

Advisory Board Meeting Minutes for March 26, 2018

Present: Polly Barton, Aisha Basith, Christa Spates-Bell, Emily Cahill, Abbey Cook, Colleen DiGiallionardo, Arun Karumanchi, Richole Ogburn, Joshua Smith, Lisa Vondale, Rebecca Herz.

Absent: Amanda Campbell, Laura Gleissner, Jay Scholl, and Jana Stevens.

Minutes prepared by Wendy Ferguson.

Review of Minutes: February minutes were approved with no corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Copy of report was given to each board member and reviewed by Arun Karumanchi. Format of report was changed and it was suggested the report be presented quarterly in the future.

Director's Report:

- A list of upcoming events was provided. Board members are encouraged to attend and promote where they can.
- New website is almost complete. It is anticipated to be up and operational before the next board meeting.
- Development collaboration with the Community Leadership School is almost complete. Board members are invited to CLS's final presentation on April 13th at 7:00am at the Peoria Riverfront Museum.
- A plan is currently ongoing to phase out single use plastics at the PlayHouse.
 - Silverware used at birthday parties has been switched from plastic to metal. Overall savings in party supply costs is anticipated.
- PlayHouse has been approved to provide a Kindergarten Readiness program in conjunction with the Peoria 150 School District for children at Lincoln Elementary.
 - The program will run eleven weeks, meeting two times per week for a couple hours.
 - Focus will be on building skills the children will need in order to be prepared for kindergarten.
 - Transportation and food logistics are still being determined.

Peoria Park District Report:

- Strategic planning continues to progress.
 - New program evaluations are being developed.
 - A universal application for PPD scholarship program will streamline process and will be used across the district to help those with limited financial means access programming and facilities.
 - A development structure is being created in order to ensure cohesive practices throughout the district.

Board Chair Report:

- Thank you to Polly Barton for hosting the mixer on March 20, 2018.
- Interest was gauged for a trip to another area children's museum.
 - Facilities in Galesburg or Normal were suggested.
 - Details will be determined and the board will receive further updates.

Nominating Committee:

- The roll-off schedule for Board Members is being created. Board members will serve for a three year term and may serve up to two consecutive three year terms.
- Further policies and procedures are being formulated.

Events: Next meeting is the end of this month. New members have been added to the committee.

Be Anything Committee:

- Curator positions have been created for each area of experiences offered for the event/auction. Example: STEM, Civic etc.
- Bethany Fosdyck and Katie Friend are co-chairs for the event.
- Trail Side has been reserved for September 28th event.
- September 23rd auction will open with an event here at the PlayHouse.

No other committees reported.

Old Business:

- Further discussion on "Fossil Rocks" was tabled until next meeting.

New Business:

- Board member Arun Karumanchi shared her reasons for supporting the PlayHouse. Today's children are more and more heavily scheduled and over stimulated. Having a place that allows them to explore and create is more important than ever before. The PlayHouse provides the types of experiences that allow for free play and creative thinking which in turn leads to well-adjusted adults living in a stronger community.

Formal Adjournment: 12:15pm