

**Friends of Parks and Recreation
Minutes
May 21, 2024**

Attending

Lynne Dimmick
Doug Severs
Jean Scott

Laurie Mason
Olga Loza
Stephanie Long

Charley Fisher
Mary Buckman

Absent

Ken Haines
Tom Kirch

Special Guests:

Rachel Kohler, James Mellein – Corvallis Parks and Rec.

Minutes

The meeting was brought to order at 4:33. Laurie made a motion to approve the minutes. Olga seconded the motion. Acceptance was unanimous.

Friends Participation & Recognition Options

Rachel Kohler works primarily at the Majestic Theatre but also works on marketing for Parks and Rec. James Mellein, substituting for Meredith, mentioned that a consultant suggested that we increase Friends' brand awareness. Rachel said that many folks don't know who we are. Rachel provided a list of ideas that the Board may be able to implement to increase awareness that Friends exists. Olga mentioned that we have done some things on list already. James added that Friends is fantastic at sponsoring activities. We need to make sure people know of our sponsorship. Mary asked about the signs we had made some years ago. There were 20 signs made and the only one she has seen is the one at the waterfront play structure. We don't know where the rest of the signs are. Olga pointed out that we were not permitted to put them up ourselves and we do not know the process for having Parks and Rec install them. Laurie asked if someone would like to follow up on finding the signs. Charley said he would follow up with Mary to see if they can answer that question.

Rachel referred to the list she brought. Meredith started the list and Rachel added to it. Rachel said what we do depends on what we want: Do we want a membership? Volunteers? To take on tasks with subcommittees? Solicit donations? There is an Information fair in August and an OSU non-profit fair in February. We might be able to participate by having a table. Laurie suggested that we do not talk about membership as this would mean a change to our bylaws. Rachel said we could offer a small benefit for membership such as preferred seating for the movie in the park. Mary said we are putting the cart before the horse because we do not have volunteers to do these things. Charley mentioned that the Benton Co. Museum has a newsletter done by employees. James suggested adding things to the Parks and Rec newsletter. Stephanie suggested adding Friends logo to the wall of the Majestic before performances instead of the Majestic logo. Rachel said Julia Jacobs does the newsletter for Parks and Rec. Rachel also said if we email her (Rachel) with information about events, she could help get it into the newsletter. James said best to keep it short and include photos if possible. James added that we could ask for volunteers through the newsletter by sending out a list of opportunities. Lynne asked about a brochure or information for seniors who might want to volunteer for events. James said there is a well-developed endowment program to show how to set up legacy giving. Friends needs to make sure we are recognized for the things we do because some things would not happen without Friends. Mary mentioned that Olga is the only person on the Board who is tech savvy enough to do social media

and Olga is unable to do everything with what she already has to do. Charley said we need different sub-groups to work on different tasks. Stephanie offered to send information about our upcoming events and sponsorships to Rachel and Julia. Charley said he would take on reprinting the banner for the Farmer's Market. Olga said she will work on a new brochure. Mary will also work on a brochure or something smaller. Laurie mentioned that Tom had said a postcard is better to get people's attention.

Treasurer's Report

Laurie reported that our CDs through Edward Jones are now maturing every quarter. After a lot of work and meeting with Vicki at A&S, there is now less than \$500 in funds that we cannot identify the source of. PayPal charges 2.5% fee when we receive a donation from them. Give Butter charges nothing. Laurie is figuring out how that might work better for us. Laurie asked for someone to take on researching officer liability insurance. Jean volunteered to do this. Charley moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Mary seconded the motion. Acceptance was unanimous.

Stipend for Logo Redesign

There was a discussion about whether or not to give Ryan a stipend for his work on our logo redesign. Laurie argued that he should not be paid out of our general fund because there was no prior agreement to do so. This was a class project. He received an excellent letter of recommendation and Laurie also provided him with an edited contract he can use going forward. Mary said he performed a service so should get paid. Stephanie said artists need to be paid for their work. Mary added that our last logo was designed by a high school class and we donated \$300 to them. Olga made a motion to pay Ryan after checking with LBCC teacher for \$100. Stephanie seconded. The vote was four to four, so the motion failed.

Brokers

There was a short discussion about using Wells Fargo to sell stock. This would be an online service and there would be no fee. Our CDs would continue to be handled by Helen Bennett at Edward Jones. Laurie suggested that we ask Meredith to have the primary donor hold off on donating more stock until we get this figured out.

Farmer's Market

Charley announced three dates for us to have a table at the Farmer's Market: June 29, July 20, September 14. Times are 9 to 11 or 1 to 3. Charley, Mary, and Jean can do June 29. Lynne can do July 20. Stephanie and Olga can do September 14.

Our next meeting will be held on June 18 at 4:30.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15pm.

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Long Mehlenbacher