

MINUTES
FLINT HILLS DISCOVERY CENTER ADVISORY BOARD
CITY COMMISSION ROOM
MARCH 14, 2011
4:00 P.M.

Present were the following members of the Flint Hills Discovery Center Advisory Board: Mr. Ron Wilson, Mr. Dave Kendall, Ms. Sharon Brookshire, Mr. Mike Haddock, Ms. Suzan Barnes, Mr. Thomas Warner, and Ms. Kristin Brighton. Present at this meeting was Mr. Curt Loupe, Director of Parks and Recreation; Mr. Bob Workman, Flint Hills Discovery Center Director; Ms. Melissa Kirkwood, Development Officer; Mr. Scott Shoemaker, Sunset Zoo Director; Mr. Jared Bixby, Curator of Education; Mrs. Buffy Woodward, Administrative Assistant. Visitors included: Ms. Amanda Morales and Mr. Dennis Toll.

INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Workman welcomed and thanked the Board for their service. He stated that the Flint Hills Discovery Center is a division under the Parks and Recreation Department; seeks to parallel the Sunset Zoo.

The members, staff, and visitors introduced themselves.

ORIENTATION PROCEDURES

Mr. Workman gave the Board an overview of the Orientation Guide Book. The Board is comprised of seven members in which a majority must either be: 1) a resident of the City of Manhattan; or, 2) own real property within the city; or, 3) own, operate, or be employed by a business or entity which has a principal place of business within the city; or 4) satisfy a combination of factors 1, 2, and 3. Five members of the Board constitutes a quorum. The Board may establish committees. Members have the opportunity to attend meetings by telephone or use of other real-time technology. Discussion was held.

DETERMINATION OF REGULAR MEETING TIMES/INTERVALS

Mr. Workman stated that the tentative meeting time/interval was set for the second Monday of each month, beginning at 4:00 p.m. He suggested that the Board take a recess during July and August. In September the Board can revisit the meeting intervals. The Board accepted by consensus.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Workman opened the floor for nominations and election of officers. It was moved by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Brookshire, that Mr. Warner be nominated for Board Chair. The nomination was accepted by consensus. On vote, motion carried 7-0. It was moved by Mr. Warner, seconded by Mr. Kendall, that Ms. Barnes be nominated for Vice Chair. The nomination was accepted by consensus. On vote, motion carried 7-0.

DISCUSSION OF PURPOSE, GOALS, AND BYLAWS

Mr. Warner asked for discussion regarding the purpose, goals, and bylaws. Mr. Workman stated that City Staff will provide pertinent information to the Board. Staff members and other sources will be available to attend meetings in order to address various issues. The Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation will focus on fundraising. Discussion was held.

REVIEW 2010 ACTIVITIES

Mr. Workman stated that the construction of the Discovery Center is going well. The project is on schedule and under budget. The city has been able to get a better building for less money, due to the recession. Exhibit design work has been completed. Donna Lawrence Productions has been hired to produce the multi-media "Immersive Experience" that will be a centerpiece. Mr. Workman has given numerous presentations. The Discovery Center logo was created and the development of the website began. Discussion was held.

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REVIEW 2011 OBJECTIVES

Mr. Workman stated that outreach will continue to be an important component. Exhibit carts will be constructed. Collaborative exhibits with the Riley County Historical Society, K-State, and Fort Riley will be developed. A lot of activity will be focused on the exhibits. Temporary exhibits could be a dynamic component. The permanent exhibit fabricators will be selected. The budget for 2012 is currently being compiled. Some refinement of the master plan has been made. Twelve staff members will be hired, some positions will be shared with the Zoo and Parks and Recreation. The fundraising campaign will be launched. The membership program will be developed. Discussion was held.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be on April 11, 2011.