

Arboretum and Botanical Garden Committee (ABGC)
www.wparboretum.org, select ABGC

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

Minutes – January 14, 2004

Members:

Arboretum Foundation

- Boone Barker for Fred Isaac, President, Arboretum Foundation
- Deb Andrews, Arboretum Foundation Executive Director

City of Seattle

- Margaret Ceis, Mayoral Appointee
- Fritz Hedges, Parks and Recreation Department Policy Director
- Sarah Neilson, Board of Park Commissioner

University of Washington

- Tom Hinckley, University of Washington Professor
- Sandra Lier, University of Washington
- John Wott, Arboretum Director

State of Washington

- John Behnke, Washington State Representative

Guests:

- Ashley Clark, Arboretum Foundation Director of Development
- Cara Mathison, Assistant Development Director, UW College of Forest Resources
- Jerry Ernst
- Michael Shiosaki, Parks Department Pro Parks Manager

Staff:

- Sandy Brooks, Coordinator

(Due to snow and road conditions, the January 7 meeting was re-scheduled to January 14.) Chair Sandra Lier was called back to her office at the beginning of the January 14 meeting. Fritz called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Approval of agenda and minutes

It was agreed that the November 5, 2003, regular meeting minutes and the December 4, 2003, retreat minutes be tentatively approved. Members will have one week to notify Sandy of any changes, then the minutes will be considered approved and posted to the web page.

Briefing: Japanese Garden Forest Management Plan

This briefing was re-scheduled to the February meeting.

Briefing: WSDOT/City Reps – 520 Bridge Status

This briefing was also re-scheduled to the February meeting.

Report/feedback on December 4 ABGC Retreat

Jerry Ernst led a review of the changes to the Goals and Objectives document that came as a result of the December 4 retreat discussion. Several changes were made — a revised version will be distributed with the January 14 draft minutes.

At the retreat it was suggested the Master Plan Implementation Group (acronym MPIG) discuss a different name/acronym. It was suggested that the group be referred to as the “MPI Group” and those present agreed.

New/Old Business:

- Elect ABGC Chair: John W and Margaret agreed to form an ad hoc nominating committee and will contact members before the next meeting for their interest in serving as one of the three officers: Chair, Vice-chair, or Secretary. Elections will be held at the February meeting.
- CUH/WPA Director Update: John W reported that there is no news on this subject. It is believed that the Search Committee will meet in late February or early March to review any current applications.

John Wott has been director of the Washington Park Arboretum for 11- years. Tom Hinckley currently serves as Interim Director of the Center for Urban Horticulture, and is now in his 4th year. A Director encompassing both positions is proposed and interviews are being held. Both are individually-appointed UW representatives to the Arboretum and Botanic Garden Committee. The new Director may or may not be appointed to the Committee in place of one of these positions. Consequently, John W and Tom H were asked to write a letter on behalf of the ABGC to Bruce Bare, Dean of College of Forest Resources, to request a speedy re-evaluation regarding the UW appointments to the Committee once the Director is hired. ABGC members are concerned about the continuity and working relationships between committee members. The UW appointment to the ABGC is not necessarily automatic with being director. In fact, the current Arboretum director was not a voting member of ABGC for his first year or so.

- Operating Procedures Update: Fritz will have a final draft at the February meeting.
- February Meeting Date: The date was changed from February 4 to February 11.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30 a.m.

APPROVED _____ DATE _____
Deborah Andrews, ABGC Secretary