

MINUTES
FLINT HILLS DISCOVERY CENTER ADVISORY BOARD
FHDC Conference Room
February 13, 2012
4:00 P.M.

Present were the following members of the Flint Hills Discovery Center Advisory Board: Mr. Tom Warner, Ms. Kristin Brighton, Mr. Mike Haddock, Mr. Ron Wilson, and Ms. Sharon Brookshire. Also present were Mr. Bob Workman, Flint Hills Discovery Center Director; Ms. Melissa Kirkwood, Development Officer; Mr. Jared Bixby, Education Curator, Mr. Richard Dean Prudenti, Membership/Special Events Coordinator and Ms. Susan Adams, Volunteer Coordinator/Administrative Assistant. Ms. Suzan Barnes was absent.

MINUTES

Mr. Warner called for the approval of the January minutes. It was moved by Mr. Haddock to approve January minutes and Ms. Brighton seconded. On vote, motion carried 5-0.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Mr. Workman gave an update on the proposal for the *Membership Your Way* program that will be proposed to the City Commission at their meeting on February 28. The proposed program has an adult price of \$22.50 per adult and \$10 per child for a one year period. Pricing is based on 2.5 times the standard admission price. A group of friends or a family can define their own membership plan based on the number of adults and the number of children. Comparison information was shared that demonstrates this is comparable pricing to most regional institutions and more economical than many. There was also discussion of the benefits of membership, as well as planned promotions. Mr. Workman further explained that the FHDC is a member of the Association of Science Technology Center. This will allow reciprocal benefits to FHDC members to other ASTC member institutions.

After some discussion, Mike Haddock moved that the Advisory Board support the proposed membership program and recommend its approval by the City Commission at its meeting on February 28. Sharon Brookshire seconded, and on vote, motion carried 5-0.

GRAND OPENING

Ms. Kirkwood gave an update on the schedule of events for the FHDC opening on Saturday, April 14. The event will begin at 10 a.m. with the dedication of Blue Earth Plaza, and then proceed to the ribbon-cutting of the Flint Hills Discovery Center. Ms. Kirkwood explained that she is working with Tony Ballard, Program Coordinator at KSU, who is assisting with event planning. Mr. Wilson gave an update on entertainment options. He has put staff in contact with *In A Chord*, a vocal group at the university who often sing at sports events. Mr. Wilson has also been working with the KS Chapter of the Western Music Association, who have expressed serious interest in being involved in the day.

EPSCoR TEMPORARY EXHIBIT UPDATE

Mr. Workman reminded the board that FHDC staff has been working with groups to develop temporary exhibit opportunities in both the temporary exhibits gallery as well as the space off the children's exhibit area on the second floor. He introduced Mr. Bixby, FHDC Curator of Education, who then updated the group on the plans for the EPSCoR exhibit, the first temporary exhibit in the children's area. The EPSCoR project in Kansas is a consortium of staff from KSU, KU, WSU and Haskell Indian Nations University. Their goal is to promote science education in Kansas and the exhibit will highlight four specific educational initiatives; Farmscape (human decisions in farming), Climate Science (weather patterns), Energy (catalyst), and Pathways (inclusion). Each section includes an exhibit station with information, artifacts and hands-on

learning activities. The exhibit is funded by the EPSCoR project and is being fabricated by Flint Hills Design for presentation at the FHDC beginning in April. The exhibit will be on display at the FHDC for approximately 18 months, and then it is likely that the FHDC will tour the exhibit to other venues throughout Kansas.

GIFTS OF WORKS OF ART FOR DECORATIVE PURPOSES

Mr. Workman informed the board of interested expressed by several artists to donate or lend art works or photographs to the FHDC for displayed in meeting rooms and other public spaces at the Center. After discussion, Ms. Brighton moved that a policy be drafted that provides for the FHDC director to accept the donation or loan of works of art to the FHDC. The art must be tied to the educational mission of the FHDC. Ms. Brookshire second. On vote, motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Workman updated the board in regard to an applicant for the open Advisory Board position. The applicant will be proposed to the City Commission later in February and if approved will attend the March meeting. An election of officers will also be held at the March meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be March 12, 2012, at the Flint Hills Discovery Center.