CITY OF FOUNTAINS FOUNDATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
January 31, 2007

Present: Jim Bernard Jr., Joel Vile, Barbara Barickman-Meier, Carl DiCapo, Ollie Gates, Anita Gorman, Mike Malyn, Dave Schwartz, David Seay, and Sandra Aust. Also in attendance were Mark McHenry, Richard Coleman, Heidi Downer, Bob Lewellen, Bill Washington, Jerry Kitzi and Linda Dillon. Excused: David Ross, Bob Berkebile, Gary Cortes, Michelle Kaufman, Joanie Shields, Jack Tinnel and Yvonne Wilson.

President Jim Bernard, Jr. called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m. Thanks to David Seay for hosting today's meeting.

A letter of resignation from the Board has been received from Howard Jacobson. It was moved and seconded to accept the resignation of Howard. The motion was passed. Terry Dopson is moving to Texas. It was suggested that both be appointed to the Advisory Committee.

The minutes from the September 28, 2006 meeting were approved as posted on the website.

Executive Director Report: Linda reported that there are 304 books left and 154,000 brochures.

Finance/Investment/Budget: David Seay circulated a proposed 2007 budget, financials for the 4th quarter ending December 31, 2006 and other reports from Morgan Stanley. The Investment Committee will meet soon to discuss these new reports.

Parks Report: The report is attached to these minutes. In addition, an endowment is needed for the Women's Leadership Fountain. The Block Fountain needs $195,000 in repairs. COF holds an endowment for the Block Fountain but the amount is about half of what it should be. Jim Bernard, Jr., Mark McHenry and David Seay will develop a plan of cost to maintain the fountain, then present it to the Bloch Foundation for a $1 million endowment.

The Clay Chastain light-rail proposal involves 25 park properties to be impacted according to his plan. The Parks Dept. requests that everyone write letters opposing Chastain's plan that would affect any park property.

Long Range Planning: Jerry Kitzi was present to facilitate discussion. Is the Foundation reactive or proactive? To ensure continued operation of all fountains, resources should be established to maintain what the City should look like and a middleman should be appointed between benefactors and the Park Dept. Adopt-A-Fountain was briefly discussed. 100 partnerships was another idea. Advocacy is the key. Deferred maintenance is so far behind that the Park Dept. can't do it all. It was decided that COF is reactive to future fountains but proactive for deferred maintenance of present fountains. It was suggested that various Foundations be asked for money on a yearly basis. Perhaps Foundation at the end of City of Fountains is a misnomer. Jim asked for a committee to continue dialogue after today's meeting and come up with a plan of action. The people who volunteered: Jim Bernard, Mike Malyn, Mark McHenry, Anita Gorman, Barbara Barickman-Meier, Joel Vile, Dave Schwartz and Ollie Gates.

Fountain Day: Heidi Downer will take the lead on this endeavor. Anyone interested in helping should talk to her. Barbara and Carl will work with Heidi.

There is a meeting regarding re-doing the ATA Fountain site on February 8, 2007 at 9:30 a.m. at the downtown library.

KCPT wants to develop a TV program on the fountains that would be promoted regionally and nationally. It would eventually be made into DVD's to be sold with the profit going to COF. $100,000 is a proposed budget. It was suggested that Highwoods Properties be contacted as this would be an update to the original video on the fountains originally made by the J.C. Nichols Co. Barbara Barickman-Meier, Jim Bernard, Jr. and Mark McHenry will work with a staff person at KCPT on this project.

Tom Poleni proposed a plan for "Fountains 101." 101 tabletop fountains would be molded and sold through COF. This would promote Kansas City and our fountains, enhance the city's aesthetic beauty, fund maintenance to existing fountains, fund the creation of new fountains and increase tourism and community goodwill by establishing Kansas City as #1 in the world in fountains. It was suggested that we get Tom involved, to harness his enthusiasm, perhaps working with Joanie.

SOS!: Joanie's report is attached to these minutes.

Future items: Jim mentioned again items that have been discussed previously: video update, tourism package, bequests, Donors Edge, Friends of the Fountains.

The next meeting will be held in April 2007. Host and place will be established later.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.