

MINUTES
FLINT HILLS DISCOVERY CENTER ADVISORY BOARD
FHDC Conference Room
March 12, 2012
4:00 P.M.

Present were the following members of the Flint Hills Discovery Center Advisory Board: Mr. Tom Warner, Ms. Kristin Brighton, Ms. Suzan Barnes, Mr. Ron Wilson, Mr. John Hund 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. Curt Loupe, Director of Parks and Rec. and Ms. Susan Adams, Volunteer Coordinator/Administrative Assistant. Mr. Mike Haddock was absent.

INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Warner began the meeting by introducing and welcoming Mr. John Hund. Mr. Hund is a new Advisory Board Member. He is a fifth-generation Flint Hills rancher and business owner, based near Paxico.

MINUTES

Mr. Warner called for the approval of the February minutes. It was moved by Ms. Brighton to approve February minutes and Ms. Brookshire seconded. On vote, motion carried 6-0.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Warner brought forward the need to elect officers. After some discussion, Ms. Brookshire moved that Mr. Warner serve as Chairman and Ms. Barnes serve as Vice Chairman for the next 12 month period. Ms. Brighton seconded. On vote, motion carried 6-0.

GRAND OPENING

Ms. Kirkwood gave an update on the schedule of events for the FHDC grand opening on Saturday, April 14. The admission for the day and cost of events will be covered by generous underwriting by ESB Financial Services, Manhattan and Emporia. Due to anticipated large crowds, timed ticketing is planned. The FHDC will stay open that day till 7:00pm. Activities include a scavenger hunt, art-making projects, kite flying and music. Ms. Kirkwood confirmed that the governor will be present for the opening ceremony. Board members discussed specific aspects of the day's planning, including the music and logistics.

EDUCATION PROGRAM FEES

Mr. Bixby presented his proposal for program fees (see attached). Mr. Bixby also shared comparison information to other attractions in our area, indicating that the proposed fees are consistent with the local market. After discussion, Ms. Barnes made a motion to endorse the program fees as presented. Ms. Brighton seconded and on vote, motion carried 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Workman announced that television station WIBW will be the FHDC media sponsor. They are currently developing an overview 30 minute program to air on April 12 at 7:30 p.m. about the making of the Flint Hills Discovery Center. Significant additional promotion is planned as well. He also announced that the FHDC has been chosen as the location for a new Blue Cross/Blue Shield "Healthy Kansas" campaign, that will include television commercials and print advertising.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m. The next meeting will be April 9, 2012, at the Flint Hills Discovery Center.