

Collin County
Myers Park and Event Center Advisory Board
Minutes
July 23, 2019

Item No. 1 Call to Order

Rutledge Haggard called to order the meeting of the Myers Park and Event Center Advisory Board at 7:40 a.m. The following board members were present: Rutledge Haggard, Marianne Wells, Norman Gidney, Steven Wright and Chris Kern. Myers Park staff present was Judy Florence, Mark Page, Jennifer Rogers and Joanie Bishop. Absent were: Board member Lily Bao.

Item No. 2 Review and Action to approve April 23, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Gidney made a motion to approve the April 23, 2019, 2019 Meeting Minutes, second by Mr. Kern.

Item No. 3 Update on Farm Museum

Ms. Rogers reported the Collection Storage reorganization and inventory is on hold for the summer due to excessive heat. The next meeting is September 6 and will meet once a month. The Dairy and Refrigeration Exhibit the Girl Scouts and 4-H students worked on was finished the end of May and their exhibit opening was a success. An additional 4-H group and a Girl Scout Group have contacted the Farm Museum to do exhibits as part of their community service project which will start in August. A separate 4-H Club is working to put together an Ag Mechanic group of all girls to restore a tractor at the Farm Museum. Due to the exhibit and community collaborations with Girl Scouts and 4-H, the Collin County Agricultural Heritage Foundation provide the Farm Museum with a donation of \$1,000 for the Youth Exhibit Program and \$9,000 for restoration projects. In regards to the Education Programs, upgrading the SignUp Genius membership continues to work in our favor and the new registration method works well. We are seeing an improvement to those who register and following through with their payments. The focus this coming fiscal year is on the Kitchen and Dairy exhibits and a children's play area within it. The Youth Exhibit Project program is working to encourage youth participation, skill building and community service in the Farm Museum for a 2020 Farm Museum Calendar. This calendar is a fundraising effort to support the Youth Exhibit Projects. Incentive for purchase of the calendar is a special once-a-month workshop that only calendar purchasers and their family can attend. There is a limited number of these being sold. Facebook continues to be an excellent source for community engagement. Recent conversations have highlighted a need for workshops accessible to youth who are not homeschooled. The October workshops will be experimenting with different times and dates to determine feasibility. Adults have expressed a desire for workshops that are Adults Only and two of those were included in the October lineup.

Item No. 4 Update on Farm Museum Foundation

Ms. Wells reported in going over the Bylaws there is a lot of confusion and recommends a good tax attorney be hired, one that has thorough knowledge of foundation law and all updates. There is a concern that our current Bylaws may be incorrect. Ms. Wells suggest that a small committee be formed and they tackle the Foundation's unanswered questions and present these questions to an attorney. The Board asks Ms. Rogers for her recommendations, what is needed to help the Farm Museum to grow. Ms. Rogers mentioned a climate control building, better lighting, a kitchen, possibly an additional storage building and make the Farm Museum a rotating exhibit.

Item No. 5 Update on current projects at Myers Park

Ms. Florence reported the Show Barn roof is currently being worked on. However some areas, including the newly finished areas are still leaking when it rains. Contractor is attending to these issues. The road construction is nearly finished, fences and gates have been put back in place. The sod and seed of some of the grassy areas that were dug up will be worked on this week. The roof and siding work with the Haggard House is complete. Our staff continues to work on irrigation. The pond algae has been bad this year which can turn away business, especially with weddings at the Gazebo. A pond maintenance contract request has been submitted to Budget.

Item No. 6 Update on recent and future events at Myers Park

Mr. Page reported the number of events through the summer have been down. September will be bringing in cross country events from area schools, dog shows, horse shows. Continuing on into the fall more weddings are scheduled, additional dog shows, and eventually Vintage Market Days returns in November.

Item No. 7 Possible future agenda items

Our next Advisory Board Meeting is scheduled for **WEDNESDAY, October 23, 2019 at 7:30 a.m.** at The Landing at Myers Park.

Item No. 8 Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 a.m.