CULTURE (CUL) COMMITTEE

Jeff Meyers, Chair
Heather Rubesch
George Schlagel
Steve Baru, Board Chair Ex Officio Member

MEETING MINUTES

JCPRD Administration Building Boardroom
7900 Renner Road, Shawnee Mission, KS  66219

April 8, 2019
5:33 pm

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Jeff Meyers, and roll call was taken as follows:

Committee Members Present:  Jeff Meyers, George Schlagel
Committee Members Absent:  Heather Rubesch
Guests Present:  Paul Snider
Staff Members Present:
Jill Geller, Executive Director
Jeff Stewart, Deputy Director
Susan Mong, Superintendent of Culture
Katie Baergen, CUL Sr. Administrative Assistant
Jennifer Assmann, ASV Sr. Administrative Assistant
Jo Ann Courtney, Administration & HR Manager
Noelle Testa, Chief Financial Officer
Jay Hinrichs, Development Director

DISCUSSION & ACTION

A.  Alcohol License for Theatre in the Park Concessions – Susan Mong, Superintendent of Culture

Ms. Mong presented a request to seek license to allow JCPRD to offer beer and wine in the concessions area at Theatre in the Park at Shawnee Mission Park (Theatre in the Park). Approval for sales was gained in the past, but at that time it was requested that JCPRD staff secure an external vendor. JCPRD has had difficulty securing a vendor due to the unpredictability of sales. Peer agencies, such as the White Theatre at the Jewish Community Center and the Olathe Civic Theatre Association, currently have an alcohol license allowing them to serve beer and wine out of their concessions. The cost of obtaining a license to sell alcohol includes $5,000 for a two-year license, $1,000 for bond cost, and a $50 registration fee. The license requires that 30% of total concessions sales be food items. Currently, JCPRD concessions sell approximately $46,000 in food items at the Theatre in the Park. Given JCPRD’s history, staff is confident the 30% food sales requirement will be met. Ms. Mong asked if Ms. Geller had anything to add. Ms. Geller reiterated JCPRD has cereal malt beverage licenses at Mid-America Sports Complex and Okun Fieldhouse. The addition of wine would be a new practice to the Theatre in the Park. Mr. Meyers asked if JCPRD has a vendor arranged, and Ms. Geller reiterated JCPRD would
be the vendor. Mr. Meyers clarified and asked if JCPRD has lined up a vendor in order to purchase the alcohol for concessions staff to sell. Ms. Mong answered JCPRD has not yet taken these steps to explore a vendor, as it was felt it would be necessary to gain Board approval prior to forward movement. Mr. Baru mentioned, in the past, a vendor was used and the sales had taken place at the Pavilion at Theatre in the Park. Ms. Mong indicated the vendor found the unpredictability of the sales outweighed the benefit of working on site and declined to return. Providing this amenity through Theatre in the Park concessions would streamline the offering and provide a better experience for JCPRD’s customers. Mr. Meyers asked which budget would be impacted by the licensing fees. Ms. Geller confirmed funds would be provided through the Theatre in the Park budget.

**CUL-1** It was the consensus of the committee to recommend Board consent approval of JCPRD obtaining an alcohol license to offer patrons the opportunity to purchase wine or beer in the Theatre in the Park at Shawnee Mission Park concessions areas.

**B. Blue Star Museum Participation – Susan Mong, Superintendent of Culture**

Ms. Mong informed this participation would be in coordination with and collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and more than 2,000 participating museums across America to offer free admission to the nation’s active duty military personnel (including National Guard and Reserve) and their families from Memorial Day to Labor Day. This program was established in 2010, so it has been in existence for about 10 years. The Johnson County Museum offered this program in 2018 and according to the data the Johnson County Museum had 32 children and 23 adults utilize the offering, with a total financial impact of $211 in waived admission fees. JCPRD would like to request approval to provide the offering again in 2019. Mr. Meyers commended the program and stated he was in total agreement.

**CUL-2** It was the consensus of the committee to recommend Board consent approval of free admission to U.S. active duty military personnel and their families from Memorial Day (May 27) through Labor Day (September 2).

**C. Theatre in the Park Advisory Council Minutes – Susan Mong, Superintendent of Culture**

Mr. Meyers mentioned he had no questions. Mr. Schlagel agreed.

**CUL-3** It was the consensus of the committee to recommend Board consent acceptance of Theatre Advisory Council minutes dated March 22, 2019.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business was discussed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Meyers adjourned the meeting at 5:38 pm.

**BOARD OF PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS**

**CULTURE COMMITTEE**

[Signature on file]

JEFF MEYERS, Committee Chair

PREPARED BY Katie Baergen, CUL Sr. Administrative Assistant

Approved April 17, 2019