

Riverbanks Park Commission
Meeting Minutes
17 March 2022

Attendance Report

Commissioners Present: Bob Davidson, Deneen Shockley, Jan Stamps, Jeff Reeves, Mike Velasco (via phone)

Commissioners Absent: Cliff Bourke, Alana Williams,

Staff Present: Tommy Stringfellow, Lochlan Wooten, Jessica Johnson, Katie Eaton

Call to Order

Chairman Davidson called the meeting to order.

Reading of the Minutes

The February 17, 2022 commission minutes were approved as distributed.

Chairman's Remarks

Chairman Davidson remarked that he was very excited about the return of in person events at Riverbanks, specifically next month's Wine Tasting.

VP of Finance Report

VP of Finance, Jessica Johnson provided the following report:

- Membership finished the month of February with 49,145 member households, which is up about 10K from budget, and about 15K from last year. January was slow, but February quickly made-up ground. To date, March is also well ahead.
- 85K ahead of budget for attendance

Reeves motioned to approve the February financials, Stamps seconded, m/c unanimous.

President & CEO Report:

President & CEO Tommy Stringfellow provided the following report:

- This month we will be reengaging with the architect who originally worked on the Master Plan. They will visit on site again and start the work to reprioritize the projects.
- Bond update- local council consultant, Rebecca Best, and Stringfellow have been working through meetings with both Richland and Lexington council members to discuss the potential of a bond request. Stringfellow will continue to report back the information gathered from those conversations.
- State Funding- continuing to work on relationships at the State/Federal level. Lobbyist, Lander Hiott has been connecting Stringfellow with various state leaders.
- Walk-in Cooler Request- there is an urgent need to replace the existing cooler at The Watering Hole. The estimate is \$75,000 to do so.
 - Reeves motioned to approve the purchase of the walk-in cooler, Shockley seconded, m/c unanimous.

Chief Operating Officer's Report:

COO Lochlan Wooten provided the following report:

- Staffing and hiring continue to be a challenge, but we are in a good place to move in to spring break week. In good news, we currently have 0 pending and 0 positive covid cases in our staff.
- Wooten shared the new marketing campaign with Flock and Rally. The new campaign will be engaging and fun, but in a way that is reflective of Riverbanks' mission. This campaign will launch in the spring.
- ARCC Renovation continues to progress. Wooten shared photos of the latest construction in the new desert exhibit.
- Annette, female sea lion will be transferred to Moody Gardens this month. This will allow for a dynamic to establish between the males in the group.
- Riverbanks specialty license plates are now available on the SC DMV website. So far the project has raised over \$20,000.
- Membership revenue trends- strong position for February. The member households continue to climb.
- Timeline- in person events are back!
 - Wine Tasting- April 29
 - Riverbanks Run- May 7
 - Splash pad to reopen by Memorial Day
- Moving forward on capital projects. Roofing materials are scheduled to be delivered this month, demolition of 550 & 600 buildings is scheduled to occur after spring break.
- Finished running 2021 Satch Krantz Conservation Fund numbers; in 2021 SKCF managed to increase funding of field work by about 20%. Most of this is done through small grants work and staff nominations. Will share the 2021 conservation report soon.

The meeting was adjourned.

Approved and adopted on the 21 day of April 2022.


_____, Secretary