



Boren Property Advisory Council Agenda

Friday, June 16, 2023
10:00 AM

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER: 10:00 AM**
2. **APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE BOREN PROPERTY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING.**
 - A. Consider approval of the February 10, 2023 meeting. *(Staff presenter, Pamela O'Hearn, Recording Secretary)*
3. **REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:**
 - A. Receive a report regarding activities at Russell Farm. *(Staff Presenter: Mary Ann Spaun)*
 - B. Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding activities of the Historical Advisory Committee. *(Presenter: Barbara Black, Historical Committee Chair)*
 - C. Receive a report regarding activities of the Art Advisory Committee. *(Presenter: Tom Sale, Art Council Chair)*
 - D. Russell-Boren House library room books and magazines. *(Presenter: Charlsa Bentley, Committee Chair)*
 - E. Antique Wagon Restoration. *(Presenter: Charlsa Bentley, Committee Chair)*
4. **CITIZEN APPEARANCES**
5. **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**
6. **BOARD REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS OR REPORTS**
7. **ADJOURN**

Jen Basham
Director of Parks and Recreation
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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the above agenda was posted on this the 9th of June 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

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Boren Property Advisory Council

DEPARTMENT: Parks and Recreation

FROM: Jen Basham, Director of Parks and Recreation

MEETING: May 12, 2023

SUBJECT:

Consider approval of the February 10, 2023 meeting. (*Staff presenter, Pamela O'Hearn, Recording Secretary*)

SUMMARY:

OPTIONS:

RECOMMENDATION:

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

FISCAL IMPACT:

STAFF CONTACT:

Jen Basham
Director of Parks and Recreation
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817-426-9201

BOREN PROPERTY ADVISORY COUNCIL

February 10, 2023

DRAFT Minutes

Call to Order: Charlsa Boren Bentley, Chair at 10:03 AM

Roll Call

Board Members

Present:

Charlsa Boren Bentley, Chair

Pete McCaskill

Tom Sale

WL Sanders

Absent:

Barbara Black

Staff

Jen Basham, Parks and Recreation Director

Jessica Martinez, Parks and Recreation Manager

Mary Ann Spaun, Russell Farm Supervisor

Pamela O'Hearn, Customer Service Attendant/Recording Secretary

Dillon Whitehead, Fire Marshall

Joshua Frost, Code Enforcement

Charlsa Boren Bentley had everyone introduce themselves.

Jessica Martinez presented the report on the shed structure.

The smartest option is to tear down and rebuild the shed structure, reusing as much of the Materials as possible. Rebuild the shed structure with the same aesthetics as the current one.

The bids are \$16,000.00 and \$13,000.00.

Jen Basham, we need to remove the building because of the substandard condition. The City of Burleson wants to replace the shed.

Tom Sale, if the building is being rebuilt, can it be made taller as the entrance is so low people hit their heads when entering?

Mary Ann Spaun stated that the entrance will be 6 feet tall.

Joshua Frost commented that the shed is considered an accessory building.

Pete McCaskill- Considerations of what the building can be used for?

Mary Ann Spaun, currently being used to store donkey and chicken food and supplies. The future building can be used for demonstrations.

Pete McCaskill asked if the building had electricity.

Mary Ann Spaun responded. Yes, it does.

Charlsa Boren Bentley, would like to see the building get full functionality.

WL Sanders asked how old the building was.

Charlsa Boren Bentley stated that it was one of the oldest buildings on the property.

WL Sanders asked that the corrugated metal on the building be saved. He asked if there was a way to age new corrugated metal so that the new build would look old.

Mary Ann Spaun said that there was a way to age the metal.

Charlsa Boren Bentley stated that her mother, Louise Boren recognizes the need to replace the building for safety reasons. Is this something that can be done quickly?

Joshua Frost said there is no foundation and it would be an easy small build.

WL Sanders asked who will supervise the construction of the building.

Joshua Frost, the builder would need to pull permits and have inspections done.

Mary Ann Spaun, the City of Burleson would allow construction to be done on Mondays while Russell Farm Art Center is closed.

Dillon Whitehead, a crew could de-construct the building in a day and set aside the materials to be reused.

Pete McCaskill stated that the Baker building had dirt floors at one time. Would there be a possibility to use the new shed for woodworking in the future?

Mary Ann Spaun, we should consider increasing the space in the shed.

Charlsa Boren Bentley asked how big was Mary Ann thinking?

Pete McCaskill, anything would be an improvement.

Mary Ann Spaun, the Baker building is being remodeled. The wood room is done.

WL Sanders, can the new shed be complimentary.

Mary Ann Spaun, we would need to make the building larger and it would be nice to have a closet.

WL Sanders, this is an opportunity to make it better than it is.

Tom Sale, if you extend the building, you eliminate lawn and garden areas or extend into existing driveways. Tom is giving 2 antique forges and an anvil to the farm.

Charlsa Boren Bentley, is there a way to repurpose the building, keep the dirt floor, if there is a way to partition the building to make it multipurpose. Want to have potential for a rough out area.

Mary Ann Spaun, the building hasn't been used because of its falling down condition.

Charlsa Boren Bentley, in discussion with Louise Boren, she stated that the shed is one of the oldest buildings on the farm. It is critical to keep it old looking and make it safe. Charlsa recognizes the need to do this expeditiously and would like to see plans, schematic, elevation of what the building will look like. The Boren Property Advisory Council could do a zoom meeting.

WL Sanders suggested approval with stipulation that Charlsa Boren Bentley, approves of the plan. Contingent upon approval by Charlsa Boren Bentley.

Charlsa Boren Bentley made a motion. That our committee give provisional approval in concept for reconstruction of the building pending final plans to be developed and presented by the City of Burleson. Further, we desire that the necessary work be performed in such a way that is least destructive of the character and appearance of the building, using the same or similar materials to the greatest extent possible. Final approval will be contingent upon approval by Charlsa Boren Bentley.

Tom Sale made a motion to accept the motion made by Charlsa Boren Bentley and WL Sanders seconded the motion.

Vote, all in favor – 4, no one opposed the motion.

Charlsa suggested sending the minutes as soon as possible after the meetings.

Tom Sale made a motion to accept this. WL Sanders seconded the motion. This was unanimously approved.

The members skimmed over the Historical Advisory Committee report provided by Barbara Black.

Tom Sale, gave the Art Committee report.

Trying to take what we have and making it better. 2 Red Chair Lectures in the spring and fall. Tom spoke about the possibility of a separate building or converting the garage for an art studio. Tom has raised \$8,000. The Saturday Morning Sketch Group artists have donated \$1,000., Tom has received \$1000. From Capital One Bank for doing 5 coloring book pages (blown up) for their employees to color and has donated that to the art studio building fund.

The closet in the Baker building has been turned into gallery space and wood sculptures are being displayed there.

Gary Burkins Red Chair Lecture will be February 24, 2023 at 7:00 PM.

There was a donation of wood working equipment, the estimated value is \$15,000. The equipment was given by the widow of Texas Christian University president.

Hill College gave a grant to develop Kids art at Russell Farm Art Center. Karen Kaiser agreed to do an art project two times a year. She needs a crew of young volunteers to run the program.

With the absence of Jana Perkins, there is a need to find someone to teach the summer art program.

Mary Thomas led a Gel Painting workshop last week, 14 attended.

Emily Brouard will have a dry point etching workshop in May.

Charlsa thanked Tom.

Tom stated that if one was interested, you could join the Saturday morning sketch group at Russell Farm Facebook page. Jen Basham joined.

Charlsa enquired about the second Red Chair Lecture.

Tom said that an indigenous woman, Amy Bruton-Blumell who is a storyteller, children's book author and artist will be presenting the Red Chair Lecture. She also will be doing a craft project the following day at the Saturday morning sketch group.

Charlsa asked that we bring back Jeff to speak about art law and copyright issues. Charlsa asked if there were any other comments. She asked that we do anything to create opportunities for wood sculpture and woodworking.

Supervisors Report-Mary Ann Spaun

Flood lights were installed in the front of property to highlight the signs.

Partnered with City of Burleson Parks Department to trim trees and remove junk from the property.

Baker Building remodeled the closet into gallery space. Barn door built and installed at the wood room of the Baker Building.

Remodeled the closet in the Dairy Barn into gallery space.

Remodeled the Chesapeake to include wheelchair access and partition to divide room into two spaces.

Jen Basham stated that the I.T. team is doing a refresh of the internet around the city, including the farm.

2023 Highlights:

Show Me How Festival, March 25, 2023.

Dare to be Square April 29th.

Kids Farmers Market.

WL Sanders and Charlsa thanked Mary Ann, Jen Basham and Jessica Martinez for what has been done at the farm.

Tom Sale stated that one of his goals is to try and plan ahead and get the Red Chair Lectures in the community guide.

Charlsa said she loved the lights in the front of the farm.

WL Sanders said that seeing all the melodrama with the Dallas Zoo and in Huston, that we should also be aware of security at Russell Farm Art Center.

Charlsa said, Louise is concerned with security at Russell Farm Art Center. Asked if we have security police drive through the farm.

Mary Ann asked if police could drive through on Sundays and Mondays when the farm is closed.

WL Sanders suggested that the cameras be monitored by the police and signs in front of the property stating that the police department monitored the cameras.

Mary Ann said that the cameras catch the entrance and exit driveways.

New I.T director and Jen Basham talking about police surveillance of City of Burleson properties.

Charlsa asked that a guest book be placed in the Dairy Barn for visitors to sign.

WL Sanders asked when construction starts that picture of progress be taken every few days and sent to Charlsa.

Tom said that we should document what is inside of the shed.

Charlsa said that the next meeting will be May 12, 2023. And that there should be a garage approval meeting before that.

Mary Ann said that a supplemental meeting for the garage would be Wednesday March 1st.

Charlsa adjourned the meeting at 11:45 AM.

Pamela O'Hearn, Recording Secretary

Boren Property Advisory Council

DEPARTMENT: Parks and Recreation – Russell Farm Art Center

FROM: Jen Basham, Parks and Recreation Director

MEETING: June 16, 2023

SUBJECT:

Receive a report regarding activities at Russell Farm. *(Staff Presenter: Mary Ann Spaun)*

SUMMARY:

Russell Farm Art Center is dedicated to the development and support of the visual arts, cultural awareness and the preservation of the historic lands. In addition, the farm offers many learning opportunities and hosts city-wide and community events.

OPTIONS:

1) N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

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

N/A

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

STAFF CONTACT:

Jen Basham
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Russell Farm Supervisor BPAC Report
June 16, 2023
Submitted by Mary Ann Spaun

Events and Programming:

February 11, 2023, 20 attendees – Chocolate dipping class with a Valentine theme called **Sweets for your Sweetie**. The fee of \$25 included all supplies. Students dipped strawberries, marshmallows, pretzels, and grapes in both, white and dark chocolate. The finished product made a beautiful presentation as a gift.

February 18, 2023, 37 couple attendees – **Date Night Experience** fee (\$45 per couple) brought together 37 couples for a night of catered barbeque from Roscoe's and live fiddle music during dinner. The 74 attendees were led by a Country Western dance instructor. Couples enjoyed lots of laughter and new dances learned. Couples enjoyed s'mores around a fire pit to close out the evening.

March 18, 2023, 14 attendees – **Mango Chutney Canning** (Class fee \$25). This class brought community together with a team effort of chopping fruit and vegetables, preparing the jars, and going through the proper steps in the canning process. Everyone was given a sample of what they made during the class. The class encouraged students to gain the confidence to go home and make a batch for themselves or give away as gifts.

March 25, 2023, Estimated 201 attendees – **Show Me How Festival** was our first year to offer this event. The farm did not charge vendor fees but required that all who were selling goods be willing to teach our visitors how to do the various arts and crafts. In attendance we had Native American jewelry, t-shirt screening, herbal soaps and body balms, basket weaving, spinning and weaving, outdoor cooking, gel painting, and wood carving. This event drew roughly 200 guests to experience different mediums of art.

April 1, 2023, Estimated 425 attendees – **Easter Egg Hunt** for ages 4 and under. During this event, little ones explored the Farm while waiting their turn for their age group to hunt eggs. Families also enjoyed taking pictures with the Easter bunny and the Farm donkeys.

April 1, 2023, 12 attendees – **Mixed Media Art Class** for adult's (Fee \$40) with all supplies included.

April 15, 2023, 6 attendees – **Pickled Asparagus canning class**. The fee of \$25 included all supplies. Students enjoyed learning the process of pickling asparagus. Samples are provided during class in order to create an expectation of how their own will taste. This class offers an opportunity to meet others and work together as a team to complete the process. Everyone left with their jar of product and the recipe so they can do it at home.

April 22, 2023 – **Earth Day Celebration** at the farm brought out several activities for our community to enjoy partnering with the library, Keep Burleson Beautiful, Texas Master Naturalist, Cooks Children's

Health Care system. There was a Wild Life on the Move presentation and animal interaction. In addition, Roots Garden Center offered a workshop and Russell Farm organized a Bird Walk.

May 13, 2023, 18 attendees – Pineapple Habanero (Class fee \$25). This class brought community together with a team effort of chopping fruit and vegetables, preparing the jars, and going through the proper steps in the canning process. Everyone was given a sample of what they made during the class. The class encouraged students to gain the confidence to go home and make a batch for themselves or give away as gifts.

May 20, 2023, Estimated 400 attendees – Texas Heritage Festival: The Texas Heritage Festival celebrated Texas History with live music, instructional dance lessons, and interactive demonstrations. Additionally, beautiful Percheron draft horses pulled a wagon, we offered a tractor with hayrides, and lastly, a mini train ran continuously during the festival. Various artisans shared their talents and sold goods. This was a free event that is offered each year for the community.

Enrichment Classes:

- Children's gardening classes on Fridays from 1:00-2:30 pm: March through May.
- Wood Shop classes on Thursdays 11:00 – 12:30 pm with a limit of 6 students. Wood Shop increased to two classes due to a waitlist.
- Opportunities for individuals with disabilities: Russell Farm offers opportunity for students and adults with disabilities to come out weekly to volunteer and learn life skills.
 - Center for ASD comes on Tuesdays at 10:00 and Burleson ISD Adult Transition students comes out on Thursdays at 10:00 am to volunteer. They are given hands-on experience in working with nature and wood. Our time with these students gives them opportunities to learn the process of sanding, staining, or sealing wood around the farm such as benches and picnic tables. These students also learn about beautification of the farm by trimming back shrubs, working in our community gardens, and watering. In addition, they assist with setting up for special events and rentals.

Service Projects Spring 2023

April 8, 2023: National Charity League is a mother and daughter philanthropic organization that has supported the farm for the past five years. On April 15, they came out to clean out and add flowers to the front flower beds of the Russell-Boren home. They provided the flowers and shrubs that added beauty to the flower beds.

May 6, 2023: Burleson Church of Christ has supported the farm with a family service project each year for the past five years. On May 6, families came out to completely transform the Rose Garden in our Community Garden area. In addition, they cleaned out the large flower beds in the backyard of the Russell-Boren home.

May 20, 2023: Target employees came out to work in the vineyard pruning and lifting vines on May 20, 2023. In addition, they trimmed trees with low hanging branches. This project was very beneficial to the grapes and helped with beautification of the farm.

Upcoming Events and Programming:

Summer Camps:

- Fun on the Farm Camps
- Youth Culinary Camp with focuses on international dishes
- Teen Survival Camp
- STEAM/Science Camp
- Art Camps will be offered June through August
- 4 Field Trips
- Monthly Canning Classes will continue throughout the Summer 2023.

Boren Property Advisory Council

DEPARTMENT: Parks and Recreation – Russell Farm Art Center

FROM: Jen Basham, Parks and Recreation Director

MEETING: June 16, 2023

SUBJECT:

Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding activities of the Historical Advisory Committee.
(Presenter: Barbara Black, Historical Committee Chair)

SUMMARY:

The Historical Advisory Committee is a team working together to assist in efforts that help preserve the history of Russell Farm Art Center. These efforts are not limited but include assisting with community events, historical tours, and Russell Farm activities.

OPTIONS:

1) N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

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

N/A

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

STAFF CONTACT:

Jen Basham
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817-426-9206

Historical Advisory Committee BPAC Report
June 16, 2023
Submitted by Barbara Black, Historical Committee Advisory Chair

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.

Boren Property Advisory Council

DEPARTMENT: Parks and Recreation – Russell Farm Art Center

FROM: Jen Basham, Parks and Recreation Director

MEETING: June 16, 2023

SUBJECT:

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

SUMMARY:

The Art Advisory Committee is a team working together to assist in efforts that help preserve the art of Russell Farm Art Center. These efforts are not limited but include assisting with community events, programs, and art receptions.

OPTIONS:

- 1) N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

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

N/A

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

STAFF CONTACT:

Jen Basham
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Art Advisory BPAC Report
June 16, 2023
Submitted by Tom Sale, Art Council Advisory 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 \$1,000 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 Aug through the fall.

Boren Property Advisory Council

DEPARTMENT: Parks and Recreation

FROM: Jen Basham, Director of Parks and Recreation

MEETING: June 16, 2023

SUBJECT:

Russell-Boren House library room books and magazines. (*Presenter: Charlsa Bentley, Committee Chair*)

SUMMARY:

OPTIONS:

RECOMMENDATION:

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

FISCAL IMPACT:

STAFF CONTACT:

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Boren Property Advisory Council

DEPARTMENT: Parks and Recreation

FROM: Jen Basham, Director of Parks and Recreation

MEETING: June 16, 2023

SUBJECT:

Antique Wagon Restoration. *(Presenter: Charlsa Bentley, Committee Chair)*

SUMMARY:

OPTIONS:

RECOMMENDATION:

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

FISCAL IMPACT:

STAFF CONTACT:

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