

**Friends of Parks and Recreation**  
**Minutes**  
**April 16, 2024**

**Attending**

Ken Haines  
Doug Severs  
Jean Scott

Laurie Mason  
Olga Loza  
Stephanie Long

Meredith Petit  
Mary Buckman

**Absent**

Lynne Dimmick  
Tom Kirch  
Charley Fisher

**Special Guests:**

Ryan (logo designer from LBCC), Joelle – Osborn supervisor, Jessica McDonald from Greenbelt Land Trust.

**Logo Redesign**

The Board discussed the newly designed logo. Laurie thanked Ryan for continuing the work on the logo even after the term had ended. Doug moved to accept the new logo. Stephanie seconded. The vote to change to the new logo was unanimous. Olga asked Ryan about the logo files. He said they are mostly in Illustrator and are editable. There was a discussion about obtaining new domain names and a new email address. Ken made a motion to purchase the following: friendsofcorvallisparcs.org and friendscorvallisparcs.org. Laurie seconded the motion. The vote was yes except for Mary who dissented. There was a discussion about redoing the brochure with the new domain name, logo, etc. Olga suggested we check prices of having them printed at Eagle in Salem. Ken said he would check Office Depot and online.

**Owens Farm Discussion**

Meredith introduced Jessica McDonald from Greenbelt Land Trust to talk about the partnerships for redoing the Owens Farm area. The partners include Greenbelt, Samaritan, Benton County, and the City of Corvallis. They are looking for a fiscal sponsor, but will not expect that sponsor to raise funds. There has been some media attention, there is a website, and trail work is underway. Jessica said this is 23 years in the making. The partners think that Friends would be a good holder of the funds. They have looked at many non-profits but think Friends is a good fit. A discussion ensued about this and Jessica answered many questions about the project. There is, as yet, no budget for the project, but it will be many millions of dollars. Laurie said that of the \$30,000 we donated to MLK at the beginning of fundraising, we have recouped \$6300 in administrative fees at 3%. Stephanie said if we are involved, that fee needs to be set at the very beginning. Olga asked who would write the thank you letters? Mary asked if money would need to be in a separate account. Jessica answered that partners will formalize an MOU and that will provide direction. Doug remarked that this project spans a lot of property. Laurie wondered how we fit in when so much of the work is being done on non-city land. Mary asked how much of the land is city property. Meredith said it is about 50%. Mary asked if the grants will go through us? Jessica said the different partners will get different grants. There will be an open house on May 21<sup>st</sup>. Meredith said the taxpayers said yes to this project more than 20 years ago. Olga asked if this will have precedence over MLK. Meredith said no, it will be added to the project list. Mary said she likes the idea of the partnerships. Laurie made a motion to approve, in concept, that Friends can be a fiscal partner for individual donations (non-grant funds) pending the MOU. Mary seconded the motion. The Board voted yes, except for Olga who abstained. Meredith said as the project progresses, there may be a separate non-profit set up.

### **Osborn Aquatic Center Ask**

Joelle asked for \$600 of money designated for the Aquatic Center to purchase free ice cream for community engagement events. The ice cream will be handed out in a concessions trailer. Mary made a motion to approve the request. Doug seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Motion: Laurie asked for authority to write checks for requests between meetings if there is money in the account. Meredith or another leader at Parks and Rec would need to approve the request and send the proper paperwork. Laurie could then write the check after 2 business days. If any member of the Board objects, it would have to be done at the next meeting. Olga seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Laurie has made progress in moving the money information into QuickBooks, although the numbers are not yet perfect. Helen Bennett is our new Edward Jones person. There is a new \$80,000 CD which matures 1/15/2025. Mary made a motion to re-invest the CD which matures 5/7/2024. Olga seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Laurie asked for \$500 to go back to Vicki at A&S to try to figure out the last small things to make the Treasurer's report balance. Mary made a motion to do that. Stephanie seconded. The vote was unanimous. Mary added that interest received when CDs mature should go to the general fund.

### **MLK Donation Admin Fees**

We have taken in over \$200,000. \$30,000 came out of our general fund. \$6300 has been recouped. Olga pointed out that we are collecting 1.5% for donations over \$500,000. Mary said it should all be at 3%. Olga added that we are not covering our initial \$30,000. Meredith referred to the agreement with the primary donor. Because most of the donation is being made in stock, the donor won't cover the 3% admin fee, wanting as much of the money as possible to go to the park project. Mary said the primary donor knew way back that our fee was 3%, because he remarked about how low that was. The Board agreed that if we are involved in a project like this again, this needs to be made clear from the beginning. We need to pay more attention next time. Mary said the fee should be 3% on everyone—no special treatment. Ken said we should get our \$30,000 back and then be done with the whole thing. Meredith said maybe the city will get its own broker to sell the stock. Olga made a motion that donations greater than \$500,000 will receive a 1.5% admin fee. Amount under \$500,000 will be 3%. Laurie seconded the motion. The Board voted yes, except for Mary who dissented.

### **Movie in the Park / Meredith's Report**

Laurie received a request for \$590 for the Bouncy Maze at the movie in the park and made a motion to ok the amount. Stephanie seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Meredith said the new skate bowl's grand opening is April 27, 12 to 4pm. There will be music and high level skaters.

### **Our next meeting will be held on May 21 at 4:30.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm.

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Long Mehlenbacher

