

Arboretum and Botanical Garden Committee (ABGC) Minutes
Graham Visitors Center – January 8, 2014

The Arboretum and Botanical Garden Committee is a Joint effort of the Arboretum Foundation, Seattle Parks Department, and the University of Washington, and designated by Seattle City Council Ordinance 65130, approved December 27, 1934, and Ordinance 116337, approved September 8, 1992.

Voting Members

Arboretum Foundation

- Paige Miller, Arboretum Foundation Executive Director
- Craig Trueblood, Arboretum Foundation Board President

City of Seattle

- Kenan Block, Mayoral Appointee
- Jack Collins, Mayoral Appointee
- Michael Shiosaki, Seattle Parks, Projects & Planning Division, Director

University of Washington

- *Excused*, Theresa Doherty, University of Washington, Asst. Vice President for Regional Affairs
- Sarah Reichard, University of Washington Botanic Gardens (UWBG), Director
- *Excused*, Iain Robertson, University of Washington, Associate Professor, Dept. of Landscape Architecture

Washington State

- David Towne

Other Staff Present:

- Fred Hoyt, University of Washington Botanic Gardens (UWBG), Associate Director
- Rachel Acosta, Seattle Parks and Recreation, ABGC Coordinator

Standing Committees

Building Committee:

AF: Paige Miller; City: TBD; UW: TBD

Partners Committee:

AF: Paige Miller & Craig Trueblood
City: Donald Harris & Christopher Williams
Michael Shiosaki & Leah Tivoli

Master Plan Implementation Group (MPIG):

UW: Tom DeLuca & Sarah Reichard

AF: Paige Miller & John Wott
City: Michael Shiosaki (lead) & Andy Sheffer

UW: Fred Hoyt & Sarah Reichard

SR520 Technical Committee:

City: David Graves; UW: Theresa Doherty & Fred Hoyt

Opening Items

The January meeting of the Arboretum and Botanical Garden Committee is called to order at 8:35am. The Agenda is approved. Dave Towne moves to approve the minutes from the November 13 Retreat and December meeting, Sarah seconds and the minutes are approved.

Craig mentions the parking issue was not listed as an action item at the retreat; Paige responds saying the key piece for the new education building would be to figure out the parking. There will be more discussion about the parking as the construction of the North Entry and the Education building proceed.

The contractors for Broadmoor are using the gravel parking that belongs to SPR. There will have to be a discussion with Broadmoor soon to discuss the parking, the intersection and re-doing the road. Rachel will put this on the Agenda for the upcoming Partners meeting to discuss next steps with follow-up at the ABGC meeting.

Budget, Personnel and Other Items

Parks

Budget: No new budget news.

Parks Legacy Plan: There are 3 key public hearings are coming up:

- **Thursday, January 23**, International District/Chinatown Community Center, 719 8th Ave. S, at 6 p.m.
- **Saturday, January 25**, High Point Community Center, 6920 34th Ave. SW, 1 p.m. (free childcare will be provided)
- **Thursday, January 30**, Bitter Lake Community Center, 13035 Linden Ave. N, at 7 p.m.

The ABGC comments at the public meeting should focus on major maintenance backlog and key capital projects.

Personnel:

New Recreation Division Director – Kelly Guy; there was a long process to fill it; comes from Parks department - recreation division, but is coming to Parks from Casey Family Programs.

Kevin Stoops is retiring after 37 years; Michele Finnegan will be the new Finance Director. The HR Director will be Hazel Bhang Barnett who will be coming to us from King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks.

The new Mayor asked Christopher to stay on; but he has not been confirmed by the City Council yet. Councilmember Jean Godden is the Chair of the Parks, Gender Equity, Library Committee. Tom Rasmussen and Bruce Harrell are the other members of the sub-committee and Kshama Sawant is the alternate.

Sally Bagshaw will head the PLP committee with the whole city council as members. Jack will call Councilmember Godden and invite her to tour the Arboretum and participate in a discussion with the ABGC.

Arboretum Foundation

Personnel: The Finance Manager has left; he has helped with the recruitment process. Paige has interviewed 5 candidates for the job; she will hold the final interviews for 3 candidates this Friday. He will be tough to replace because he had the skills and the love of the Arboretum.

Northwest Flower and Garden Show: Planning for the party is coming along well. The Arboretum Foundation held a movie night last night and showed the documentary about Ginny Ruffner's life, "A Not So Still Life." There were around 40 people at the Graham Visitors Center and there was a sign up for volunteering at the screening. The Northwest Flower and Garden Show demands a lot of volunteers; people who build it, tear it down and docent for it; people who volunteer for the party and there will be a location booth next to the UWBG. The focus will be on volunteer opportunities, and the nurseries and fundraising.

Bonsai garden: The Arboretum Foundation heard from Weyerhaeuser about the Bonsai collection; after all the work to look at it, the new CEO checked with the family and they were very strongly in favor of having the garden stay where it is with a new non-profit.

Kenan states that Paige put in a lot of effort and commends her for all her hard work. The feasibility study was 95% done when the news came down and Paige has asked the Berger partnership to write it up. There was useful information regarding parking and other things. Kristin said there are still hoops to go through and the deal in Tacoma may fall through.

WSDOT is buying a sliver of the property over by the former MOHAI; \$45,000 for 2500 square feet. There will be no real practical impact on the Arboretum.

Budget: Money that came in December was reasonably strong.

University of Washington

Budget: The meeting between Tom DeLuca, Lisa Graumlich, the Provost and the Vice Provost of Planning is supposed to happen this week. Lisa and Tom are fully briefed on the needs of the UWBG. Kenan thanks Sarah and Fred for all their hard work on the Canal Reserve mitigation.

MPIG

John Wott has replaced Roger on MPIG representing the Arboretum Foundation. No meeting since the last ABGC meeting so no new updates.

Legacy Plan: Proposed Testimony

Rachel gives out the dates to the Parks Legacy Plan Citizen's Advisory Committee public meetings. Michael advises the ABGC it doesn't matter which meeting they attend and the ABGC decide to aim for the first meeting. The Bitterlake Community Center public hearing is on Sarah's calendar.

Points for Jack to make when speaking at the public hearing:

- The importance of the park and the unique role the Arboretum fills.
- Major maint backlog at the Arboretum:
 - The maintenance barn, Foster Island Road, Electrical service on Arboretum Road, the trails – safety and usability
- Access is a good theme.
- Dave thinks it's important to mention that the money received from SR520 wasn't enough.
- Paige thinks having dollar amounts in the statement is important since other large organizations do.
- Paige will pass out the statement they wrote previously for review and edits.

Jack and Paige will do the ID meeting; Paige will speak on behalf of the AF and Jack will speak on behalf of the ABGC.

Old/New Business

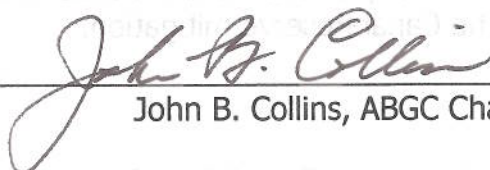
Communications:

No one has heard from Garfield yet regarding volunteer and teaching opportunities.

Jack will talk with Metro and SDOT regarding signage and advertising. Paige, Jack and Kenan will meet with them.

Postpone walking of the multi-use trail for March.

There being no other new business, the meeting adjourned at 9:28am.

APPROVED 
John B. Collins, ABGC Chair

DATE 2/12/2014