

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Greetings Stillwater Community Center Supporters,

2019 has been a busy year for us! We appreciate your support for the various programs and activities that have happened inside and outside the space that we like to think of as the gathering place for the Stillwater community. Our partnership with the City of Stillwater continues to be strong as we identify new ways to promote the use of the building.

Thank you for your interest in and support of the Stillwater Community Center Foundation. We are a 501c3 charitable foundation serving to support and enhance the operations and infrastructure of the SCC.

Our foundation funded last year's repainting of the exterior of the building for the first time in decades along with much needed refreshing of all the landscaping in 2018 and 2019. Volunteer labor has allowed us to dramatically stretch our dollars. There is much work yet to be done to get the center into shape for the long haul and we need help from people like you!

We conducted a strategic planning session in January, 2019 and identified several initiatives, with the following identified as our top priority initiatives for 2019:

- Improve Wayfinding (Project #3)
- ADA Handicap Accessibility
- Continue to Strengthen Fundraising and Marketing
- Establish ability to serve alcohol for events held in the Community Center
- Recruit "Friends" and Strengthen Hospitality
- Establish Grant Program

Access to the Community Center is difficult for anyone with mobility challenges. In the spring Jim Beckstrom facilitated an OSU Engineering Capstone Design project in partnership with Dr. Jen Homer, Associate Professor, OSU College of Architecture. The team of senior level students developed a cost effective and viable design concept to improve handicap accessibility and to define an entrance on the southeast side of the building. We believe the team came up with a viable design that gives us enough definition to support a funding initiative for this important approximately \$500,000 project.

Project #2: Much progress was made on Project #2, Curb Appeal. Flowerbeds on the west and south sides of the building were prepared for new plant material, complete with the installation of an irrigation system. Crops native to Oklahoma and ancient grains were planted on the south side of the building. We appreciate the guidance provided by Dr. Brett Carver, Regents Professor of Plant and Soil Sciences, Oklahoma State University. Jim Beckstrom, Stephanie Kinder, Dr. Carver, and I were interviewed for an OSU Sun Up video to describe our crop garden and the educational opportunities it provides to the community.

Plans for a Xeriscape garden were developed by Stillwater Community Center employee and OSU Landscape Architecture student, Jacoby Gonzalez, to be located on the east side of the building. Xeriscape is a treatment that uses plants that require little if any irrigation. Central Rural Electric made a donation for plant material and we plan to have a fall workday to get the Xeriscape garden established.

All in all, it has been a productive year! The Stillwater Community Center Foundation Board continues

to be committed to being a resource to the City of Stillwater to ensure that the Stillwater Community Center is accessible, affordable, and used for the citizens of Stillwater and the surrounding area. We would love to have you be part of that effort by becoming a "friend." It is very

easy to do. Follow Friends of the Stillwater Community Center on Facebook or visit our website,

www.sccfriends.com. Sponsor a movie for Classic Cinema, donate to Project #3, or become a public/private partner for a renovation and maintenance project.

Your donations are critical to our ability to keep the building looking good and provide programs and events. You are welcome to come to our monthly meeting to learn more.

Leva K. Swim, Chairperson Stillwater Community Center Foundation



Classic Cinema continues to be a successful event! To date, we have shown 12 classic movies to enthusiastic and loyal crowds. Popcorn flows freely for the appreciative audiences. Vickie Sturgeon shares her knowledge by presenting background information for each movie, which adds a special touch to the movie experience. She is kind of like our own B. J. Wexler! Movies can be sponsored with a donation of \$350. In 2020, we are planning to show movies the 2nd Friday of each month.

Upcoming movies include:

October 25......Penny Serenade (1941)
December 20.....White Christmas (1954)
February 14.....An Affair to Remember (1957)

November 22.....Penny Serenade (1941)
January 10.....Buck and the Preacher (1972)

March 13, April 10, May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14, To be announced.

STILLWATER MUSIC FESTIVAL A SUCCESS

The "free" Stillwater Music Festival – Blues & More was very successful (600 attendees) this April. Weather dictated remaining indoors with a mixed genre of bands performing in the Winfrey Houston Theatre and the Dining and Event Hall both evenings. Performers included MORGAN, Reagan & Reilly, Val Gladden, Tres Dudes, The



Heroes and Bobby "Greenshoes" & Casey. Internationally traveled bands Jennifer Marriott (Friday) and Garret "Big G" Jacobson (Saturday) were our headliners. Food trucks and Iron Monk beverages added to the experience. Thanks to numerous businesses for raffle donations and refreshments for performers.

PROJECT #3: WAYFINDING



We identified Wayfinding as our project for 2019. Our approach has been to place temporary signage at key spots and evaluate their effectiveness in communicating important information for directing people to various places in the building. We are working to establish consistency in sign graphics with the other entities of the Stillwater Cultural District. A bid for our permanent signage is in the

works and with your donations we plan to have the new signs in place by year end.

THE COMUNITY CENTER TAKES WING



Dr. Robert Breedlove and Debbie Breedlove made a donation to the Wings of Hope to purchase a butterfly for the Stillwater Community Center. The SCC Friends asked Jody Jobe to design the butterfly. Jody grew up in Stillwater and is now an established artist in New Jersey. We provided Jody with a list of various uses of the building over the years and asked if she could incorporate these ideas into the design. Jody's design has wowed everyone. I think anyone who has spent time in the Community Center will find something they can relate to on the butterfly. Jody traveled to Stillwater in June and painted

the butterfly in her mother's garage during one of our Oklahoma Heat Waves. The butterfly will be placed in a grassy area on the north side of the building. We truly appreciate the heart, soul and talent that Jody put into our butterfly!

OUR MISSION

"To provide supplemental resources for the Stillwater Community Center to ensure its accessibility, affordability and sustainability for the use by the residents and visitors of Stillwater and surrounding area."

PARTY CENTRAL

Looking for a clean inexpensive place to hold a party or meeting? Consider the Dining and Event Center. Groups 10 - 160, serving area with microwaves and 2 refrigerators/freezers. Audio and video capabilities with seating options. Clean ADA restrooms and plenty of parking. Available after 3 PM M-F and weekends. Call Stillwater Community Center Office for details. Rental fees for this area directed to and used by SCC Foundation & Friends for more upgrades to SCC.





Visit us at SECFriends.com

P.O. Box 24, Stillwater, OK 74076

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