

MINUTES
JENSEN-OLSON ARBORETUM ADVISORY BOARD
Mendenhall Library, Small Conference Room

Wednesday, February 10, 2016

5:15 P.M.

Call to Order by Chair, Ed Buyarski

Present: Kristin Bartlett, Shawn Eisele, Patricia Harris, Nell McConahey, Deborah Rudis;

Absent: Peter Froehlich, Kim Garner, Steve Moseley

Staff Present: Merrill Jensen, Jensen-Olson Arboretum Manager; Lindsey Daniel, Parks & Recreation Administrative Assistant II

Agenda Changes – None.

Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items – None.

Approval of Minutes - November 9, 2015: E. Buyarski requests that his name be spelled correctly. **Minutes approved with change.**

Unfinished Business – None.

New Business – None.

Committee Liaison and Staff Reports

Chair Report: The May 7th Plant Sale is run by the Master Gardeners this year, they are looking for volunteers. Last night was the first class of the new Master Gardener class.

P. Harris: Theoretically we are part of the consortium of groups for the Plant Sale. Did we see any money from the plant sale? M. Jensen: I spoke with Elfrida at the Garden Club Meeting and she said she completely forgot to disperse funds.

Manager's Report included in packet. S. Eisele: Can you give a snapshot of any educational programs happening at the Arboretum this summer? M. Jensen: Sea Week Activities, usually between 3 and 5 classes. UAS generally comes out. Sealtrust is going to do a water color class. We don't have anything else on the calendar right now. We are open to any and all folks that want to come out.

M. Jensen: One item I forgot to include on the Manager's Report is an update on the parking lot. The proposed lot is at DOT awaiting permitting.

P. Harris: We have had a lot of inquiries about weddings, have we had anybody book yet? M. Jensen: No. I think the 50 people cap has been the stumbling point. P. Harris: Is that something we should discuss again? M. Jensen: I like the 50 people limit, if you get more people out there it really does take a toll on the turf.

Friends of JOA - P. Harris: We continue to work on a questionnaire to get input from community groups using the Arboretum, having it ready for the Plant Sale is a target date. We signed up for SurveyMonkey. We are planning on doing another wine tasting this spring. Because wine tastings have become so common, if we can't hold it at the gardens I think it will be less successful. We are having our annual meeting April 13th.

Other business: P. Harris: I'd like to ask S. Eisele and K. Bartlett what they see the Arboretum being used for in their respective programs, Discovery Southeast and the Department of Education? S. Eisele: For Discovery Southeast I see us continuing to use it for summer fieldtrips that are wilderness focused. For the Arboretum it would be great if they could run programs for the public, rather than only having different user groups run the programs. K. Bartlett: for younger students field trips and Sea Week are an appropriate use of the facility. I don't know if you're interested in having more of that, because I could easily help with more outreach in the schools. Additionally, I think the science of it all and how you go about growing these things could support curriculum teachers are teaching to certain age groups. In our high school career technical programs there are students who might be interested in the work at the Arboretum. We also have a lot of classes where students are required to do community service and opportunities to do that at the Arboretum would be great.

Adjournment -- 6:31 p.m. Having no further business before the Board

Respectfully submitted, Lindsey Daniel, P&R Administrative Assistant II

Next Meeting: Wed. May. 18, 2016 at 5:15 P.M. -- Mendenhall Library.