

Arboretum and Botanical Garden Committee (ABGC)

Joint effort of Arboretum Foundation (AF), City of Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation (Parks), and the University of Washington (UW)

Minutes – April 2, 2003

Members: **Arboretum Foundation**

- Deb Andrews, Arboretum Foundation Executive Director
- Fred Isaac, Arboretum Foundation President

City of Seattle

- Fritz Hedges, Parks and Recreation Department Policy Director
- Sarah Neilson, Park Board of Commissioners

University of Washington

- Tom Hinckley, University of Washington Professor
- Sandra Lier, University of Washington Associate V-P for Business Services
- John Wott, Arboretum Director

Washington State Representative

- John Behnke

Permanent

Guests:

- Neal Lessenger, University of Washington
- Royal Alley-Barnes, Operations Manager, Central East Sector, Parks and Recreation

Staff: Sandy Brooks, Coordinator

Others: David Goldberg, Parks Department Project Manager
Michael Shiosaki, Parks Department Pro Parks Manager

Chair Sandra Lier called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Approval of agenda and minutes

Sarah moved and Fred seconded that the April 2 agenda and March 5 minutes be approved as presented. The vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Puget Sound Japanese Garden Society Proposal Update

This project was discussed in detail at the ABGC's March 5, 2003, meeting.

David Goldberg, Parks Department project manager, recently met with Koichi Kobayashi and Koichi is unclear where his group is headed with this project. David urged him to be proactive in his efforts to define the project.

David and John W will schedule a meeting with Koichi, and will do a walk-through of the site and report back to the full ABGC group. Tom H met with Koichi on April 1 and Koichi indicated that he is agreeable to a site less than the 10,000 sq. ft. initially requested. Tom suggested a 300 sq. ft. area for the first phase.

The proposed project has a short turn-around time. Consequently, Sandra asked David and John, after they have met with Koichi, to send an e-mail to ABGC members in order for the Committee to make a timely

decision. David will include a letter from the Advisory Council with the e-mail. The results will be forwarded to Koichi.

ABGC members discussed whether a 300 sq. ft. memorial would affect the Master Plan. Michael S said that if the memorial is of only three rocks, it would be considered incidental and not require a new review of the Master Plan.

Historic Study Update

This project was discussed extensively at the ABGC's February 5, 2003, meeting.

David Goldberg said that a draft will be ready in approximately two weeks. He talked with the design team and they are on target for the July deadline. The process has been difficult, in that it has involved many meetings, with little product to date. The design team is documenting what the original plans called for, not what actually happened when the design was implemented. David will meet with the design team next week and the draft paper will be ready for the ABGC one week before the May 7 meeting. The May 7 agenda will include 15-20 minutes for a presentation, followed by questions and answers from the Committee. Additional time will be scheduled on the June 4 agenda for follow-up discussion.

No public review is required, as no changes are being made to the Arboretum based on this study. The final report will be available to the public on the website.

Feasibility Study and Plans for Moving Forward

Tom M was absent. Deb reported that she and Tom are meeting on a regular basis to define how fundraising efforts are being coordinated. They are on target.

Review of Goals and Objectives

Initiate two new public events at Arboretum for 2003: Fred asked if publicity is getting out regarding these events, as they are good opportunities to spotlight the Arboretum. Fritz said they are posted to the Park Department's website and asked if they should be included on the new ABGC web page. Deb said they can also be included in the Arboretum Foundation newsletter.

ABGC web page with linkage to partner web pages: Tom H gave an update on the progress of this. John W said that the proposal is for Sandy to send the agendas and approved minutes to Brett Mercier for posting on the web page — John will confirm this with Sandy. Tom said all three links (UW, Arboretum Foundation, and Park Department) will look the same and will point towards this new web page.

New/Old Business:

(1) Deb reported that the Arboretum Foundation received a letter from Friends of Interlaken Park regarding the proposed land swap between the Park Department and the Hebrew Academy. Friends of Interlaken Park are upset with the proposal and requested members of the Foundation to attend an April 10 community meeting.

(2) John W gave a brief update on the Duck Bay Project. Colleen Brown is verifying if the Fish and Wildlife agency has final jurisdiction on how close to the water the proposed pads can be placed. John will report back to the ABGC after Colleen has a decision from the agency.

(3) Deb reported that attendance was down 8% at the Northwest Flower and Garden Show. Attendance was down 37% at the San Francisco Show, possibly caused by the war with Iraq beginning on the same day the show began.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 am.

APPROVED _____ DATE _____

Deborah Andrews, ABGC Secretary