

## **Arboretum Associates Board Meeting**

Monday, November 13, 2023

UI Facilities Large Conference Room

Present: Paul Warnick, Erik Anderson, Harriet Hughes, Nancy Sprague, Nancy Zabriskie, Kat Clancy, Julie Miller, Yvonne Barkley, Frank Clarke, Lucy Falcy, Kris Roby

Guest: Ken McCurry

### **Welcome Ken McCurry**

The Board welcomed Ken McCurry, Director of Facility Services at the University of Idaho.

### **Approval of Minutes**

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2023 meeting. Motion passed.

### **Arbor Notes**

Yvonne announced that the approved printer proofs for the next issue of *Arbor Notes* have been delivered. 1000 copies will be printed and delivered to the Mail Room. The new issue should be in hand by late November or early December. Instead of a spring issue it was decided to have a single annual issue. Postcard reminders will be sent for the annual meeting and other events will be publicized more widely. Kat has compiled a list of locations for posting Arboretum event posters.

### **Plant Sale**

Erik confirmed that the plant sale will be held at the Palouse Ice Rink on May 18. We will work on better ways to promote the sale and publicize the new location.

### **Summer Concert**

We discussed ideas for ways to thank the summer concert musicians, particularly Dan Bukvich. Suggestions included providing cookies and drinks or contributing to a Lionel Hampton School of Music scholarship fund.

### **Arboreta Updates**

Paul reported that the two recent rock projects went smoothly. The Rock Placing Company did an excellent job of placing the basalt columns and benches at the north end of the Arboretum and installing the rock stairway leading to the hostas. Bill Bowler will provide the wording for an engraving to be added to the bench along the rock stairway.

Paul provided price quotes for the 2-seater Workman with a dump bed, including one model with a Lithium battery. He also checked with Pape Machinery about a John Deere compact

utility tractor. These vehicles are both within the price range approved by the Board for new equipment purchases that will benefit the Arboretum.

Paul discussed a recent proposed donation in honor of Sherman Carter, a former University of Idaho Vice President who played a role in establishing the Arboretum. The donor was interested in planting a Garry oak in Carter's honor, but Paul had some concerns about this, including tree availability and viability. Paul proposed several alternative ideas including rock work and a wind sculpture by a new sign at the south end of the Arboretum or a geodesic dome with vines. He was finally able to locate a nursery that has a hybrid variety of Garry oak that may be hardier, although it might be challenging to get the trees here. He was willing to work with the nursery to try to acquire three Garry oaks for this project. Kat moved and Yvonne seconded a motion to authorize Paul to proceed with the Garry oak donation project, and also to purchase a new tractor and cart for the Arboretum. Motion passed.

Paul announced that Robert Castelo will be giving a 30-minute presentation on December 1 at 10am for the American Public Gardens Association. He will set up a Zoom session in the conference room for anyone interested in hearing the talk.

### **Old Business**

Erik brought up the issue of the Arboretum Associates providing honorarium pay for staff to water plants for the plant sale on the weekends. Frank will check on the best way to handle this.

Meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm.

**Next meeting:** Monday, December 11, 2023