

## **Leawood Foundation Meeting Minutes MARCH 2, 2017**

The meeting of the Leawood Foundation took place at 5:30 P.M., Thursday, March 2, 2017, in the Main Conference Room at Leawood City Hall, 4800 Town Center Drive, Leawood, Kansas.

**Attendees:** Alice Hawk, Mike Best, Susie Rawlings, Mary Ann Waldenmeyer, Renny Arensberg, James Azeltine, Chris Claxton and Deb Harper.

**Board members absent:** Debby Throckmorton, Chuck Udell, Brandon Scarborough, Charles Lusk and Marc Elkins.

### **Chairman's Report**

- Chairman Alice Hawk called the meeting to order at 5:35 P.M.
- The minutes from the January 19, 2017 could not be approved due to lack of a quorum. Susie Rawlings will send an email to the board asking for approval.
- Alice thanked everyone who attended Arti Gras, especially Chuck Udell, Mary Ann Waldenmeyer and Renny Arensberg who worked at the event. The new venue at the Lodge at Ironwoods was great!
- Alice discussed a letter from NonProfit Connect asking the foundation to be a sponsor for the May 10<sup>th</sup> Awards Luncheon. Discussion followed, and the board decided not to be a sponsor.
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### **City Update**

- Councilperson James Azeltine updated the board on Leawood's bond rating, which is AAa. This rating saves the city (and taxpayers) money.
- There is a micro hospital being built at 135<sup>th</sup> and State Line.
- James updated the board on the progress of the addition at Ironhorse Golf Course and the replacement amphitheater stage deck in Ironwoods Park.
- The trail south of 119<sup>th</sup> St. and east of Roe is being moved and resurfaced due to erosion. There will also be road construction on Roe from College to 119<sup>th</sup> until June.
- The Justice Center art piece and lighting has been installed and is beautiful at night.
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### **Financial Report**

- Mike Best passed out the 12/31/16 statement from the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation. Total earnings were \$26,643 as the market was good in 2016. Our current balance is \$360,338 as of 3-1-17. We have received contributions of \$65,400 since January 1<sup>st</sup>.

- As our own 501(c)(3) organization, our relationship with the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation doesn't change. We are still a fund of GKCCF, but we did need to formalize the relationship. Alice and Mike signed the Revised Establishing Document.
- Mike stated Bob Regnier appreciates the foundation opening our account at Blue Valley Bank.

### **Old Business**

- Susie reported on the E-newsletter. We had a 45% open rate. The industry average is 20%.
- Alice said we still need information for the QR (scan) codes at Gezer Park.
- Arti Gras
  - Chris handed out the Arti Gras Activity Report. Approximately 600 people attended the event!
  - Chris Claxton said April Bishop did a great job – as always!
  - Only one more art piece was sold than last year. The objective of the event is to sell more art. The committee will look at ways we can save money and sell more art.
  - Renny Arensberg suggested offering an incentive to buy art the evening of the Gala, such as a discount. We would need to talk to the artists ahead of time. Discussion ensued. Renny also suggested offering \$1 chances for the basket of wine to get people's emails.
  - Other suggestions included raising the entrance fee to \$25 (or higher), and giving the artist one free ticket.
  - James Azeltine suggested changing the payment process for art purchases. Currently, purchasers must write two checks, one to the artist and one to the foundation.
  - Chris said there were issues with who was responsible for the sale of the art and lack of parking. This will be addressed prior to next year.
- **“Play for All” Project**
  - Chris Claxton updated the board on the Variety KC signs. There will be two signs, one at each entrance. The cost is \$8,000, but Variety KC will pay for one.
  - There will be additional handicapped signage added to the assigned parking lot east of the Lions Shelter.
  - Chris has been asked by Variety to look at fencing so children with autism will not run away from the play area.
  - How to honor the donors was discussed. There will be signage with names of \$1,000 plus donors. Chris is working on some ideas. James suggested different sizes of leaves or butterflies. Renny said the sign companies are usually good graphically and can make the signs appealing.

