



RHPF Advisory Board Meeting/Glencairn Garden Learning Center
January 25, 2022 – 8:30 AM
MEETING MINUTES

Board members present: Toy Rhea, Counsclo Bowie, Jimmy Freeman, Zander Galloway, Melissa Cassell, Jan McCoy, Angie Perry; PRT staff members present: Becky Adams and Lisa Nunez

Rhea opened the meeting and welcomed everyone

Introduced Lisa Nunez – new PRT staff member who took Karen’s place and will be working with the Foundation.

Reviewed minutes of 10/27/21 meeting. No additions or corrections. Unanimously approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Assets now \$3.4 million, largest being Glencairn Fund – feel we’ve come a long way in 3 years. Any concerns with Foundation for the Carolinas? McCoy – Can we spend money besides where it says spendable? Adams – YES, we can get to those funds if needed Jesse Herman is our new relations manager, started 6 months ago. We have invited her to lunch to meet her. Report unanimously approved.

CURRENT PROJECTS:

Adams updated the board on current projects the Foundation is funding.

- Victory Garden at Emmett Scott: New fence is complete, have about \$2700 remaining that hasn’t been spent.
- Retaining Wall at Manchester Meadows: Waiting on contractor to begin.
- Shade & Water Garden repairs should be finished by the end of January.
- Adams goal is to get a new Wish List from Rhea Faris and John Taylor by the March meeting.

COMMENTS: Rhea – New shelter at Emmett Scott getting a lot of use and was money well spent. Many exciting things going on @PRT – Tourism figures showing \$82 million in economic impact last year. Galloway – What event was held last Saturday? (volleyball) We had to park at Family Trust. Rhea – City realizes they were short-sighted planning for parking - they know it’s a problem. Hope to get 2nd lot graded.

UPCOMING: Adams – PRT is booked all weekends at some venue thru 2024 – Now want to put emphasis on getting people in Monday-Thursday, and program for things

other than sports. Rhea – There’s much more at SEC besides basketball and volleyball, such as cheer, cornhole, boxing, martial arts. Melissa – In the past there was nothing going on downtown after 5PM or on weekends – now at any given time it’s full of people and there’s a new energy. Adams – More restaurants are coming in, new high-end apartments are going in across the street. Rhea – No doubt businesses are getting customers on the weekends thru tourism; marketing is needed toward residents and York County. I heard from Cambria Hotel that they are very slow Mon & Tue (Cambria has new director of sales, Ann).

Adams – ADIDAS TOURNEY July 4 – 300 men’s & women’s college basketball teams will be here for 15 days – it will have effect on community similar to BMX – We already have local community meetings taking place already. Galloway – How will community support this event? Adams – Looking for local, outside activities for players to participate in – we are reaching out to Winthrop, school district, etc. Rhea—Can we get interest from the competition (Nike/Under Armour) to possibly have something similar?

SPONSORSHIP: Adams –

- Jan & Dick made another gracious donation over the next 5 years for swings @ Glencairn.
- Owner of Old Town Kitchen & Cocktails wants to get involved w/ Therapeutic Division. (summer nutrition camp? Does high school cooking competition now)
- Last installment from Honda at BMX is in April – I’m taking Joel to lunch to discuss other sponsorships; I think he wants to continue – he’s very involved with BMX and has a vested interest in the track.
- 2024 BMX – LOC’s are ramping up efforts now – it will take everyone working together to pull this off -- talking to schools, York County, Winthrop. Amelia Anderson & Catherine Faircloth are seeking sponsorships; that money will go into City coffers as in 2017. Rhea – Will we get any YoCo tourism money? Adams – Asking for \$500K. Please let me know if you have any names we can reach out to for sponsorships.

DEC. REPORT: (Thanks to Angie Perry, couldn’t have Christmas without her)

- Santa@ Garden on 12/4 hosted 300, was great fun – People’s 1st Ins. had kid’s crafts; Jr. Welfare League & GG Master gardeners helped.
- ChristmasVille had perfect weather and big crowds (est. 80,000). Location was moved to individual tents in Wells Fargo lot, and expanded into White St. Still had to deal with the train (the new bridge should help with that later), but vendors were happy w/ being spread out, and amount of visitors.
- Christmas Parade had estimated 40,000 visitors, 1hr/15 mins long.
- No Room For Racism tourney was high profile, had in-person hospitality. Great turn-out. Schools liked playing to crowded arena. Rhea—Did schools mention they wanted to return? Could it be annual event? Wish Winthrop had played a local team to get more local residents in. John Gettys asked if it’s possible to pay parking ahead and leave arm open in parking deck, took 40 mins to get out.
- NOTE: Christmas banners are still up; Sponsors are getting their money’s worth
- Haven’t received report back about movies at city hall

- Secured Muddy Creek at final track turn for March 18&19 BMX Nationals – will have hospitality there. RHPF committee members will be getting invitation
- Hospitality for Come See Me on April 29 & 30 @ Moonlite Jazz & fireworks/tailgate.
- Will be hosting Division I coaches @ SEC various weekends in April & June.
- Plans for Fiesta At The Fountain Fundraiser (May 5 '22) are underway.

Looking at selling 21-22 tables of 8 (150-180 seats) thru Eventbrite. Save the Date will be going out soon. Chef Coleman has been secured (waiting on menu), a site visit took place in September, and in-kind product was offered from Chip Comer at Comer Distributing. City has committed funds, maybe we can host this 3 yrs before changing up. Save-the-date going out soon. Unlike soiree there will be no talking/speeches; may ask mayor to do opening and will include something specific on invitations, and will send emails after event w/ specific Asks. Any thoughts on how to do that? Want an easy, streamlined way to ask for donations. Galloway—When will tickets go on sale? (6 weeks out)

Parking/Check-In: Can't close Fountain Park, but will close Saluda and put tables down the length. Plan for now is to parking deck, walk down Elizabeth to check in near ampitheatre. Mariachi band playing during cocktails in that area and attendees will walk over to Saluda when Chef Coleman rings the dinner bell – will be interactive as he discusses each course prepared.

Adams -- Thank you all for serving such a long term due to the pandemic and being faithful attenders at zoom meetings. Most people don't know RHPF exists – Need to bring in more to our board (currently have 9, maybe up to 12). Also need to reach out and create a more diverse donator crowd.

Rhea – (not on agenda) Barnes Family has approved a \$125,000 to the Foundation to go towards building a bathroom at Fountain Park, tentatively planned for corner of Black & Saluda (near where ice rink is currently located). Adams – Estimated cost is \$250,000, with the City of RH paying the remainder. Hope to start in July.

Future Meeting Dates: March 22, May 24, July 26, September 27, November 14
(May not have July meeting, and can move Nov. to Dec. for Christmas lunch)