Arboretum Associates Advisory Board Meeting
Monday, May 9, 2016, at 5:00 p.m.
Jack’s Creek Conf. Room, Facilities Building

Absent: Sally Greene

Board members provided brief introductions.

Jan moved to approve the minutes from 3/28/16 meeting and Joy seconded.

Arboretum Strengthening Connections Survey Results and Update – Brian Johnson. 199 surveys were completed and the results will be summarized and sent to Kris. In general, the feedback is positive. The least accepted notion was the narrowing of Nez Perce Drive and the associated loss of parking. Next steps - results will be shared with the Arboretum Associates and the University Executive committee. A logical next step is to incorporate this concept into the University master plan and decide which element to take on as Arboretum Associates. Should we engage the Development Office to help direct donor interest to the Arboretum and this project? There is an effort to revise the campus long-range development plan; these ideas may be the most impactful changes. The last update was in 1997, revised in 2000, and intended to serve as 20-year vision.

Update on Gazebo – Brian Johnson. Chick Mabbutt of Associated Architects provided a design to the donor. The donor is pleased with the design, which is a simple, granite gazebo with a dome-top with and benches set between columns. Hexagonal pavers of granite bordered by black granite will surround the gazebo. The gazebo is to be placed ~75 feet north of the southern pond. The cost estimate is $130,000. There is discussion about the donor bringing their own contractor to the project, but AES will still have direct oversight. Kris asked board members to send comments about the gazebo project, which she will compile and send to Brian. There was a voiced concern about the gazebo looking out of place and the incongruous nature of the paved pathway and the existing paths. There was a suggestion that the gazebo be surrounded by the granite pavers and then surrounded by grass, without a designated path leading to the gazebo. Paul Anders suggested that an image be generated of the site itself with the gazebo so the project can be better visualized and Ray will look into this.
2016 Plant Sale update (June 4) – Jan will place an ad in the Daily News and has booked the facility and tables. She provided the bill to Joy ($300) and stated the plants are growing well. Bill will make posters for advertising. There will be a pricing party on May 31 or June 1. Paul Anders will help distribute posters.

Science Saturdays update – Amy stated that the program is set and in good hands with Paul and Will. Camp insurance has been secured and waivers have been drafted. Bill Bowler will print posters for distribution within the week. All members are invited to participate in the series. Will is unable to host the July event but Paul Anders and/or Dave will be able to help in his place.

Treasurer’s Report – Joy Fisher

FaceBook page – Terry is doing a marvelous job with the Facebook page. There were more than 500 hits for a single post! Please send items to post.

Summer Concert (July 11) - Bill will make posters. Joy will bring the donation box and Kris will welcome everyone and provide opening remarks.

Arboreta updates – The Arboretum Associates board has agreed to fund Paul’s trip to the bristlecone pines in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. He will also include a visit to the county-run Reno arboretum. Paul provided an up-date on the engineering capstone project to work on the pond issue as a senior project. It has been determined that this would provide a useful experience to seniors, although a solution may not be found. The project would run $10,000 - $15,000. Coincidentally, Rand Lewis (Water Quality Solutions) is interested in demonstrating “The HONU” ($7000) in June. After the demo, it will be decided whether to move forward with the engineering senior project (which needs to be determined by the end of June) or purchase The HONU.

Scavenger Hunt progress/updates – Dave has edited the summer edition of the scavenger hunt and will email Amy who will send final content on to Bill for production.

Arboretum Art Show in 2017. Maureen arranged for an April 2017 art show at the 1912 Center - “Through the Seasons of the Arboretum.” The show would hang April 3, with the opening at our annual meeting (which will be the 40th annual meeting). Kayla suggested “Four seasons, 40 years.” The Arboretum Associates board decided to move forward with the idea and Kris will talk with Jenny about getting the word out.

Dates for future meetings have been provided to all board members.
Meeting adjourned 6:56pm.
Submitted by Amy Ross-Davis