

**Friends of Parks and Recreation**  
**Minutes**  
**June 16, 2021**

**Attending**

Doug Severs  
Audrey Hatch  
Jenny Meisel  
Roberta Sperling  
Mary Buckman  
Meredith Petit

**Absent**

Ken Haines  
Charley Fisher  
  
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 Doug after type correction. Minutes were unanimously approved. Roberta gave a shout out to Meredith for Friends' mention in the Activity Guide.

**Treasurer's Report**

Mary reported that money approved for C3 last month was spent. We received \$1500 from Remax for Majestic upgrades for deaf and blind audience members. We received \$2500 from the Bottle Drop for the Youth Volunteer Corp. \$1493 was spent on finishing the Rene Moye project. This was approved between meetings. Jenny will have Benton Soil and Water Conservation send an invoice for the Central Park project and we will send them \$1000 as approved earlier. Mary asked if there is any activity with the Rose Garden group. Meredith said things were put on hold due to COVID. Charley moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Doug seconded. The report was unanimously approved.

**Investments**

Stephanie has been doing research on investment counselors. Through a friend, she got the name of several and will send them a list of questions about possible investments.

**Meredith's Report**

Meredith requested \$900 for the Youth Volunteer Corps (this is coming from the \$2500 we just received) for shirts, gloves, supplies, etc. Doug made a motion to approve. Charley seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Meredith reported that this is construction season: new surface is being added in play areas, Cloverland Park will get new tennis courts, and new pickleball and tennis courts will be added in South Corvallis at Riverbend. Parks and Rec is working on getting more access to CHS courts while other tennis courts are closed. The Majestic Theatre will replace the theatre seats early next year. Sponsorships will be sold to pay for the seats.

Mary noticed that the Parks and Rec budget for the next year went up by two million dollars. Meredith said most of this money will be used for wages and increasing costs. Mary asked if the new SDC methodology has been approved. Meredith said the City Council still has to set the rates. Roberta asked about the ballerina sculpture in Central Park. Meredith said she and squirrel have been taken down and are being repaired. Also surveillance cameras will be installed in the area. Mary asked about the cleanup of the homeless camps in the parks. Meredith reported that some areas have been cleaned up. ODOT is supposed to clean up camps on their property. Jenny asked about proposed legislation allowing camping on public property. Meredith said there is information about sleeping vs. camping, but she doesn't know the specifics of the bill.

### **MLK Update**

Audrey said there still needs to be a discussion about the MOU separate from the Board Meeting, but the available dates are just not working. Ken suggested doing it at the next Board Meeting. Mary added that if we do bare essentials at the next meeting, we could have time to discuss this. Audrey said we should use the July 20 meeting to discuss this. Meredith said she would see if we could meet in the barn at MLK Park. Roberta reiterated that we would focus on MLK at the next meeting and meet in the barn. Audrey said the goal is to report and define the role for Friends. Meredith said they are still waiting to hear from the Benton County Foundation. Roberta mentioned Anne Murphy's free fundraising seminar. It was sort of a Zen of Fundraising seminar on becoming comfortable with the idea of asking for money.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:48pm.

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Long Mehlenbacher