

MCRF Executive Board Minutes 1-19-2022

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

John Pothoven called the meeting to order at 6:39p.m.

John noted the need for approval of July 7th, 2021, Executive Board and December 8th, 2021, Executive Committee minutes. Bill made a motion, Chuck 2nded to approve minutes. Motion carried. Unanimous.

John gave treasurer's report. Handouts were given: Annual banking summary (*2021 annual income & expenditure totals by category*) and all checks/savings transactions in 2021. John asked for questions, none stated. Chuck made a motion to accept, Carl seconded. Treasurer's report passed. Unanimous.

Todd Roach gave report for 2021 in-house audit (handouts given) conducted by Bob Morris and Todd Roach. Todd shared that 15% of the disbursements were reviewed and no mistakes were found, everything is in order. John thanked Todd and Bob for their time and what they do for the audit. He added thanks to Sherry for keeping the financial records in order.

Carl shared MCRF's 5-year project spectrum (handouts), including 2022 planned projects per line item and 2021 completed projects. He reviewed 2022 annual projected budget & actual income & expenditures for 2021 (handouts) and shared projects such as new baseball/softball fields to be completed and equipment to be purchased in 2022. Carl stated that since Lacey Complex began, over \$5 million has been spent on land alone. Carl shared a map showing a newly built pond west of the complex that will have new trail built around it in 2022, adding that a nature trail was recently installed as well. A long-term plan is to develop a campground at the same site. Carl stated that the long-term trail plan includes going under Hwy 23 and the RR to connect the Fox Run Extension. He further shared that a 200 ft flagpole will be installed at the stadium. Joe added the flag is 50' X 80'.

2022 officer's election was held. Jeff made a motion, Bill 2nded to elect: John Pothoven-President, Heidi Scholes-Vice President, Carl Drost-Treasurer; & Sherry Vavra-secretary. Voice vote, passed. Unanimous.

Bill reported for the schools, noting some sickness in the schools currently, but they are trying to keep up with everything and it's going well. They are currently short on bus drivers but still covering it for now.

Charlie Comfort, newly appointed for the city, was absent but shared report via email (attached).

Chuck gave the report for the county stating that they received 1st place for a Coal Mine reclamation project on the E side of town. The county has also given funds to Covid, heating for the courthouse, \$250,000 to the hospital for an ambulance, and plan to give to the broadband project with MCG.

Kim Aalbers reported for hotel/motels-tourism stating it is a slow time for hotels. She said she rents rooms with tournaments and already has reservations in May and is full in June. She noted that surrounding area events have people staying overnight in Oskaloosa. John thanked her for her support with MCRF.

Joe gave a report for Daily Trust, stating that it is steady but without a lot of activity lately.

Sherry gave a report for Lacey committees & Urban Park (handout given). She shared the Promotions and Fundraising committee is working on the bowling fundraiser. The Finance committee set comparable fees for the new ball fields. Nik shared William Penn Stadium will be getting new turf this year. Sherry added cameras will be installed on the 50-yard line and some repair will be completed. For the youth soccer, handicap parking spaces were installed, and a mammoth mural was completed on the soccer concession building in 2021. Chad is working on a batting cages plan for 2022. Sherry reminded the board that MCRF still takes donations of sports equipment and thanked Joe for his contributions. She reported that 78 items were given to those in need of equipment in 2021. Sherry stated that MaKenzie has spoken with Jennifer's class about MCRF and

gives a talk annually for students interested in recreation careers. Jennifer stated that she loved it for her class and her students complete a service project at Lacey Complex annually as well. The Urban Park will order a new picnic table this year.

Sherry shared some statistics on the economic impact (handouts given) and shared how impressive it has been finding out what people are spending when visiting and being able to tell the story. She shared further that community events have been added and preliminary results of the lighted Christmas parade show expenditures of \$104,000 to the community for the parade! Nik agreed how great it has been seeing the results and economic impact and Joe added that he hoped the study could also show results that could be used for recruiting to William Penn. He suggested that Nik track and identify spending and things that could tell a story. Nik agreed it is a great tool and William Penn is at its highest enrollment to date.

Carl stated that the development update was given with the project spectrum report.

MaKenzie reported for tram tours sharing from the progress report that 127 tours were given. Volunteer hours were 317 with 11 volunteer drivers. She added the 11 states that riders had come from, stating that the farthest rider had come from California in 2021. Joe asked if she had the totals from past years and Makenzie said that she could provide that information. Jennifer added that one of her students was able to ride the tram in 2021 who has transferred from inner city and never ridden something like that before. Her class had ridden together and said he was frightened at first but then he loved it and she was happy that it was offered, and her students could get to do something that when perhaps they never had before. Carl thanked MaKenzie for her work with the tram tours.

Joe gave the report for the Solar Walkway, stating that the project is progressing. He reminded the board of the motto (a sign will be posted) that **“Planet earth: Enjoy, protect, it’s the only ride we get.”** Carl shared that from the sun to Pluto, the bricks & concrete are laid for the walkway. He added that if someone wanted to take a tram ride they can start at the sun, go all the way to Pluto, circle around and go back on the walkway, seeing each planet along the way. Joe stated that Tony Rivera has the technical elements in place and ready to complete the project, but things could be added to the walkway far into the future.

No old business to report.

New Business

Sherry asked for two bylaw changes: changing 3.3 regarding the appointed board members from “the Oskaloosa School Board” to “Oskaloosa School Representative” and changing 5.11 from “...those employees authorized to approve or make expenditures **shall** be bonded...” to “...those employees authorized to approve or make expenditures **could be requested by the board** to be bonded...”

Jeff made a motion, Carl seconded to accept the bylaw changes as stated. Bylaw changes passed, unanimous.

Having no additional new business, John adjourned meeting at 7:32 PM.

Sherry will send a reminder via email for next meeting, *tentatively in July*
Svavra, MCRF, 1-19-2022

Added report from Charlie for the City:

1. City continues to move forward with ECRC
 - a. City Council recently approved a 15-year operating agreement between the YMCA and The City.
 - b. In the past six months, members of the advisory committee for the ECRC have also been identified.
 - c. Construction continues, some outstanding issues remain to be completed yet.
 - d. Hoping to largely have the YMCA open, without the pools, yet this spring, possibly in March.
2. Hotel-Motel tax increase was approved in spring 2021
 - a. 5% remains with MCRF.
 - b. Remaining 2% goes towards tourism in the community.

Charlie Comfort
At-Large City Council Member