

Advisory Board Meeting Minutes for May 29, 2018

Present: Polly Barton, Aisha Basith, Christa Spates-Bell, Emily Cahill, Abbey Cook, Colleen DiGiallonardo, Arun Karumanchi, Richole Ogburn, Jay Scholl, Joshua Smith, Jana Stevens, Rebecca Herz.

Absent: Amanda Campell, Laura Gleissner, and Lisa Vondale.

Minutes prepared by Wendy Ferguson.

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

“Be Anything” Report: Rescheduled to the June meeting.

Director's Report:

- Possible dates for the Board's visit to the Discovery Museum in Normal, IL. Email will be sent out with survey to determine exact date and time.
- The July board meeting will be held offsite. Details to follow.
- Thank you for the Board's help in editing the 2017 Impact Report. Report should be finalized by the end of the day.
- Please help promote the numerous events taking place at the PlayHouse in June. List is on today's agenda.
- The PlayHouse has been nominated as the “Best Place for Family Fun” in the Best of Peoria contest. Voting closes June 1st.
- Currently interviewing candidates for the Development Coordinator position.
- Journey to the Sea exhibit has received positive feedback from visitors and they are engaging with the exhibit through the “message in a bottle” piece. Approximately 50 responses a week are being collected from the bottle with the vast majority of them on target with the prompt.
- Strategic Planning for the PlayHouse is beginning. More details will be shared at the July meeting.
- The future “Fossil Rocks” exhibit will begin the final design phase. An additional \$25,000 was raised bringing the total amount to \$65,000.
- Director asked for feedback on the idea of encouraging adults to support the PlayHouse through FaceBook fund raising in lieu of gifts for their (the adults) birthday.

Peoria Park District Report:

- 2019 Budgeting process has begun.
- The park district will be participating in a research project with 19 other park districts across the country to explore cost recovery practices. This study is in collaboration with Penn State University.
- New part time Development Coordinator has been hired by the park district to assist in developing consistent policies and procedures across the district.

Board Chair Report:

- Board members were recognized and thanked for their involvement with the PlayHouse in 2017.
- The board and in particular, Aisha Basith was acknowledged for their work in organizing the snack program for the Kindergarten Readiness program taking place at the PlayHouse in June.

Nominating Committee:

- Policy manual is almost complete. Board members will now complete their service and "roll off" the board in December. Committee chairs will complete their service in June.
- Richole Ogburn and Lisa Vondale are leaving the board effective June 1.
- 2 candidates for the board were presented. Email will be sent out at the end of the week calling for a vote on their addition.
- On June 25th, 2018 there will be a new board orientation meeting immediately following the regular board meeting.

Events: Next meeting is scheduled for next week. (Currently, committee is meeting every other month.)

Committee is discussing the potential for a 3rd fund raising special event. This event would be held in the summer and would have a music focus.

Communications: June 13th will be a "wrap up" meeting with the outgoing chair, Richole Ogburn. Next year's focus and plan will be discussed.

Old Business:

- No old business.

New Business:

- The board recognized Richole Ogburn and Lisa Vondale for their service. A copy of their favorite book was purchased for the hayloft reading nook in the PlayHouse. Each book was customized with a book plate in honor of their service.

Formal Adjournment: 12:26pm