



**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, July 13, 2016**  
**7:00 p.m.**

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

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**PRESENT:** Wayne Baxter, Rhetta Bowers, Lonnie Cornwell, Mike DeLatte, Kaitlyn Freeborn, Dolores Henning, Zabrina Martinson, Ken Romaine, Blake Margolis

**ABSENT:** Linda Fugitt, Matt Grubisich, Josh Kramer, E.C. Umberger III

**VISTORS:**

**STAFF:** Robert Bloomendaal, City Council liaison; Shelly Monroe, Sr. Administrative Assistant; Angela Smith, Director of Parks and Recreation; Elise Bowers, Community Advocate Coordinator

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1. Ken Romaine was appointed to lead meeting until Chairman arrives. Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m.
  2. Quorum present. Rhetta Bowers and Dolores Henning appointed as voting members.
  3. Consider action to approve the June 8, 2016 minutes.
    - a. Mike DeLatte motioned to approve.
    - b. Rhetta Bowers seconded the motion.
    - c. Approved 5 - 0.
  4. Rowlett Radio Control Club - John Williford, Paul Nichols, James McGee
    - a. Club Officers were identified and key facts about the club were presented.
    - b. The club uses open space at Springfield Park to fly.
    - c. A financial report was provided.
    - d. The club is involved with special projects such as Adopt-A-Road, overview of past successes including receiving a club award from AMA, what is coming up over the next year and park space used for flights and work hard being a good neighbor regarding noise levels.
    - e. Brief overview of past year challenges to include three major floods, the damages and repairs from the floods, pot holes in public parking lot and access road caused by flooding in park, and due to rains city contracted mowing was delayed and club mowed so field could be used. They would like help with increasing public parking lot and repairs in parking lot and access road.
    - f. Questions asked and answers provided.
  5. Recap of the City Council joint meeting held July 5, 2016.
    - a. Information City Council requested in regards to the number of ballfields has been provided to them since time of the meeting. This information can be found in the 2012 Parks Master Plan.
    - b. Future Concerns evolved around having a dog park.
  6. Update on the Dan Robert's Environmental Learning Center.

A request for the property deed has been submitted. Presently waiting on this information. A firm was hired to do a title search to ensure Rowlett is the sole owner of the property.



7. Recap of Kids Kingdom Grand Opening.
  - a. The Playground Committee met on June 21, 2016. An update on the surfacing was provided. Discussion whether to have a soft Grand Opening during July 4<sup>th</sup> event and resulted in members concurring to hold one although this was later cancelled. The Golden Ticket Party and Grand Opening plans were made. Other updates were provided regarding the sidewalk, parking lot improvements, drainage inspection, grading inspection, landscape, fencing and picnic tables. A decision to sell pickets at the Fireworks on Main event was made. Updates on the art work for the climbing wall, playhouse and donor wall were provided. A brief discussion was held to host a hula party for Playground Committee, City Council and Parks Board to celebrate all the hard work of everyone on this project.
  - b. Grand Opening was held on July 9, 2016. Members shared positive comments about the experience, the park, and everyone's time and efforts to get the park built. If there are any issues members notice on the new playground please notify the department.
  - c. Lonnie Cornwell motioned for the train at Kids Kingdom be called the Lancaster Express and the name be placed on the train. Zabrina Martinson seconded the motion. Approved 7 - 0.
  - d. Discussion held on whether picket sales will continue or not. K. Romaine motioned for picket sales to stop July 31, 2016. Lonnie Cornwell seconded motion. Approved 7 - 0. This decision is based on the fact 300 pickets are needed for an order to be made and consumers would have to wait months or years before another order could be made. One last order will be made at the beginning of August. Due to the delivery time for pickets the installation will occur in October. Promotional strategy for future fundraising needs to continue to be discussed for the last playground equipment and other items.
  - e. Restrooms are available year round except for 90 days which are the summer when Wet Zone is open. During this time playground goers can use the restrooms at Rowlett Community Centre and/or there is now an ADA port-a-let placed between Wet Zone and Kids Kingdom.
  - f. The board decided the Playground Committee for Kids Kingdom is no longer needed. Z. Martinson motioned to disband the subcommittee for Kids Kingdom playground. R. Bowers seconded motion. Approved 7 - 0. A Playground Committee and Park Board celebration will be held on August 20, 2016 from 5:00pm - 9:00pm with more details to come.
  
8. Discuss the possibility of a future dog park.

W. Baxter provided a brief history. He explained there was a business plan he wants to share with members. Shelly Monroe will send the document to members via email. This will be on next month's agenda.
  
9. Reminder: Boards and Commissions application will be due in August.
  - a. The applications are available online. No specific deadline set yet but usually is before the end of August.
  - b. Questions were asked and answers provided regarding term limits and board seats.
  
10. Director's Report - Angela Smith
  - a. Seniors enjoyed their first summer potluck at Wet Zone.
  - b. Coordinator Andrew Martin has secured approximately 60 athletes to play in the league's first Angel League. Angel League is specifically for children and adult with special needs. This program is being funded solely through donations from our community. Raising Cane's has become a major sponsor and has donated \$1,000 to go towards purchasing uniforms for the participants.



- c. Wet Zone hosted their first Flick N Float for the summer. There was a record turnout of about 200 people. This is an increase from previous years of 40-60 participants.
- d. The lighting project at Pecan Grove which was funded through the 2015 Bond funds is now complete.
- e. Fireworks on Main was held July 4<sup>th</sup> at Pecan Grove Park. An estimated 10,000 people were in attendance. Musical entertainment provided from Mars Hill and Exile. There were nineteen food vendors among the vendors lined up and down the park. Bounce house, face painting and lawn games were provided at no cost for the children.
- f. July 5<sup>th</sup> Parks and Recreation Department was recognized by City Council. July is designated nationally as Parks and Recreation Month. This July the theme is "finding your super powers in parks".

11. Public announcements by members of the Board and/or staff.

- a. This is Kaitlyn Freeborn's last meeting due to her leaving for college.
- b. Summer Concert Series begins Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup> and will be held each Friday during the month of August. Movies in the Park will be held the first three Saturdays in September.

12. No members of the Board requested topics for future agenda meetings.

- a. Z. Martinson requested to discuss the board's goals for this year.
- b. L. Cornwell requested to discuss the Park Master Plan.

13. Adjournment

- a. M. DeLatta motioned to adjourn 8:25 pm
- b. L. Cornwell seconded motion
- c. Approved 7-0

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wayne Baxter".

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Wayne Baxter, Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Angela Smith".

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Angela Smith, Director of Parks and Recreation