

Friends of Parks and Recreation
Minutes
October 19, 2021

Attending

Doug Severs	Ken Haines	Mary Buckman
Olga Loza	Charley Fisher	Audrey Hatch
Roberta Sperling	Stephanie Long	Jenny Meisel
Meredith Petit		

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. Minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report

Mary reported that there has not been a lot of activity. Bills from A&S were paid as well as the board liability insurance which was \$844. Mary received a call from another agent (not Barker and Uerling). That agent reviewed the policy and said we might not be as well protected as we think er are. The policy has no protection for events. We can always change policies if necessary. This policy was chosen because it was a local agency.

Olga asked: if the MLK committee has events, who is liable? Mary said if checks are going to Friends, then we could be liable. Olga suggested checking with the museum people and see what coverage they have. Mary said moving over to SalesForce to handle donations is more difficult than first thought. She added that the mailing list will be in Excel.

Audrey asked if, in addition to events, would our insurance cover a hired person who was hired as a contractor and not as an employee?

Mary said the separate account for MLK fundraising is set up at Citizen's bank. Should we move \$30,000 into it to cover beginning fundraising costs for MLK?

Doug made a motion to move 30K into new account. Olga seconded the motion. Mary was concerned that this is $\frac{3}{4}$ of our general fund. Charlie said the Committee needs a promise of 30K. Meredith pointed out that this was already decided. We should not be circling back. This is still a Friends account. Audrey said they we can't spend every meeting talking about this. Mary asked if 30K is enough? Audrey said nobody knows the answer to that, but we agreed to provide this as seed money so fundraising can move forward. Meredith suggested that the transfer of funds should be done all at once as that will make it less cumbersome. Jenny pointed out that 3% will be going back to the Friends general fund as donations are accepted. The motion was approved unanimously.

Fundraising Letter

Roberta reported that Doug and Ken are working on the letter and it will be ready in November. Ken said a draft will be ready soon for review and approval.

Elections

Olga and Ken are up for re-election this year. Both said they would like to remain on the Board. Charley made a motion to re-elect Olga and Ken. Jenny seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Meredith's Report

Meredith reported a \$500 donation and a nice letter from Court Smith about Parks & Rec was received. Meredith suggested using the donation for building steps on the steep side of Chip Ross Park above the parking lot. Ken said that would be a good use of funds. Jenny suggested adding native plants at the memorial at the park. Mary said she will mention that use of funds in the thank you letter. Right now, the money is in the general fund. Meredith said that they have applied for a grant through Oregon State Parks Dept. They will get an answer in April. The grant would be to build a universally accessible playground at Avery Park. The budget is 725K and the grant would be for half of that.

Jenny said the park is a great idea. Charley made a motion to approve the concept. Jenny seconded. Ken mentioned that gutters are needed at Starker Park around the stage area because the surrounding area becomes a swamp when it rains. Meredith said she would have to look into the cost. It is a known issue, but is not planned for this year. She said she is spending lots of time looking at CIP needs. The City Council will be receiving about 13 million dollars in American Rescue Plan money. The Cloverland and Riverbend projects are facing challenges because of supply chain issues and rising costs.

Meredith reported that the Turkey Trot is happening. They are behind on registration numbers because of COVID. They will have COVID protocols in place. Proceeds support scholarships for Recreation programs.

Jenny reminded everyone about Beans for Bags and said to go vote.

The meeting adjourned at 6 pm..

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Long Mehlenbacher