

Rowlett Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

7:00 PM

Municipal Building- 4000 Main St, Rowlett, Texas

1. Called to order at 7:05 pm

Present: Susan Urrutia, Mike Hernandez, Diana Moore, Alicia Ceballos, Kellie McKee, Phaleria Hollins, James Spencer, Terence Kessee, Cynthia Manning

Absent: Bonnie Martinez, JoAnna Phalen, Michele Stoute-Smith, Alena Jefferson Shelbia

Staff: Munal Mauladad, Managing Director of Community Development and Engineering; Tara Bradley, Neighborhood Planning Supervisor; Lilyana Morejon, Neighborhood Planner II; Councilmember Blake Margolis.

2. Chair Select Voting Alternate

Commissioner Alicia Ceballos and James Spencer selected as voting alternates.

3. Consider Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Motions: Vice-Chair Hernandez

Seconds: Commissioner McKee

Motion carried unanimously

4. Citizens' Input

None

5. Review Autism Awareness Month Proclamation

- a. A community member reached out to the RDEIC and suggested writing a proclamation to recognize this population. Commissioner Phalen and Commissioner Jefferson-Shelbia co-authored the Autism Awareness Proclamation that was presented for review by the Commission. Commissioner Manning made a motion to approve the Autism Awareness Proclamation to present to City Council in April, Vice-Chair Hernandez second, motion approved unanimously.

6. Juneteenth Event Discussion

- a. Chairperson Moore mentioned that the Parks and Recreation Board is interested in collaborating with the Commission to help with the Juneteenth event. Chairperson Moore left this item up for discussion. The discussion centered around location, date, timeframe/schedule, preliminary plan, location, and logistics. Vice-chair Hernandez made a motion to assign the initial task to plan the Juneteenth event to a sub-committee. Commissioner Urrutia second, motion carried unanimously.

7. Receive a presentation regarding Neighborfest from Neighborhood Planning

- a. Neighborhood Planning Supervisor, Tara Bradley presented Neighborfest to the Commission. A 3-part illuminating series over the course of three-months, one event per month with the goal to address

quality of life issues affecting Rowlett communities. After the presentation Ms. Bradley asked the Commission to submit comments that would assist the Neighborhood Planning team make this event inclusive to all.

8. Committee Reports

a. Communications Committee

- I. No Updates

b. Community Outreach Committee

- I. Commissioner Urrutia will look at the Farmers Market schedule. She mentioned that at least one member of the Community Outreach team will be present for the duration of the Farmers Market.

c. Government Processes and Programs Committee

- I. Commissioner Hollins informed the Commission that the Government Processes and Programs Committee met with the Rowlett Youth Advisory Council (YAC) to talk about voter education, February 26th. Commissioner Hollins mentioned a Voter Education Event in collaboration with YAC. The event will be held at the Rowlett Community Center, from 3:30 - 5:30 pm. April 9th is the tentative event date. The Government Processes and Programs Committee motioned to participate in the Voter Education Event in collaboration with YAC, motion carried unanimously.
- II. Chairperson Moore wishes to know the status of the website review that focused on accessibility and inclusivity. Neighborhood Planning Supervisor, Tara Bradley recommended to Commissioner Hollins to write a report highlighting the conversation with Denise Perrin, Rowlett Communications Manager, regarding this matter. Staff liaison Mauladad suggested to have the Government Processes and Programs Committee present the information at the next RDEIC meeting. She also made a recommendation to invite Ms. Perrin to come and speak on the subject.

d. Chairs Committee

- I. Chairperson Moore submitted the candidate questions the Commission put together during the February meeting, to the Chamber of Commerce for the City Council Candidate Forum.
- II. Chairperson Moore also mentioned participating on the public listening session to assist with the process of hiring the new Rowlett Police Chief. She informed the Commission that the team in charge of the hiring process is working to have more interactive sessions with the community.

9. Update from City Council Liaison

- a. No Update

10. Update from City Staff Liaison

- a. Ms. Bradley informed the Commission that there will be no volunteer dinner banquet this year, instead dinner will be provided during the next meeting.

11. Public Announcement

- a. Vice-chair Hernandez informed that the federal government finalized the violence against Women's Act. On the same note, Commissioner Urrutia mentioned that the screening process to identify any type of bruising is done at healthcare facilities, but the process has its challenges.

12. Agenda items for future meetings

- a. Juneteenth event discussion

13. Adjourned at 8:20 pm

Dia Mh 4/20/22
Diana Moore, Chair Date

Lilyana Morejon 04.20.22
Lilyana Morejon, Staff Date

