

Flint Hills Discovery Center Advisory Board Minutes
May 9, 2016
4:00 pm

Present were the following members of the Flint Hills Discovery Center Advisory Board: Ms. Rose Bacon, Ms. Larie Schoap, Dr. Emily Dringenberg, Mr. Ron Wilson, and Mr. John Hund. Ms. Susan Adams, FHDC Director and Ms. Marie Martin, FHDC Foundation was also present.

Welcome

At 3:58 p.m., Mr. Ron Wilson called the meeting to order.

Minutes

At 4:00 p.m., Ms. Larie Schoap moved to approve the March minutes and Ms. Rose Bacon seconded. On vote, the motion carried 4-0. Mr. Hund arrived right after the vote.

FHDC Report

Military Appreciation Day

This year's event on Saturday, April 9 had 1,118 visitors in attendance. That was an increase of over 800 people as of 2015. The FHDC Foundation reimbursed the admission costs for the event.

Date	Military Adult	Military Youth	Total Military Attendance	Total Daily Attendance
5/9/2015	63	85	148	267
11/11/2015	82	68	150	307
4/9/2016	445	528	973	1118

Monthly Operations Report:

January-April 2016 attendance:

14,648 Admission
1,903 Education
<u>3,570 Rentals</u>
Total: 20,121

January-April 2015 attendance:

13,504 Admission
2,024 Education
<u>2,870 Rentals</u>
Total: 18,398

Jan-April 2016 total revenue: \$153,000 (Does not include Transient Guest Tax)

Jan-April 2015 total revenue: \$145,000 (Does not include Transient Guest Tax)

Employee Update:

Amber Myers was hired as Education Specialist STEM emphasis. She is a KSU graduate and holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Kansas State University in Park Management and Conservation as well as Natural Resources and Environmental Science.

Development Officer Position has been posted.

Educational Programs:

The Prairie Chicken Booming experience had over 45 in attendance and we received great comments. They are looking to expand next year with trips being offered during the weekdays in addition to the weekend dates. We also hosted local writers and photographers: Rod McKinskey, Manhattan Mercury, Dave Kendall, Tallgrass Preserve movie, Marysville newspaper reporter, and Jennifer Leeper with KS Dept of Wildlife Parks & Tourism. Jennifer will be showcasing us in their next magazine.

FHDC Hours change to summer schedule: Monday, May 30, 2016

Monday-Wednesday, & Friday –Saturday: 9:00am-5:00pm

Thursday: 9:00am-8:00pm

Sunday: 12:00pm-6:00pm

There might be future discussion about new Flint Hills Discovery Center hours.

Lee Mill Heights Park Display

FHDC hosted the Lee Mill Heights Park student park plans revealing with Amanda Arnold School and the Parks & Recreation Department. We offered the students work to be displayed in the atrium for three weeks for parents and visitors to view. We received WIBW coverage and were on the cover of the *Manhattan Mercury*.

Exhibits:

Amazing Dinosaurs Members Only event: Friday, May 13 5:30pm-7:00pm

Amazing Dinosaurs exhibit opens to the public: Saturday, May 14

Map Project-FHDC Foundation

Attended with Marie Martin, Foundation Manager, the first dedication of the FHDC Foundation sponsored Map Project in El Dorado. Currently have Phase 1 of the teaching resources loaded on our web site and will be working with Annie Wilson over the summer to continue to update their pages for Phase 2.

Upcoming Events:

Flint Hills Festival-Saturday, May 21 from 11am-5pm

National Day of the Cowboy-Saturday, July 23 from 11am-2pm

Proposal 2017 Summer Exhibits

Ms. Susan Adams, FHDC Director presented Design Zone 2 and Brain Teasers 2 as 2017 summer exhibits.

Ms. Rose Bacon expressed concern of future exhibits relating to the mission of the FHDC. Ms. Susan Adams said we only have so many to choose from and we would love to bring some exhibits to the FHDC for the costs are out of budget in the \$75,000 range. Mr. John Hund felt it would be easy to commit to Design Zone utilizing the expertise of K-State.

Ms. Marie Martin, FHDC Foundation, stated that the education department tailors all programs to work with the exhibits.

History of Exhibits

Ms. Susan Adams presented the History of Exhibits spreadsheet requested by the FHDC Advisory Board including: all exhibits in FHDC history, exhibit location, dates at the FHDC, attendance, cost with shipping, grant, grant source, cost share/in kind, and sponsor/partnership.

Ms. Susan Adams said we are now counting our attendance the same way as the zoo which includes daily attendance, rental, and education numbers.

Mr. John Hund said a cost/benefit ratio on why someone is coming would be helpful for the exhibit history spreadsheet.

Ms. Susan Adams said the FHDC is working with New Boston to develop questions and a survey to determine community engagement with the FHDC.

FHDC Foundation Report

Ms. Marie Martin, FHDC Foundation thanked all the board members that came out to recognize Nancy Kassebaum. She stated we received WIBW and newspaper coverage for the event.

November 2016, there will be a 60 minute documentary debut for David Kendall's film, Tallgrass Preserve.

The FHDC Foundation began a Youth Educational Endowment fund and are taking donations to fund this program which will benefit the FHDC Education department in their future endeavors.

The FHDC Foundation will meet on Thursday, May 12th.

Flint Hills Maps Project

Mr. Ron Wilson gave the board his article regarding the Flint Hills Map Project. This will be distributed to newspapers, radio and TV stations.

Mr. Ron Wilson also sent the text to the Dean of Education to determine where we are going to put the map at K-State. Ms. Marie Martin suggested getting a donor/sponsor for the map as the costs range from \$1,000 - \$2,500.

Public Comment

National Cowboy Poetry Contest will be held at the FHDC on June 10th at 7:00 pm. Ms. Marie Martin encourages everyone to attend.

Mr. Ron Wilson motioned to approve the exhibits Design Zone and Brain Teasers if we can tie the exhibit into the FHDC. Mr. John Hund seconded. On vote, at 4:54 p.m. the motion carried 5-0.

Adjournment

At 4:55 p.m., Ms. Larie Schoap moved to adjourn the meeting and Mr. John Hund seconded. On vote, the motioned carried 5-0.