

MCRF Executive Board Minutes 1-14-2021

MCRF Executive Board: William (Bill) Almond, Joe Crookham, Carl Drost, Bob Morris, Jennifer Peterson, (re-election candidate), John Pothoven, Todd Roach, Nik Rule, Heidi Scholes (re-election candidate), Chuck Webb, Sherry Vavra. Also present: MCRF staff members, MaKenzie McCarty, Chad Rietveld and Morgan McClendon.

John Pothoven called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

John welcomed new county representative board member, Chuck Webb and Sherry introduced the new MCRF intern, Morgan McClendon who will assist with economic impact research for MCRF/William Penn.

John noted the need for approval of the Jan. 8th, 2020 and July via email Executive Board minutes and the June 2nd and December 15th, 2020 Executive Committee Minutes. Nik made a motion and Bill seconded to approve all minutes. Motion carried. Unanimous.

John gave treasurer's report. Handouts were given: Annual banking summary (*2020 annual income & expenditure totals by category*) and all checks/savings transactions in 2020. John asked for questions, none stated. Nik made a motion to accept, Carl seconded. Treasurer's report passed. Unanimous.

Bob Morris gave report for 2020 in-house audit (handouts given) conducted by Bob Morris and Todd Roach. Bob shared the summary of random items tested. There were bills that were not pre-approved by Facilities' chair and it was noted to watch this closer but overall procedures are being followed. Carl said he remembered and approved the bills in question.

Carl shared MCRF's 5-year project spectrum (handouts), including 2021 planned projects per line item and 2020 completed projects. He reviewed 2021 annual projected budget & actual income & expenditures for 2020 (handouts). Bob Morris asked if there was any plan for signage at the highway crossing near the Fairfield hotel. Carl stated that is in discussion between the city and the Nazarene Church. John thanked the staff for working with the budget and Joe Crookham and Musco for consistent support. Joe stated it was a team effort. Joe moved to approve the projected budget; Heidi seconded. Motion carried. Unanimous

Board members election was held. Sherry shared 5 votes were received from members via mail/text and those votes were also counted. Sherry announced two candidates running for re-election, Heidi Scholes, and Jennifer Peterson. She added that Carl Drost's term also ended but he would not run again. Sherry thanked Carl (cupcakes/card) and shared a bit of his contributions. Carl stated he did it for the community.

2021 officer's election followed. Bill made a motion, Nik seconded to elect: John Pothoven as President, Heidi Scholes as Vice President, Joe Crookham as Treasurer; and Sherry Vavra as secretary. Voice vote, all officers were re-elected.

Bill reported for the schools, stating that the school, with the city, is moving forward with early childhood learning center and that it looks great. John asked for a timetable, Carl stated July. Carl shared the historic ticket booths at the school's stadium have been requested for the Statesmen Stadium. Joe shared the placement will be south entrance. Carl added that there are 240 parking spaces, and this will be a great visual for an entrance. The booths donation request will need school board approval.

Scottie Moore was absent for the city but shared via email the city is moving on the YMCA

Chuck gave the report for the county stating that he is still learning. The county will soon start budget.

Kim Aalbers, Fairfield Hotel manager, has agreed to join the MCRF Board as a hotel/motels-tourism representative but could not make tonight's meeting. No report given.

Joe gave a report for Daily Trust, stating that it continues to do well. The George Daily Auditorium has requested funding for some updates and the YMCA building will receive funding.

Carl gave the trail update with the project spectrum on what was developed in 2020 and planned in 2021. Joe updated the solar system project sharing that it should be operational by the end of 2021. He shared 3 areas will be addressed: Size, distance, and time. The planets will be to scale around the dome and will be installed in spring. The walkway will have screens where each planet is, showing distance, that will share information. This is a partnership with teachers/students from all grades elementary through collegiate, thus creating buy-in. Also placed at earth will be LED lights that will light up and 'travel' for the length of time that it takes from earth to sun traveling at the speed of light (about 8 minutes). Joe stated that this has been a long time in planning, and he looks forward to seeing the community input and how it effects tourism. He gave a perspective for size stating that the size of Jupiter is about 7ft while the earth is slightly smaller than a baseball. He stated that the project will add a sign that reads **"Planet earth: Enjoy, protect, it's the only ride we get."** Carl shared that Joe a great interviewed on iHeartRadio. John P asked Sherry to share the link with board members: <https://whoradio.iheart.com/content/2020-12-04-oskaloosa-is-getting-a-scale-solar-system-courtesy-of-musco-lighting/> Bob Morris stated that the community is talking about the SunDome!

Sherry gave a report for the Lacey & Urban Park (Progress Report given). She stated activities were down in 2020 but they did have a fall season. She shared overview and 4th quarter activities, including camps at the Urban Park's mini pitch. She shared MCRF won people's choice 3rd place in the parade with a trail tram! Developmental projects were emphasized, adding 3 new baseball fields are being built that will complete the sizes needed for all ages to compete. She shared that hotel motel tax (given to MCRF for recreation) was down this year due to Covid and thanked MCRF donors that keep operations going. MaKenzie added to the report noting thanks for volunteers. She shared usage charts and visitor's information stating field usage was down 56; attendance was down 40% due to COVID but emphasized 2021 already has 6 tournaments on the calendar and Penn is practicing! Nik commented that Penn kept spectators at 50% capacity this year, but fans and participants are ready to be active. Penn is preparing for more fans than ever and anticipates record numbers for tourism. Jennifer thanked MCRF for allowing her students community projects at Lacey Complex. Her students cleaned all complex facilities and assisted in "play it forward" program. She stated they would do a service project again this year. John thanked Sherry and MaKenize and MCRF staff for all they do and thanked the board members for attending the meeting.

No old business to report.

New Business

Carl shared the sizes for the new fields stating that MCRF currently has 200 and 300 ft field. The new fields will add one 220' and two 250' fields.

Having no additional new business, John adjourned meeting at 6:58PM.

Sherry will send a reminder via email for next meeting, *tentatively in July Svavra, MCRF, 1-15-2021*