

Arboretum and Botanical Garden Committee (ABGC) Minutes Graham Visitors Center – January 11, 2017

The Arboretum and Botanical Garden Committee is a Joint effort of the Arboretum Foundation, Seattle Parks and Recreation, 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
- Jim Reid, Arboretum Foundation Board Vice President

City of Seattle

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

University of Washington

- Sally Clark, University of Washington, Director of Regional and Community Relations
- Excused, Fred Hoyt, University of Washington Botanic Gardens (UWBG), Acting Director
- Excused, Iain Robertson, University of Washington, Associate Professor, Dept. of Landscape Architecture

Washington State

- Excused, David Towne

Other Staff Present:

- Rachel Acosta, Seattle Parks and Recreation, ABGC Coordinator
- Eve Rickenbaker, University of Washington Botanic Gardens (UWBG)

Standing Committees

Partners Committee:

AF: Sherrey Luetjen & Paige Miller
City: Jesus Aguirre & Michael Shiosaki
UW: Fred Hoyt

Master Plan Implementation Group (MPIG):

AF: Paige Miller & Jason Morse
City: Michael Shiosaki (lead) & Andy Sheffer
UW: Fred Hoyt

SR520 Technical Committee:

City: David Graves; UW: Fred Hoyt

Call to Order

Sally calls the meeting to order at 8:35am. Since there is not a quorum, they will hold off approval of the December minutes until the following meeting. Sally reviews the Agenda.

2017 Work Plans

Goal #1: Outreach to Student Communities of Color at the University of Washington

- Committee: Wendy, Paige, Kenan and Eve
- Committee to meet to discuss potential partnerships
- UW College of Environment will help.

Goal #2: Loop Trail Opening – Design event that will bring in communities of color

- 2 committees formed
 - Marketing/Outreach – Kenan, Paige, Karen, Meg
 - Event Planning – Paige, Maureen, Tess
- Paige and the Arboretum Foundation staff will spearhead this effort.

Goal #3: Tribal Relations/Event

- Why American Indians? This area was used by 4 different tribal nations and this is an important relationship to maintain.
- It would be great to have speakers/storytellers about native plants and native people's use of this area.
- Warren King George presented to the volunteers at the Arboretum Foundation and it was really interesting and engaging.
- Fred is working with the UW to further American Indian history and ethnobotany
- Would like to assist tribes with event for sacred site;
- Tribes, in the past, expressed the special feelings they have for this place.

Goal #4: Engage African American community

- Interview Christopher Williams about the Arboretum - his perceptions of connections and what we could do to be better to engage with communities of color
- Seward Park Audubon Director – talk with her about what they are doing to engage communities in surrounding neighborhoods

The ABGC will have a recurring agenda item to check in on work plan progress during each meeting.

At the February meeting, the ABGC will practice the Race and Social Justice toolkit on work plan #1 UW Student Engagement as a group and then each committee can do them on their own.

MPIG

Arboretum Loop Trail (ALT) – short-term goals - Madison to Arboretum Drive open - freezing weather and work on 31st concrete has been delayed. The date has been shifted to approximately mid-February.

Bicycles and speed on ALT and - signage as you enter- will be a part of it. The ABGC discusses installing more speed bumps on Arboretum Drive.

Potential additional tree removals along the trail to make sure they do not pose a hazard.

Water coming off Broadmoor to maintenance area is creating ice and the problem is getting worse. The ABGC need to deal with it. Maybe an engineering study? It's located in a shoreline zone which makes it a more difficult problem to solve.

Centennial Garden - Jason Morse brought the design of Centennial Garden to Friends of Olmsted Parks; Should it go out to the Azalea Way path? There are 3 large cedar trees that would need to be removed and they are significant. Jason will speak with the Urban Forestry Commission about this.

Budget, Personnel and Other Items

Seattle Parks and Recreation

New budget and restructuring has occurred. Robert Stowers is new Parks and the Environment Division Director.

Arboretum Foundation

Paige/Jim: Focused on opening night party. The Foundation met their goal for sponsorships and are working on getting auction items. Party planning is rolling along well.

The new Japanese Garden website is gorgeous.

The Foundation is updating their strategic plan.

Summer party - English themed - Midsummer Night

The Foundation is raising money for the education building: The goal is \$375,000 and they are at \$246,000. The fundraising committee is Fred, Paige, Dr. Wott, Ted and Iris Wagner, and Arboretum Foundation development staff - Chris Stollery, and Marilyn Montgomery

They are planning to schedule a meeting about the term sheet.

University of Washington

Notice for UW Botanic Gardens Director search is posted.

Old/New Business

Governor’s position - ABGC agree not to try for legislation to create appointment from Governor’s Office. They discuss the possibility of changing the legislation to allow for a 3rd Arboretum Foundation member. They will plan a meeting to recognize Dave’s service. Paige will talk with Dave and let him know we’re going to set him free and ask him if he could make the March meeting for a send-off party.

There being no new business, the meeting adjourns at 10:40am.

APPROVED _____ DATE _____
Sally Clark, ABGC Chair