

**Friends of Parks and Recreation
Minutes from Virtual Meeting
May 19, 2020**

Attending

Doug Severs	Ken Haines
Charley Fisher	Audrey Hatch
Olga Loza	Jenny Meisel
Roberta Sperling	Stephanie Long
Karen Emery	

New Board Member

Olga brought the meeting to order at 5:35pm. She welcomed new potential board member Doug Severs. Doug gave an update on the Woodland Meadows project he and his neighbors undertook to plant wildflowers and native plants along the trail. They used a Neighborhood Empowerment Grant to purchase 120 plants. Groups of 10 volunteers planted the plants over several sessions. When it gets drier, they will water the plants until they are established.

Olga said she noticed that Doug is interested in fundraising and did work in that area in Pocatello, ID. Mary moved to accept Doug as a Board Member, Charley seconded. Vote was unanimous. Mary pointed out that Doug will serve a three year term.

Treasurer's Report

Mary said we have \$304,700 in the bank. There hasn't been much activity in the last several months. Vicki, who is now doing the books, is working out fine. Reports are better. We haven't received a bill in quite a while, but not much has been happening either. Mary is hoping taxes are done well at the end of the fiscal year. Mary announced good news: Marjorie Goss, who passed away, left cash and stock to the Community Center. We should wait to sell the stock until we see what the market is doing. Roberta suggested asking Edward Jones about a money market account. Mary said since we have so much money in a checking account, she is looking to move about 75% of that money into a money market at Citizen's Bank. Mary said our director liability insurance is coming due soon and Barker-Uerlings has said we should deal with the insurance company directly instead of going through them. Mary is looking around for a new agent so we have someone we can talk to.

Youth Bottle Drop

Karen explained that the Youth Volunteer Corps chooses projects to help community non-profits. They will take the bottles to the bottle drop and apply the money to our account. Mary explained that the Bottle Drop takes \$25 from our first check. Karen said staff will handle the money. Mary said this is simple money for us and that we should keep the 3% fee. Charley moved to accept the program. Doug seconded. Mary will fill out the paperwork.

Karen's Report

Karen said the new Peace Pole for Central Park has been ordered. Fourteen different countries are represented on the pole. The new pole is limestone. When we are able and when the new playground is completed, there will be a celebration at Central Park. Karen reported that the movie in the park this year will be a drive in movie. We could do a video of the Friends group a couple of minutes long. Karen announced she is retiring October 31. The new person will start November 1. James will help through the transition. Parks and Rec is wrapping up the new Central Park playground. Changes have been made to reflect crime prevention through environmental design. The gazebo will be replaced with

one that has no roof and is made from powder coated steel. The Community Center lost three weeks due to the virus, but should be completed June 13. The Starters made a donation to replace the stage at Starker Arts Park. There will be no concerts this summer. The tennis courts at Lincoln school are going away because of the new school building, but 509j is paying to build new ones at Riverbend Park. Mary asked about the replacement flags at the Arts Center. Karen said she would check on those.

MLK Park

Olga mentioned that four million dollars will need to be raised. Hopefully, the enhancements will start next summer. Still looking for folks with fundraising and marketing experience. Charley asked if the video about Friends should be about MLK. Audrey said it should be about Friends. Olga agreed. It should increase our visibility so people trust us with their \$\$\$. Karen said another video could be made for 2021 that is about MLK. Olga is sending Doug links to MLK material.

Business Cards

Roberta said the business cards are ordered and she will mail about 25 or 30 out to each Board Member. She will submit a bill for postage.

We talked about summer meetings being in a park and at the Majestic Theatre when we are able to meet there. The next meeting will be June 16. Meeting adjourned at 6:50pm.

Action Items

Roberta will mail business cards and submit bill for postage.

Olga will send MLK material to Doug.

Mary will fill out paperwork for YBD.

Karen will check on flags at Arts Center.

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Long MehlenbaCHER