

**Friends of Parks and Recreation**  
**Minutes**  
**May 18, 2021**

**Attending**

Doug Severs  
Audrey Hatch  
Olga Loza  
Roberta Sperling  
Mary Buckman  
Meredith Petit

**Absent**

Ken Haines  
Charley Fisher  
Jenny Meisel  
Stephanie Long

**Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00pm. A motion was made to accept the minutes by Mary and was seconded by Ken. Minutes were unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report**

Mary reported that we paid for bookkeeping, taxes, the NAPF membership. Not much changed. There were some small donations for MLK park. Mary will remove accounts that are no longer active and that have finished projects, such as Woodland Meadows and the skate park. Olga moved to accept the report. Stephanie seconded. Report was unanimously approved.

**Bottle Drop**

Mary reported that there will be a press release about the \$2500 donation to the Youth Volunteer Corps. The press release will be sent to the GT. Roberta asked where the money will go. Mary said it will go through us to the Youth Volunteer Corps. The check will arrive in mid-June.

**Investments**

There was a discussion about investing \$100,000 of C3's money. Ken suggested investing for one year, then look at the results. Mary moved to work on investing \$100,000 for one year. Doug seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**C3 Funding Requests**

Meredith reported that C3 has some funding requests: \$807.61 to purchase an art hanging system in the hallways. This will be installed in the next couple of weeks. They also would like to spend \$2342.76 on supplies for new fitness programs and \$1750 to fund two concerts at Chintimini Park. Olga asked if the art will be rotated. Meredith said yes, and the hanging will be very professional. The two concerts are scheduled for 7/15 and 8/12. Olga asked if there will be food vendors. Meredith said no, but people can bring a picnic. The Community Band will also play in the park during the summer. Mary asked where the \$300 Fred Meyer gift card went that was not used for Christmas caroling. Meredith said it is in the safe and will be used in the future. Mary moved to approve the expenditures. Ken seconded. They were unanimously approved.

**Meredith's Report**

Meredith reported that the MLK park interpretative design was approved by the City Council. They approved the landscape architects designs and are moving on to the next phase. The Majestic Theatre received the \$1500 Re-Max grant for sound equipment that they had applied for. They want to present the check on 5/27 at the theatre. The summer Activity Guide comes out next week. Friends' ad is in it. The softball program has more teams than ever because Albany was forced to cancel their program due

to budget cuts. Olga asked if the Department was confident that programs will not need to be cancelled this year. Meredith said yes, that staff will follow OHA guidelines. Charley noted that adult programs bring in more than they spend. Meredith replied that some revenue is generated above and beyond costs. The Department is planning to open Otter Beach at the end of the school year.

### **MLK Update**

There was a discussion about the MOU. Ken remarked that it contains a lot of legal jargon. Stephanie remarked that our commitment was originally to raise one million dollars and now it is up to three million and that doesn't feel good. She supports changing the MOU to a Memorandum of Expectations and consider it an aspirational document. Olga reported a conversation with Jenny, who expressed that the project is too large and overwhelming. Audrey suggested separating a discussion of the MOU from the regular board meeting. She also reported that there might be interest from the Benton Co. Foundation to be a partner in fundraising. Charley noted that Friends was just supposed to be a pass through for the funds. Roberta added that the Benton Co. Foundation has more expertise to do a large project. Olga said help from other partners is welcome. Ken suggested a separate meeting to discuss this. Meredith asked if another partner was brought in, how would Friends be involved?

The meeting was adjourned at 6:07pm.

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Long Mehlenbacher