

**Flint Hills Discovery Center Advisory Board Minutes**  
**September 14, 2015**  
**4:00 pm**

Present were the following members of the Flint Hills Discovery Center Advisory Board: Chair Ms. Suzan Barnes, Ms. Christine Benne, Ms. Rose Bacon, Ms. Larie Schoap, Mr. Mike Haddock, and Mr. Ron Wilson. Fred Goss, FHDC Director was also present.

**Welcome**

At 4:01 p.m., Ms. Barnes called the meeting to order.

**Minutes**

At 4:02 p.m., Ms. Barnes moved to approve the July minutes and Ms. Bacon seconded. On vote, the motion carried 6-0.

**FHDC Directors Report**

- **2016 Exhibitions (Spring – Summer 2016)**
  - **How People Make Things:** January 30, 2016 – May 1, 2016, *Tallgrass gallery*
  - **A View From Space:** January 16, 2016 – May 1, 2016, *Mezzanine level*
  - **Amazing Dinosaurs!:** May 14, 2016 – September 11, 2016, *Tallgrass gallery and Mezzanine level*
  - **Lost Towns:** September 24, 2016 – January 8, 2017, *Tallgrass and Mezzanine level*
    - An exhibit underwritten by the Chapman Center for Rural Studies with no out-of-pocket expense for the Flint Hills Discovery Center. The Chapman Center for Rural Studies will conduct all of the historical research, identify and make loan agreements for the accompanying artifacts. **Lost Town** will be an interactive exhibit with audio, video, maps, large format/mural sized graphic treatments, artifacts, photo albums/photographs and historical information of the “lost” and living towns of the Flint Hills. Mr. Haddock moved to approve **Lost Town's** exhibition and Ms. Benne seconded. On vote, the motion carried 6-0. Ms. Benne then moved to reconsider the title of the exhibit and Mr. Wilson seconded. On vote, the motion carried 6-0.
- **Proposed 2017 Exhibitions**
  - **To My Plate and Beyond:** January 2017 – May 2017
    - A 2,500 square foot exhibit that explores healthy eating with many hands on activities. The target audience (Pre-K – 6<sup>th</sup> grade) and is an exhibit developed by the **Purdue University Agricultural Department**. The tie to the Flint Hills would be the diversity of local Flint Hills based producers for; beef, dairy, pork, grains, and other commodities, etc. Ms. Benne recommended we contact **Riley County Wellness Coalition** as they may be able to contribute to the exhibit and Ms. Bacon suggested local food items that would tie in to the exhibit that can be

sold at the gift store. Board member Mr. Wilson recommended that ***K-State Research and Extension*** would be another good source for this exhibit. Local businesses could connect ***To My Plate and Beyond*** through the posting of their business cards within the FHDC.

- At 4:40 p.m., Mr. Wilson moved to approve ***To My Plate and Beyond*** and Ms. Bacon seconded. On vote, the motion carried 6-0.
- ***Maize, Mysteries of Ancient Grain***: January 21, 2017 – May 14, 2017, ***Mezzanine level***
  - Fred presented ***Maize, Mysteries of an Ancient Grain***, is a 1,000 square foot exhibit with interactive components which would be free for Flint Hills Discovery Center to rent. The exhibit communicates the relationship between the development and genetic diversity of corn/Maize, and how scientists apply these concepts to crop improvement in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The target audience for this exhibit is a science-based audience looking at food production and genetics. For the FHDC the Center would interpret how the rise of the eastern and western Corn Belts lead to the demise of the former regions of the tall grass prairies of North America. GMOs are referenced as part of the exhibition text. FHDC is not seeking to take a side in the GMO debate but to show how the rise of large scale agriculture lead to the loss of tall grass prairie ecosystems. Mr. Wilson expressed concern about GMO's inclusion in the exhibit as the topic is controversial. The advisory board recommended that the exhibit be vetted by a KSU scientist knowledgeable on the topic of GMOs and to review the exhibit text. Ms. Bacon moved we approve this exhibit however Ms. Benne requested we table this exhibit vote until we have more information and Mr. Wilson seconded. On vote, the motion carried 6-0.
  - Mr. Goss stated that FDHC staff will present an update at the November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting on the Maize exhibit.

### **Adjournment**

At 5:53 p.m., Ms. Barnes moved to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Bacon seconded. On vote, the motion carried 6-0.

Next meeting November 9<sup>th</sup> at the Flint Hills Discovery Center at 4:00 p.m.