



Call to order at 8:00am, by Executive Director Kirsten Parker

Attendance: Ty Lucas, Tim Malmkar, Jim Nisley, Jeff Everett, Dick Foran, Anna Stacy, Dr. Todd Hlavaty, Bonnie Kruse  
Staff: Kim Wood, Sydnee Hansen and Kirsten Parker  
Absent: Jennifer Priest and Mike Steele

Approval of minutes: Motion to approve by Stacy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Hlavaty. Approval Passes

Presidential Comments by Bonnie Kruse

1. Learning a lot about the "return on investment" the Spike has for the community. This is good information to have as many community leaders focus and want to know this. If you need any numbers or help, finance committee helps or talk to Kirsten.
2. We are in NEED of a chair or co-chairs for the Growth Committee. This is a key role that needs filled.
3. Think about our 10 year anniversary. How should we celebrate? What do the next 10 years look like?

Committee Reports

Growth Committee (Site, Marketing, Attendance, Events)

- i. Corn Maze Recommendation: To offer an education exhibit of the corn maze, working with a seed or fertilizer company on stats, facts and statistics throughout the maze. No additional charge, included with ticket price. Motion for \$1,600 to be used to pull gravel and fill with dirt to allow one big corn field. Motion by Stacy, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lucas. Motion Passes.
- ii. Community Day, Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup> : Handed out posters, please invite people. Looking for volunteer help at greeting station.
- iii. North Platte Giving Day, May 2<sup>nd</sup>: Raised \$850 last year. This year, again going to playground grant.
- iv. North Platte Rail Days, Sept 21-23<sup>rd</sup>: Need help with sponsorships. Goal is \$25,000, currently have less than \$5,000. Asking all board members to give names or ask 3-5 sponsors. Next meeting is May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1:30pm at the Visitor Bureau.

b. Operations Committee

i. Finance Meeting Report and Action Items

1. Budget change due to higher grant. Motion to approve decrease marketing to \$67,000, increase grant expenses to \$64,000 and increase grant income to \$64,000. No change to bottom line, only GL lines. Motion by Hlavaty, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stacy. Motion Passes
2. Insurance should remain about level as last year, slight increase, will include Crime/Dishonesty policy. Motion by Lucas to approve.. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hlavaty. Motion Passed.
3. \$100,000 from reserve fund is up for renewal in May. Received 4 bids. Discussion regarding doing a 1 year or 3 years. Bids were opened at the Finance meeting. Didn't feel rates will change too much and would like to keep cycle consistent. Decided on a 3 year. Motion to approve a 3 year CD by Stacy, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Malmkar. 5 in favor, 2 abstain (Lucas and Hlavaty) Motion Passes. Motion to approve the highest bid to NLNB by Stacy, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Foran. Motion Passes.
4. Discussion regarding UP Position to be AdHoc or Elected. Parker will meet with Everett to discuss.

c. Education Committee

- i. Virtual Field Trip at April Meeting: Sydnee presented the first trial and start to the Virtual Field Trip. Showing the group the equipment, the "plot" and information. Goal is to fine tune, meet with some teachers to evaluate and start offering next school year. Discussion to create a tracking feature in the tower to show our guests where the virtual tours are from.

Partnerships and Ideas for 2018: Smithsonian has an options "Things Come Apart" for 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr, Prairie Arts Council-Train Art, Creating a marker for Oregon Train and Pony Express, Arch-Discount with ticket, Omaha Zoo train-key card on the train, History of UP and the Golden Spike, as it is the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Golden Spike. Bring the Golden Spike to the Golden Spike Tower.

Executive Director Report and Questions (Attached) Presented, opened for questions. Put on file.

Next meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month, Mya 18<sup>th</sup> 8am at the Spike Discussion: "Golden Spike Tower...the next 10 years."

Adjourned