for the Design Day Interviews and Celebration. There was a discussion of how to most efficiently use volunteers for the interview process. Each playground committee member expressed their interest in which part of the Design Day Interviews and Celebrations that they were interested in completing. The location of the Celebration has been moved from the Rowlett Community Centre to the Rowlett High School. There was discussion about providing refreshments at the Celebration and the committee agreed that there should be small snacks, like popcorn and cookies available for the public. Decorations for the cafeteria and how to display all of the children's drawing were also discussed for Design Day unveiling. There is an "Official" Design Day page on Facebook and everyone was asked to share and like the page. Additionally to generate more excitement information will be posted to the local Rowlett focused pages. Right now the main focus will be on volunteer recruitment.

CC. J. Stevenson mentioned he needs to obtain information from the Fundraising committee so he can report to City Council on January 20, 2015.

b. Design Day

AA. Zabrina Martinson thanked all members for being involved and for their help.

BB. The school drawings, schedules for Thursday and Friday activities were discussed, as well as donations and decorations for Friday.

8. Update on Herfurth Park Master Plan

J. Stevenson invited members to attend the City Council work session on January 20, 2015 because details of the master plan will be presented.

9. Director's Report – Jermel Stevenson

a. The Baseball Association and the Troop #1020 Eagle Scouts of Rowlett put in the warmup areas to help prevent injuries and maintain the safety of these areas. The areas were marked off, post holes dug – by the Parks crew, and the Eagle Scouts finished up the project by adding fencing and mounds.

b. On December 31st, the Senior Citizens celebrated the New Year during the New Year's Noon Toast at the Rowlett Community Centre. Thirty Five seniors attended the event that included live music offered by Chris Freeman, snacks and even a toast to kick off 2015.

c. Parks and Recreation is establishing a Teen Advisory Council (TAC) that will allow students in eighth grade through eleventh grade to work with the Recreation Programmer to develop and plan programs and volunteer opportunities for teens in the City of Rowlett. Applications were due on



Friday, January 9th, by 5:00pm. Selected teens will be brought in for an interview before the TAC is selected and meetings will be held once a month at the Rowlett Community Centre.

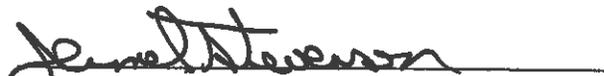
- d. Upcoming events: Little Sweetheart Dance: Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup> from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. @ RCC and Easter Egg Hunt: Saturday, March, 28<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. @Pecan Grove Park

10. There were no public announcements by members of the Board and/or staff.

11. No member of the Board requested topics for future agenda meetings.

12. Matt Grubisich motioned to adjourn at 8:42 p.m. R. Bowers seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to adjourn.

  
Ken Romaine, Vice-Chairman

  
Jemmel Stevenson, Parks and Recreation Director