

Arboretum and Botanical Garden Committee (ABGC)

Web site: <http://depts.washington.edu/wpa/abgc/>

The ABGC is also closely monitoring the WSDOT SR520 project for impacts to the Washington Park Arboretum. Please see

<http://depts.washington.edu/wpa/520.htm>

Joint effort of the Arboretum Foundation, Seattle Parks, and the University of Washington (UW)

Location: Graham Visitors Center

July 9, 2008

Voting

Members

Present:

Arboretum Foundation

- Paige Miller, Arboretum Foundation Executive Director
- Barbara Wright, Arboretum Foundation President

City of Seattle

- Donald Harris, Seattle Parks and Recreation, Property & Acquisition Services Manager

University of Washington

- Theresa Doherty, University of Washington, Assistant Vice President for Regional Affairs
- Sandra Lier, University of Washington Botanic Gardens (UWBG) Acting Director
- Iain Robertson, University of Washington Professor

Washington State

- Dave Towne, Governor's Appointee

Excused:

- Jack Collins, Mayoral Appointee
- Kjris Lund, Mayoral Appointee

Others

Present:

- Fred Hoyt, UWBG, Facilities & Grounds Manager
- Julia Maywald, Arboretum Foundation, Director of Development
- Peggy Pullen, Seattle Parks Northeast Crew Chief
- Paul Smith, Arboretum Senior Gardener

Staff:

- Sandy Brooks, Coordinator

Standing Committees

Funding Requests to State Legislature: John (Arboretum Foundation), Jack (City), Dave T (Washington State)

Naming Recognition Guideline: Paige (Arboretum Foundation), Donald (City), Sandra (UW)

Mission Statement: Kathleen Pierce (Arboretum Foundation), Donald (City), Sandra (UW)

Provost's Presentation: Tim, Paige, Sandra, & Dave

SR520 Mediation (Group of 34): Paige Miller, representing both the ABGC and Arboretum Foundation

Joint Fundraising Policy: AF: Allen Ferrin, Julia Maywald, John Johnston, Paige Miller & Barbara Wright

UW: Fred Hoyt, Wendy Kelley, Sandra Lier, & Greg Sheridan

City: Donald Harris & Tim Gallagher

Staff: Sandy Brooks & John Howell (Assistant & Facilitator)

Upcoming Events:

July 10:	City Council public hearing on new park levy, 5:30 pm, City Council Chambers
July 22:	Meet with UW Provost, 11-12 am, Gerberding Hall, Room 301
July 22:	Joint Fundraising Committee Kick-off Meeting, 5:30-7:00 pm
September 18:	UW Regents presentation, briefing on Arboretum
September 19:	Night-before-party for ribbon cutting
September 20:	Pacific Connections, ribbon cutting - afternoon

ABGC Chair Dave Towne called the meeting, held at Graham Visitors Center, to order at 8:30 am. **The minutes from the June 11, 2008, meeting were approved as presented.**

Updates

Pacific Connections Phase I: Donald reported:

- the project is on schedule and on budget
- Kelly Goold is the new project director for the Japanese Garden entry project
- the bid for that project has been awarded and work will begin on Monday, July 14
- staff are searching for a green roof contractor for the entry.

Bike/Traffic in Arboretum Survey:

Paige reported that Arboretum staff met yesterday with Seattle Department of Transportation and this proposal is moving forward. Possible outcomes for Arboretum Drive are that it will: (1) become a one-way road; (2) have sharrows painted on it; or (3) be a two-way road with turnarounds and stop signs at the north end to make it easier for pedestrians and bikes to cross the street. Peggy Pullen asked that Parks staff be involved in the decision making process on this proposal. Responding to a question from Dave on when Arboretum Drive will re-open, Paige answered that it may become part of the bicycle pilot and not re-open to vehicles.

July 22 Provost Meeting: The meeting with Provost Phyllis Wise is scheduled for one hour. Five ABGC members will attend and have 25 minutes for their presentation on the Arboretum, with the remaining time for questions and answers. Sandra will check with the Provost on whether someone from the College of the Environment should also attend. Dave will be out of town that day and will discuss the meeting with Sandra before he leaves.

July 22 Joint Fundraising Committee: The kick off meeting is scheduled at 5:30 pm at Isaacson Hall at the Center for Urban Horticulture. John Howell of The Cedar River Group will facilitate the work of this committee.

September 18 Meeting With UW Regents:

Superintendent Gallagher and Dean of College of Forest Resources Bruce Bare and Sandra Lier will represent the ABGC at this meeting with the UW Regents, with all other ABGC members invited to attend. Phyllis wise, UW Provost, will also attend. Sandra and Theresa will meet and determine the focus of the meeting.

September 19 Party: A party is scheduled at Graham Visitors Center the night before the September 20 ribbon cutting. This party is to recognize donors to the Pacific Connections project and other dignitaries, with 200 or more people expected.

September 20 Ribbon Cutting: Paige reported that plans are going well for the Pacific Connections ribbon cutting, with Mayor Nickels scheduled to speak at 11:30 am. Plans include lots of children's activities, musicians, etc. This celebration is being planned by the City and University, with support from the Arboretum Foundation.

Parks and Greenspaces Levy Projects: The Arboretum is slated for \$2.5 million funding in the new Parks and Greenspaces Levy proposed by City Council for a possible November 2008 ballot. City Council will hold a public hearing on the Levy on July 10 and Sandra will attend to testify on behalf of the Arboretum. Donald and Paige will help Sandra prepare speaking notes. Mayor Nickels and Councilmember McIver are not supportive of the Levy at this time.

Naming Recognition Guideline: Paige, Donald, and Sandra are moving ahead with developing this guideline. The next step is for Dean Bare and two Associate Deans to review the draft. Paige stated that the Arboretum Foundation needs the approved guideline prior to beginning its next round of the fundraising campaign. This may need to go before the Board of Park Commissioners.

Sandra Lier Updates

Meetings with Broadmoor Groups: Sandra left a message with Sean, manager of the Broadmoor Golf Club, to arrange a meeting with him. Kjris Lund of the ABGC will also attend. Donald asked Sandra to also contact the chair of the Golf Club Board and she agreed to do so.

UWBG Director Search: The search to fill this position is moving ahead in a constructive and positive manner. The panel has selected its top candidate and plans to meet with them one more time.

Mission Statement: A draft of the proposed Arboretum mission statement has been forwarded to Donald and to Kathleen Pierce for review.

SR520 Project Update

Paige stated that the three plans that have risen to the top had a first technical review on June 17. The three plans – Option A, Option K, and Option L – were presented by the plans’ proponents and Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT.) Paige gave some description of each option.

The meetings are moving ahead well. Ron Judd of WSDOT and State Speaker of the House Frank Chopp had been meeting with Paige’s group every two weeks and will now begin meeting once each month. The next Mediation (Group of 34) meeting is scheduled for November; however, other meetings are being held in the interim.

Theresa reported that UW construction staff are reviewing how/if a tunnel can work. The Foster Island berm proposal is still on the table and could be included in all three options. City of Seattle’s Deputy Mayor Tim Ceis is representing the City at meetings, but has not been attended any of the meetings for Options A or K. Councilmember Conlin is very support of Option K, which came forth from Paige and the team she is working with. A group called Transit Friendly (Larry Sinnott of Friends of Olmsted Parks and Virginia Gumby) were at the last meeting as well as a group who supports a 4-lane only option. WSDOT has reconfirmed that the alternative selected will be six lanes.

New/Old Business

Walk in the Park: Tim announced that Seattle Parks Department will hold its kickoff for its “Healthy Parks, Healthy You” initiative on Saturday, August 23, at Green Lake Park.

Madison Valley Retention Ponds: Donald will contact Seattle Public Utilities for an update on what is happening with the proposed water retention system in Madison Valley. This project may affect Washington Park and the Arboretum.

UWBG Master Plan: Donald asked how the UW staff will raise funds to implement this master plan, as well as raise funds for the Arboretum’s master plan and other campaigns. Sandra stated that Dean Bare has instructed UW staff not to compete with current fundraising efforts. Consequently, the UWBG Master Plan fundraising is not moving forward at this time.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 9:20 am.

APPROVED _____ DATE _____
Theresa Doherty, ABGC Secretary