

**Friends of Parks and Recreation**  
**Minutes**  
**October 18, 2022**

**Attending**

Charley Fisher  
Roberta Sperling  
Jenny Meisel  
Meredith Petit

Ken Haines  
Doug Severs  
Stephanie Long

**Absent**

Olga Loza  
Audrey Hatch  
Mary Buckman

**Minutes**

Roberta brought the meeting to order at 5pm. Stephanie reported that there were a few small errors in the minutes which Mary pointed out and those have been corrected. A motion to accept the minutes from the September meeting was made by Doug and seconded by Charley. Minutes were approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report**

Mary was absent from the meeting.

Roberta reported that Mary paid the insurance for the board and we paid a small amount to A & S. Other than that, there was no activity.

**Board Member Re-election**

Three board members were up for re-election: Mary, Roberta, and Charley. Charley accepted another term on the board. Through Roberta, Mary said she would be willing to remain as treasurer, but did not want to have another term on the board. Roberta said she would like to step away from the board.

**Mike Aronson Spotlight Award**

Stephanie and Meredith reported on a new volunteer award at the Majestic Theatre which will be named for the first recipient, Mike Aronson, who has been a volunteer and driving force at the Majestic since it opened and an advocate for community theater in Corvallis since before the theater opened. A permanent award in the Concessions Lobby is being created by R3 Engraving and will be installed on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The amount needed to pay for this is \$2364.50. A motion was made by Roberta that we pay for this and was seconded by Jenny. The request was approved unanimously.

**Appeal Letter**

Roberta has not yet spoken with Nancy Hathaway to get photos of Chip Ross. When she gets the information together, she will send all to Ken and Doug to work on the letter. We will be adding mention of Amazon Smile to the letter to encourage people to use. Jenny suggested that the options on the bottom of the letter should connect to the letter contents.

**Membership**

Meredith led a discussion about the possibility of having a membership for Parks and Rec to increase the number of people that we are able to reach. Our appeal letter goes to about 500 households. The Parks and Rec Activity Guide goes to 32,000 households. Friends of the Library has a membership that allows members early access to the book sale. That is a big draw. Stephanie suggested that we need a hook to get people to be members. Meredith said we might have tiers of membership and will need to think about what people might get for the membership. She said we need to target additional fundraising. Friends and Staff need to work together on this. Jenny asked what the timeline is for this.

Meredith said we need to start thinking about it. There is no timeline. Meredith and Ken talked about the terrible playground surface at Starker Playground (formerly Sunset). Meredith said it has been bad for ten to twelve years and people are avoiding the playground because it is so bad. Parks and Rec does not have the funds for the project as well as other projects that need to be done.

### **Farmer's Market**

Our last Farmer's Market date is Saturday October 29. Ken, Doug, and Charlie are signed up to be there. If it rains, it will be canceled.

### **Meredith's Report**

Meredith reported that she has made suggestions about how our list of accounts can be combined to move small balances into other accounts. She will provide this to us via email. Ribbon cutting at new Porter Park playground Sunday October 23 at 11am. Beetlejuice, the movie, will be shown at the Majestic for Halloween. The Turkey Trot, held on Thanksgiving, will be held at Crystal Lake Park this year.

### **MLK Update**

Audrey was unable to attend the meeting. There was no update.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm..

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Long Mehlenbacher