

MINUTES
JENSEN-OLSON ARBORETUM ADVISORY BOARD
Wednesday, September 4, 2013
Mendenhall Library Conference Room, 5:15 P.M.

- I. Call to Order – The meeting was called to Order by Chair, Ed Buyarski, at 5:20 p.m.
Attending: Ed Buyarski, Chair; Peter Froehlich, Iris Korhonen-Penn, Patty Newman, Kathy Thatcher, Deborah Rudis, Kim Garnero and Barbara Murray
Absent: Patricia Harris
Staff Present: Merrill Jensen, Arboretum Manager; Fran Compton, Administrative Assistant (Recorder)
- II. Agenda Changes – none presented
- III. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items – none presented.
- IV. Approval of Minutes
Wednesday, June 19, 2013 Regular Board Meeting; Motion by Ms. Garnero to approve the minutes as presented. Hearing no objection, the June 19, 2013 JOA Advisory Board Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.
- V. Unfinished Business
Board representation per Resolution 2377 (attendance). Ms. Newman was present and advised the Board members that in her absence, Ms. Kimberly Homme would be attending future board meetings.
- VI. New Business
Update from Endowment Fund – There was discussion with questions regarding the accounting that Mr. Jensen had received from CBJ Finance and distributed the committee members. The committee requested that Mr. Jensen set up a meeting with members of the Finance Department to review and discuss.
- VII. Committee, Liaison, and/or Staff Reports
 - A. Chair Report – Mr. Buyarski: Has not had an opportunity to meet with Mr. Mertl regarding a Master Plan for the Arboretum. The Friends of JOA met 3 weeks ago at the Downtown Library about a wine tasting fund raiser event. The consensus was to put it off until May 2014 when the greenhouse at Glacier Gardens will be ready and available. There was an JOA members event in November with a turnout of about 25-30.
 - B. Friends of JOA Report – Ms. Garnero: There was a fund balance transfer to Juneau Community Fund, who will accept the funds with recommendations from JOA-Friends for a multi-use facility. There was discussion regarding concerns, i.e., what would happen to the funds if the JOA-Friends group “went away”? Since the chances are remote of the “Friends” being disbanded, the committee agreed to proceed on good faith. The Agreement will be signed next week. There is no update on a website upgrade.

C. Manager Report – Merrill Jensen: I had an exciting summer and am on day 35 of watering. I transferred some compost material from Lemon Creek and trying it in one bed. It had not been tested for heavy metals so I won't use it for veggies. There was a discussion about Rainbow Foods as a source of compost products. UAS Art class has sent out 23 students. I was asked to do a Peterson family talk to the residents at the Pioneer Home. The Norway elm was trimmed. The summer intern, Will Clausen and volunteers from the Rotary club put together a work group to put down gravel on the Pt. Caroline Trail. There was the Annual Garden Club Picnic. Perennial seedlings were potted with an 80% success rate. I took foraging trips to Mt. Juneau and Eaglecrest for Alaska Native plants. His plant database is increasing. There was a Retirement Party for Diane Mayer (SEA Land Trust) held at the Arboretum. Discussion regarding getting the Arboretum mapped with GIS. He removed the fence behind the garage. There are trellises to hold the clematis. The Arboretum's garden produced two loads of vegetables to share with the Glory Hole with more coming. Zach Gordon Youth Center has a new gardener and he gave them a compost tumbler. He will collect seed for national seed exchanges, he has 35 to ship. There is a new pathway from parking garage to the house compliments of Rotary. He is concerned about the traffic and speeding on the highway. They lost 3 Japanese Maples to the fall and spring freezes.

VIII. Other Business – none presented.

IX. Adjournment – There being no further business, Chair Buyarski adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted this 16th day of December, 2013.
Fran Compton, P&R Administrative Assistant (recorder)