

Collin County
Myers Park and Event Center Advisory Board
Minutes
October 26, 2016

Item No. 1 Call to Order

Rutledge Haggard called to order the meeting of the Myers Park and Event Center Advisory Board at 7:37 a.m. The following board members were present: Rutledge Haggard, Norman Gidney, Marianne Wells, Chris Kern, and Stephen Kallas. Absent was Steven Wright. Myers Park staff present was Judy Florence, Jennifer Rogers, and Joanie Bishop.

Item No. 2 Review and Action to approve July 26, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Gidney made a motion to approve the April 26, 2016 Meeting Minutes, second by Mr. Kallas.

Item No. 3 Update on Farm Museum

Ms. Rogers reported on the Farm Museum's Collection Status and is currently working on compiling a Commissioner's Court memo for late January regarding the Nancy Bush Morian donation of small artifacts, seven loan objects with a request to acquisition four artifacts and dispose of three objects, dispose of five Found in Collection (FIC) objects, and dispose of ten objects on Fence Row. The objects being recommended for disposal are either duplicates of existing artifacts which are in poor condition, deteriorated beyond the skill or financial restoration abilities, they serve no useful part for restoring artifacts in the museum, or do not support the mission of the museum. An update on the Education Program reveals that the workshops, homeschools, and schools are well established at this point. The preparations for the Rural Heritage Fair to take place in May are moving along with the focus on getting vendors finalized before January, and print marketing begins in February. This event will consist of heritage demonstrations, handmade crafts, children's activities, door prizes, and more all with free admission. In regards to Marketing, Ms. Rogers is looking to branch out to focus more on social media, working to establish a better internet presence, and more outreach functions are scheduled for the coming year.

Item No. 4 Discussion and Any Action on the Farm Museum Foundation Board

According to the April 12, 1993 “Articles of Incorporation” for the Farm Museum Foundation Board filed with the IRS, Article XII, A: “The number of directors constituting the initial board shall be five (5). The names of four (4) members will be selected by a majority vote of the Collin County Farm Museum Committee of the Youth Park Executive Board. One (1) member will be a member of the Collin County Commissioners Court and will be selected by the Court.”

According to the January 5, 1993 “Collin County Farm Museum By-Laws” under Court Order 93-062-10-19, Article II, Section 2.2: “The purpose of the Collin County Farm Museum Committee (hereinafter referred to as the “Committee”) is to develop and recommend Museum policies, as well as support and nurture the ongoing development and operation of the Museum. All Policies and actions of this committee shall be submitted for approval to the Collin County Youth Park Executive Board (hereinafter referred to as the “Board”) and to the Collin County Commissioners Court (hereinafter referred to as the “Court”) for final approval.”

Over time the Farm Museum Foundation Board ceased to meet and carry on meetings. The Farm Museum Foundation Board requirements are the same as the requirements for the Myers Park & Event Center Advisory Board. These requirements include a minimum of five members, at least one member chosen by Commissioners Court, membership is representative of all geographical areas of Collin County, and Commissioners Court must submit an equal number of members. Since there are no stipulations that the Myers Park & Event Center Advisory Board cannot act as the Farm Museum Foundation Board, Mrs. Rogers suggests the Myers Park & Event Center Advisory Board assume responsibilities of the Farm Museum Foundation Board until such a time a separate committee can be formed.

A motion was made by Rutledge Haggard and second by Stephen Kallas to recommend to Commissioners Court that the Myers Park & Event Center Advisory Board act as the Collin County Farm Museum Committee as well as assume the responsibilities of the Farm Museum Foundation Board. It was voted on and passed by our current Myers Park & Event Center Advisory Board members. Ms. Florence will move forward to finalize this recommendation.

Item No. 5 Update on Recent and Future Events at Myers Park

Ms. Florence reported on a very successful fundraiser for the Farm Aid event that took place on October 14, 2016. Our ground crew worked hard and long hours to get the Park ready. There were hayrides, a cocktail hour, a six course meal, and a concert; it was all nicely done. These funds help support local farmers. The September Monthly Report was passed out and captures the year end totals on one page. In regards to our revenue this year, Ms. Florence reported that numbers are slightly down from last year. More new wedding venues are coming into the area and giving us competition. We have changed a policy of being able to book 15 months out instead of 12 months out in hopes of catching a few more early planners. In the fall our schedule continues to be busy with more dog shows, livestock shows, schools cross country meets, and the Collin County Master Gardeners had their fall Bulb Sale on October 15th. The AgriLife Extension Farm to Table Symposium that took place on October 6th and was a success. It was a “meet and greet” involving farmers, suppliers, and chefs; some were top chefs from the Dallas area. It was a good turnout, and another Farm to Table event is planned for October 2017. Vintage Market Days will be here again in November, and preparations for the Collin County Junior Livestock show in January 2017 are now taking place.

Item No. 6 Update on FY 2016 Approved Budget

Ms. Florence reported that the artifact photographing equipment and the two refrigerators for the Farm Museum were approved. The items approved for Myers Park are new chairs and dollies for The Landing, two self-dumping hoppers, two trash cans at The Pavilion, 16 cattle ties at the Show Barn, a chipper, an auction sale ring, and an increase for computer supplies for a/v replacement cords. Ms. Florence expressed the importance of the roads at the Park are in extreme need of permanent repair. This request has been ongoing for five years and the roads continue to deteriorate.

Item No. 7 Possible future agenda items

Our next Advisory Board Meeting is scheduled for **January 24 at 7:30 a.m.** at The Landing at Myers Park.

Item No. 8 Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 a.m.