

Friends of Corvallis Parks and Recreation
1310 SW Avery Park Dr.
Corvallis, OR 97333

Board Meeting Minutes June 27, 2017

Attendees:

Mary Buckman
Charley Fisher
Jenny Meisel
Karen Emery
Olga Loza
Roberta Sperling
Kristin Shreeve

Absent:

Ken Haines
Kent Daniels (on sabbatical,
due back in October)

(Note items in **bold** indicate an action to be taken by a Board member.)

Meeting called to order at 5:05 p.m

Approval of minutes of May minutes meeting

Approval of Treasurer's Report

Jimbo Ivy came to speak to the Board about the Majestic. With him was a member of the Majestic Ambassadors, the fund-raising group for the Majestic.

Jimbo explained the Majestic has been owned by the city since since 1985. At that time the building was purchased and renovated. It opened as a community theatre venue in 1991. From then until 2014 the Majestic was run by a non-profit board. When financial difficulties arose, the city took over, with Karen facilitating this decision. The Majestic is now part of the Parks & Recreation Department. Jimbo's contract with the city for three years will be up at the end of the year and he'll report to the City Council in September. The impression was that Jimbo will stay on as director of the Majestic after the three-year contract expires.

During his past 2.5 years as director, there have been 350 performances, with 50,000 people attending. The average is 3-4 shows a week. The theater is rented out for events, including a regular church service. 145,000 hours of volunteering keeps the Majestic running, along with one full-time staff, a .75 administrative specialist and 8 part time employees.

Without the formal non-for-profit organization, committees have been formed to take over duties that used to be handled by that non-for-profit org. When there was a non-profit group in charge, donations were higher, reported Jimbo. A year-end fundraiser is planned to launch in November. The aim is to raise \$75,000. Jimbo explained the current perception is that the Majestic is funded by city rev-

venues. He anticipates \$1 million will be needed for projects over the next 10 years. This includes a new stage, carpet, improved HVAC. Jim Martinez is in charge of the Ambassadors, the group that will be looking to connect with large-scale donors.

Jimbo said city funding will determine the next steps to be taken. He expects to be within \$40,000 of breaking even this year. He indicated a reserve fund will be most welcome. It is important the community recognizes that the Majestic needs to be subsidized. He mentioned other city venues, like Osborne Aquatic Center and Senior Center receive substantial funding from the city.

When asked what the Friends can do to assist the Majestic, Jimbo indicated:

1) Apply for grants. Possibilities mentioned for grants were OSU Foundation, Benton County Foundation, NEA, OCF. Other options could be researched, as well.

2) Become the entity that oversees the worker who is paid through the Experience Works/Senior Program. This would involve signing a form showing the worker's hours.

3) Consolidate the identity of the Majestic as part of Parks & Rec. It was mentioned that this can be done through our fund-raising, end-of-year letter, as well as other ways.

Mary suggested someone from the Majestic join the Friends Board. It was also mentioned that we could add photos of the Majestic to the Friends website. Olga will look into this. The Majestic can be included in the annual appeal letter, too.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The merger with the Majestic Board is complete.

A letter came indicating our Board insurance won't be renewed. Charley will get in touch with Barker Uerlings Insurance about this.

Mary had sent a revised mission statement to members. Roberta will send suggested changes to Mary. This will be used in applying to be part of the Cultural Trust, which seems especially important with the Majestic connection.

Karen reported the Marys River Boardwalk project is ahead of schedule. Also, there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Musical Instrument Park on Monday, July 3 at 11 a.m. She mentioned the instruments are being enjoyed by both kids and parents.

Karen reported on the Eclipse Event. Campsites have not sold out yet. Other events (musical, food, etc) are open to the public. **She is looking for volunteers to help out over the weekend.** Charley asked if the Friends can help fund this event. Karen will think about this. She also mentioned two areas to be aware of

at Eclipse Time—get cash from ATMs and get gas. Both those items may be in short supply when so many visitors comes to town that weekend.

A possible Friends project would be to raise funds to name something in honor of the gentleman who was Parks & Rec director for 26 years who recently passed on. (Sorry didn't catch the name).

Adjourned: 6:35 p.m. (Surprise! Even after that long discussion about the Majestic.)