



Boren Property Advisory Council Agenda

Friday, October 13, 2023
1:00 PM

Russell Farm - Baker Building -
405 W. County Road 714
Burleson, TX 76028

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE BOREN PROPERTY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**
 - A. Consider approval of the minutes from the June 16, 2023 meeting. (*Staff presenter: Pam O'Hearn, Recording Secretary*)
3. **CITIZEN APPEARANCES**
4. **REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**
 - A. Receive a report from the Historical Committee Chair. (*Presenter: Barbara Black, Chairperson, Historical Committee*)
 - B. Receive a report regarding activities of the Art Advisory Committee. (*Presenter: Tom Sale, Art Committee Chair*)
 - C. Receive a report from the Russell Farm Supervisor. (*Staff presenter: Mary Ann Spaun, Supervisor*)
5. **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**
6. **BOARD REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS OR REPORTS**
7. **ADJOURN**

Jen Basham
Director of Parks and Recreation
817-426-9201
jbasham@burlesontx.com

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the above agenda was posted on this the 6th of October 2023, by 5:00 p.m., on the official bulletin board at the Burleson City Hall, 141 W. Renfro, Burleson, Texas.



Amanda Campos

City Secretary

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

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Boren Property Advisory Council

DEPARTMENT: Parks and Recreation

FROM: Jen Basham, Director

MEETING: October 13, 2023

SUBJECT:

Consider approval of the minutes from the June 16, 2023 meeting. (*Staff presenter: Pam O'Hearn, Recording Secretary*)

SUMMARY:

OPTIONS:

- 1) Approve as presented
- 2) Approve with changes

RECOMMENDATION:

PRIOR ACTION/INPUT (Council, Boards, Citizens):

FISCAL IMPACT:

STAFF CONTACT:

Jen Basham
Director of Parks and Recreation
jbasham@burlesontx.com
817-426-9201

BOREN PROPERTY ADVISORY

COUNCIL June 16, 2023

10:00 AM

Roll Call

Board Members

In attendance:

Charlsa Boren Bentley, Chair
Barbara Black
Pete McCaskill
Tom Sale

Absent:

WL Sanders

Staff in Attendance

Jessica Martinez,
Mary Ann Spaun, Russell Farm Supervisor
Pamela O'Hearn, Customer Service Attendant/Recording Secretary

1. Call to order: 10:00 AM

2. Consider approval of the minutes from the February 10, 2023 meeting.

Charlsa asked that members read over the February 10, 2023 minutes at their leisure and notify if any corrections needed to be made.

3. Reports and discussion items:

A. Receive a report regarding activities at Russell Farm Art Center. (Staff Presenter: Mary Ann Spaun, Russell Farm Supervisor).

Staff reviewed activities, classes and public attendance in regards to events at the farm.

Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding the activities of the Russell Farm Historical Advisory Committee Chair) Historical Advisory Committee (HAC) Chairperson Barbara Black reported on the HAC activities and responded to board members' comments and questions.

Item A.

Diana Waters was welcomed as a new member of the Historical Advisory Committee in March. Mrs. Waters has served the community of Burleson as a former educator, an artist, a volunteer with the Burleson Lion's Club in their vision program for students in the public schools. She and Philo Waters, a former Historical Advisory Committee member, lived several years beside the home of Russell William Lace and wife Martha (Gigi) Russell on County Road 714.

Many of the Historical Advisory Committee members serve frequently as volunteers for events at Russell Farm. Following the April Easter Egg Hunt and the May Show Me How events the members developed a list of suggestions for the staff at Russell Farm to consider for helping in the use of volunteers at the farm.

- a. A volunteer to be assigned to set up the table of snacks and water in the Office. Volunteers to be informed this is available for all volunteers.
- b. Bright colored lanyards with Volunteer Russell Farm for volunteers.
- c. A list of volunteer opportunities for the day to be posted beside the sign- in sheet in the Office.
- d. Clickers to be used by a volunteer at the gate of entry and on the grounds as vendors are setting up prior to the event and to tally guests arriving for an event.
- e. Volunteers to be encouraged to check in on Facebook while working an event and also to encourage guests to check in on Facebook.
- f. Provide a volunteer greeter to be stationed at the concrete area near the greenhouse with a map to welcome guests to the farm and provide directions.

Eighteen guests were provided a tour of the Russell Boren Home in March. During April the Russell Boren Home was not available for touring due to wildlife under and around the home. The first Saturday in May tours were given to thirteen guests. Private tour of the home was given to 25 guests on May 30th. In total 56 guests toured the house March-May 2023.

The Historical Advisory Committee continues to promote and support Russell Farm with their time and talents. Each member is grateful to have opportunities to share the farm with the community.

Pete McCaskill asked if we did anything for our volunteers. We have an appreciation breakfast for the volunteers in April and a luncheon in November.

Receive a report regarding activities of the Art Advisory Committee (Presenter: Tom Sale, Art Council Chair)

A new display area for Gary Burkins wood sculpture was created in the Baker building from previous storage space.

Red Chair Lecture in March with guest artist Gary Burkins shared his personal experience of being mentored by Charlie Boren and how it has influenced his life.

We are pleased with the continued interest of in person and through social media with Saturday morning sketch group.

Planning in process of offering 2-3 public art classes each first Saturday beginning in September.
(Pending payment method discussions.)

Tom Sale created 4 coloring pages related to Russell Farm that was used by Capital One Bank to enlarge and create an adult coloring station for its employees at its N. Dallas Campus. Capital One bank is donating \$1000 to our garage remodeling project at Russell Farm.

We are closing in on our \$15K fundraising plan for garage remodeling project.

We have made a good relationship with Triangle Nonprofit Publishing out of Bedford who has visited the farm several times and created a "zine" based on one of our Saturday themes. They plan on participating in outdoor events at the farm bringing a tent that can be set up as various things, including a temporary kid reading library.

We currently have art exhibition in the Baker Building Gallery from artist Tiny Irizarry and Maria Villa (Both regular Saturday sketch group artists). August exhibition will be UNT Special Collections, are loaning Russell Farm a collection of historic Texas cattle brands and Texas Photographs that will be on display August through the fall.

Red chair lectures will move to Saturdays and be more family oriented.

Question of how to offer first Saturday classes as many had to be cancelled due to low enrollment. Possibly giving the artist an honorarium and the city/farm get the profit.

The Friends of Russell Farm have charge of the money for the Art Studio/Garage remodel.

Charlsa, that's how you grow community-first you have to get them out here, then people can find opportunities

7. Set next meeting date, October 20, 2023

There being no further business, Chair Charlsa Bore Bently Adjourned the meeting.

Time: 10:58 AM

Pamela O'Hearn, Recording Secretary

Boren Property Advisory Council

DEPARTMENT: Parks and Recreation

FROM: Jen Basham

MEETING: October 13, 2023

SUBJECT:

Receive a report from the Historical Committee Chair. (*Presenter: Barbara Black. Chairperson, Historical Committee*)

SUMMARY:

Report attached.

OPTIONS:

RECOMMENDATION:

PRIOR ACTION/INPUT (Council, Boards, Citizens):

FISCAL IMPACT:

STAFF CONTACT:

Jen Basham
Director of Parks and Recreation
jbasham@burlesontx.com
817-426-9206

Historical Advisory Committee Meeting
September 12, 2023

Staff and Members present: Barbara Black, Louise Bodiford, Diane Lybbert, Mary Ann Spaun, Mary Slaney, Diana Waters. **Excused:** Pam O’Hearn, Jim Wadlow.

Barbara Black called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Agenda:

1. **Russell-Boren Library Tour** – The Historical Advisory Committee members were given a tour of the library led by Barbara Black prior to the meeting. An inventory of the books by Charlsa Boren Bentley and Mark Bentley lists 586 books and 200 magazines in the library. The library contains books published from 1822-2012. Several books have signatures, names or notations from Martha Glenn Russell, Edwin Bartlett Lace, Harriet “Hattie” Lace, William Russell Lace, Martha George “Gigi” Lace, Charle Wade Boren and Louise Rae Boren. Books had been pulled from the shelves for members to see the variety of books in the library and observe signatures in the books. All books are listed in a data-based website giving a publication year, the author, title of the book, a current value and notes and location for each book in the Russell-Boren Library.

<https://cloud.collectorz.com/charlsa/books?t=7dc90dd2813e36acc763a00cfe9655937c7629f61a93a4586f3826351ae6d907>

https://www.burlesontx.com/1215/Russell-Farm-Art-Center?fbclid=IwAR1w4yIBM3OW_DcK0CS3_elicTSoaiSzF4eAEVGGtAfRWA2XQqtqwhOrB4

2. **Request from Charlsa Boren Bentley for the Historical Advisory Committee** – for the Committee to help formulate a plan for how to put the knowledge from the inventory of the Russell-Boren library books to the best use.

Six questions were presented to the Committee:

#1 What would be most productive now? Members of the Historical Advisory Committee were unsure exactly what was needed in order for the library and books to be most productive now. The members are concerned about the preservation of the books as the library is not a climate-controlled environment. Suggestions were made to have display cases, for some of the book shelves to have protective covering, the rolltop desktop be fitted with a protective shield for display of books, acid free clear sleeves for books in frail condition.

#2 Who might be interested in what is in the library room? The library will be of interest to guests, scholars, graduate students doing research, historians, museums, libraries, colleges and universities.

#3 How could the library contents be used? Presentations to community civic clubs, the Burleson Heritage Foundation, schools about the book collection, with family history of family members that have signatures in the books.

#4 and #5 When docents take visitors through the house what types of questions (if any) are asked about the library room and its contents? What do docents tell visitors as they go through the room? Very little has been known about the library and the books in the past prior to the inventory. Guests asked few questions during a tour of the library. Guests are interested in the large dictionary, the certificates and the pictures of the descendants. Docents share with guests the books in the bookcase beside the west wall are from the 1800's and have been signed by Martha Russell and family members. Also, the descendants valued books due to the number of books found in the library.

#6 What is the best use for the books so that they're not just serving as "decorations"? The best use for the books would be to share special memories or stories of the descendants about the books, have books on display with an information card about the book and the person who signed the book. Sharing kept being suggested by the Committee members as a best use for the books. The books to be loaned for a temporary display at a library, for talks given by a farm representative or on loan for research. However, the desire for the books to remain in the library, not to be sold and not to be used as a "lending library," by the family needs to be honored. Perhaps, more answers for the best use of the books will come from the contacts Charlsa Bentley is making with several colleges, universities, libraries and book scholars.

The members of the Historical Advisory Committee are grateful for the opportunity of participation of a plan for the books of the Russell-Boren House Library. They would like to express appreciation to Charlsa and Mark Bentley for the hard work in compiling the inventory list of the books.

3. Dates for the Historical Advisory Committee and Russell Farm Events

October 24, 2023 – Historical Advisory Committee meeting at 9:00 A.M.

November 17, 2023 – Fall Festival 5:00 P.M.- 8:00 P.M. Please volunteer to help with the festival. Come 30 minutes prior to the event, register in the office, see a list by the sign-in sheet of ways you can help as a volunteer for the event, take a volunteer tag to wear, and locate the area in the kitchen for refreshments available to volunteers.

November 28, 2023 – Christmas Decoration of Russell-Boren House
10:00 A.M.- 2:00 P.M. or until the decorating is completed.

Barbara Black thanked the members for their time, effort and suggestions in addressing a plan for the Russell Farm Library. The meeting was adjourned at 10:06 A.M.

Submitted by Barbara Black Historical Advisory Chair

DEPARTMENT MEMO

DEPARTMENT: Parks and Recreation – Russell Farm Art Center

FROM: Jen Basham, Director

MEETING: October 13, 2023

SUBJECT:

Receive a report regarding activities of the Art Advisory Committee. *(Staff presenter: Tom Sale, Art Committee)*

SUMMARY:

Report attached.

OPTIONS:

N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

STAFF CONTACT:

Jen Basham
Director – Parks and Recreation
817-426-9201
jbasham@burlesontx.com

Russell Farm BPAC Art Council Report
October 6, 2023
Tom Sale, BPAC Art Committee Chair

Summer recap/highlights

- Saturday Morning Sketch group – 85 attendees
- Summer Art Camp July 18 – 21
- Summer Art Camp July 25 – 28
- Summer Art Camp August 1 – 4
- Art Reception and Paint Off – July 29, 2023;
 - \$880 received in art sales (\$220 donated to Russell Farm)
- Red Chair Lecture September 16, 2023:
 - Our featured speaker was long time resident, Bettie Bailey. She was interviewed by Tom Sale in our Baker Building gallery surrounded by Bettie's paintings, friends, and visitors. She told of moving to Burleson in 1949 when the population was 840. Her art exhibit will be up until October 1.

Upcoming Fall 2023 highlights

- First Saturday Art Classes Series: We have started a series of art classes for all levels of skill for teens and adults on the first Saturday of every month from noon to 1:30 pm. Each month we offer a different theme. The fee is \$30 Ages 15 to adult. All supplies are included.
- September 2, 2023: Local artist and mural painter Maria Rodriguez will teach a workshop on how to draw a realistic hand.
- October 7, 2023: In this class, artist Christine "Tiny" Irizarry will go over various techniques and styles to create unique and expressive animal figures.
- November 4, 2023: In this class local artist Karen Kiaser will guide participants to create their own unique autumn collage/mixed media painting.
- November 11, 2023: Red Chair Lecture - Morgan Gieringer, Director of the Special Collections, at University of North Texas Library will be speaking on the displays in the Baker Building of historical branding irons.
- December 2, 2023: Stephanie Holt will lead a class creating Lenticular Artwork. This is an image that changes as you move your point of view from left to right.

Boren Property Advisory Council

DEPARTMENT: Parks and Recreation

FROM: Jen Basham

MEETING: October 13, 2023

SUBJECT:

Receive a report from the Russell Farm Supervisor. (*Staff presenter: Mary Ann Spaun, Supervisor*)

SUMMARY:

Report attached.

OPTIONS:

RECOMMENDATION:

PRIOR ACTION/INPUT (Council, Boards, Citizens):

FISCAL IMPACT:

STAFF CONTACT:

Jen Basham
Director of Parks and Recreation
jbasham@burlesontx.com
817-426-9206



Parks and Recreation

Russell Farm Supervisor BPAC Report October 6, 2023 Submitted by Mary Ann Spaun

Summer Camps Programs and Activities:

June 2023:

Program name: Brick summer camp field trip experience, 150 participants

Program date: June 6

Program recap: Campers experienced various hands-on stations relating to nature, history, and agriculture. 150 campers attended the field

Program name: Teen cooking camp, 15 participants

Program date: June 6-9

Program recap: Students learned how to cook dishes from Asia, India, Mexico, and Italy.

Program name: Fun on the farm camp, 41 participants

Program date: June 7-9 (ages 8-12), June 20-21 (ages 4-5), and June 22-23 (ages 6-7)

Program recap: This camp offered camper's hands on experience with farm animals, making butter and jam, guided nature hike with plant identification, hay ride, tour of community gardens and vineyard.

Program name: Teen camp, 14 participants

Program date: June 14-16

Program recap: Participants created bird house art from license plates, performed outdoor cooking, and learned survival techniques. This camp was taught by Burleson Police school resource officers.

Program name: Campfire of Fort Worth field trip experience, 170 participants

Program date: June 21 – 23

Program recap: The Campfire of Fort Worth brought three campuses over a three day period for a field trip experience at Russell Farm Art Center. Five stations were set up. Stations included a hay ride to the nature trails with a guided tour of plant identification, tour of each historic facility, a community garden visit where participants identified and sampled vegetables right off the vine, and lastly an animal care demonstration with our Farm donkeys. The teachers said that this was the most enjoyable educational field trip they had been on and asked if they could return next year.

July 2023:

Program name: Kids Bread and Jam, 11 participants

Program date: July 6 (ages 8-12)

Program recap: Students made homemade refrigerator dough and strawberry jam. This class taught the canning process and basic cooking skills in bread making.

Program name: Teen Pickling class, 12 participants

Program date: July 7 (ages 11-18)

Program recap: Students made dill pickles and learned the canning process. Basic cooking skills were also taught. These skills included measuring, cutting and slicing cucumbers.

Program name: Science Camp, 23 participants

Program date: July 11– 14 (ages 5-13)

Program recap: This camp offered students a chance to explore all things with STEAM education Science, Technology, Engineering, Scientific Arts, and Math.

Program name: Art Camp, 30 participants

Program date: July 18 – 21; July 25 – 28 (ages 3-7)

Program recap: Students painted on wood, canvas, art related to nature wood, yarn.

Program name: Kids Bread and Jam, 10 participants

Program date: July 20 (ages 8-12)

Program recap: Students made homemade refrigerator dough and strawberry jam. This class taught the canning process and basic cooking skills in bread making.

Program name: Watermelon Day (July is Parks and Recreation Month), 150 estimated attendance

Program date: July 28

Program recap: We offered our families the opportunity to come cool off in our climate-controlled building and enjoy free watermelon. In addition, we had arts and crafts table set up with activities. The donkeys were brought out to visit our guests. Lastly, water sprinklers were available outside as another way for children to cool off.

August 2023**Program name: Art Camp, 28 participants**

Program date: August 1-4 (ages 2-7)

Program recap: This camp covered various art activities. Several make and take projects were created and enjoyed!