



**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes**  
**Wednesday, September 14, 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, Matt Grubisich, Dolores Henning, Blake Margolis, Ken Romaine

**ABSENT:** Linda Fugitt, Josh Kramer, Kaitlyn Freeborn, E.C. Umberger III, Zabrina Martinson

**VISTORS:**

**STAFF:** Aaron Cleaver, Business Manager of Parks & Recreation; Richard Harris, Operations Manager of Parks & Recreation; Shelly Monroe, Sr. Administrative Assistant; Angela Smith, Director of Parks & Recreation;

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1. Chairman Wayne Baxter called meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
  2. Quorum present. Dolores Henning appointed as a voting member.
  3. Consider action to approve the August 10, 2016 minutes.
    - a. Mike DeLatte motioned to approve the minutes as written.
    - b. Lonnie Cornwell seconded the motion.
    - c. Approved 8 - 0.
  4. Discuss the mural on Highway 66.
    - a. M. DeLatte voiced he believes City Council will be looking for a new design for the wall on Hwy 66 and would like this board to be prepared. The encouraged members to seek information from others too in order to be able to provide adequate input on the project.
    - b. Angie Smith responded that City Council did have a discussion in July to look at this project but as of recent this subject has been tabled. There is the possibility this may fall to the Arts & Humanities Commission. The topic will remain on the council's list but it is further down on the priority list.
    - c. Ken Romaine mentioned the public may want input before any changes are made. Members expressed their view about the wall being updated which resulted in a mix review of members supporting an update. One main point emphasized was there should be public input before decisions are made to change the mural.
  5. Update on Schrade Bluebonnet Park Conceptual Design.
    - a. Three designs were presented to City Council on September 6, 2016. Concept Plan Three was the preference with a few adjustments to include on the street parking and look at a parking lot in the future. La Terra will return to council on October 18<sup>th</sup> with plan revisions and value engineered pricing. Phasing will be a critical element of this park.
    - b. Phase One encompasses funding of \$40,000 in year one covering the Phoenix Tornado Memorial statue and a commissioned sculpture to be placed at the Rowlett Community Centre. The goal is to use Arts & Humanities funding for the sculpture and immediate base work, with remaining part of the project funded through a combination of parks Maintenance or Capital Maintenance Fund dollars.



- c. Phase One highlights will likely include 8 street parking spots, sod, shrubs at plaza, canopy trees, ornamental trees, irrigation, lighting, brick clad seat wall around statue, benches, paver walkway to plaza and extension of sidewalk.
6. Update on public art projects.
    - a. A. Smith reported the ground preparations will begin in front of RCC and plans are for the Tornado Spiral art sculpture to be mounted in mid-October. There will be a grand unveiling and the date will be announced in early October.
    - b. A. Smith said the Phoenix Memorial Statue to be located at Schrade Bluebonnet Park will have some type of ground breaking celebration on December 26, 2016.
    - c. M. Grubisich inquired since this is more of a city project it seems like the public should have had some input on the sculpture choices. W. Baxter added that this board should have been invited to be involved with the discussions on this project since the locations are in the parks.
  7. Special Events Committee Update - Dolores Henning.
    - a. Volunteers for Camp Fear on October 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> are needed and if members have any game ideas to please share.
    - b. Briefly discussed the July 4, 2017 headliner and opening act. There is possibly four acts to choose and this will be brought back to this board.
    - c. In search of musical entertainment for Main Street Festival December 3, 2016.
    - d. Starting to work on ideas for a Signature Event. Special Events Committee will be meeting with a couple City Council members to dream 5 years into the future then back track.
    - e. Still looking for groups to participate in Diversity Day so if you are aware of any please share.
    - f. A speaker has been chosen for the Veteran's Day event.
  8. Discuss the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Boot Camp scheduled for November 5, 2016.
    - a. The time of this event will be 8:00am - 1:00pm
    - b. The format of the agenda was discussed.
    - c. Attendance is critical for members to be present.
  9. Kids Kingdom: future fundraising.
    - a. Approximately 236 pickets will comprise of the order to be placed at the end of the week. The goal is to extend the fence around the zip line. The order will take 6 to 8 weeks to come in.
    - b. Lancaster Express has been painted on the train.
    - c. It was decided that Fundraising for the last piece of equipment may need to be a goal for the new board and can be discussed at the boot camp on November 5, 2016.
  10. Director's Report - Angela Smith
    - a. The restructuring of the department was briefly explained and new staff introduced.
    - b. Movies at Pecan Grove Park festivities included bounce houses, popcorn, music, face painting and children's entertainers. The last one is this Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup> with the movie Hotel Transylvania 2.
    - c. Summer programming came to an end and fall programs have begun. Among the summer programs an Archery Play Day was held and it was such a great success an archery class is now offered. Other new classes offered are Young Anglers Club and dance classes.



- d. At Community Park the bridge crossing the pond as part of the walking trail has been refurbished with hopes to be good for the next 20 years. Gates were installed at the softball complex which helps provide more safety for non-playing persons.
- e. The Fall season for Youth Baseball will open on October 2<sup>nd</sup> and will feature 200 participants
- f. During the month of August the RCC had a total of 28,969 guests who utilize the facility.
- g. Jill Beam, Senior Services Coordinator, was recently featured in the Texas Recreation and Park Society Magazine. Participation in the senior programs has increased.
- h. The grading was completed for the new soccer practice fields at Katy Railroad Park and installation of the irrigation is complete. The top soil is being installed this week then the process of hydro mulching the fields will begin.
- i. Diversity Day will be held October 1, 2016 from 11am - 2pm at RCC.
- j. Bayside Regatta will be held October 1, 2016.
- k. National Night Out will be held October 4, 2016. If board members want to participate contact Aaron Cleaver.

11. Special recognitions.

Wayne Baxter was recognized for his 12 years of volunteerism with this board. This is W. Baxter's last meeting as a board member. W. Baxter said closing words.

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

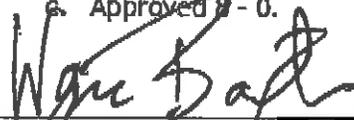
K. Romaine encouraged people to lock their cars due to information presented to him during a Safety meeting he attended.

13. Members of the Board requested topics for future agenda meetings.

- a. M. Grubisich would like an update on HWY 66. Angie shared the Visioning plan is on the next City Council meeting and encouraged members to attend or watch the meeting for the most updated information.
- b. M. Grubisich would like to present information on a tree project planned for December.

14. Adjournment

- a. M. Grubisich motioned to adjourn 9:10 p.m.
- b. R. Bowers seconded motion.
- c. Approved - 0.



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Wayne Baxter, Chairman



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Angela Smith, Director of Parks and Recreation