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

Approval of Minutes
It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2022 meeting. Motion passed.

Arbor Notes
Yvonne reported that the latest issue of Arbor Notes was delivered to the mail room on December 21, but was delayed slightly in getting out due to staff shortages over the holidays. All agreed that the new format with color photos looks great. Suggestions for content for the next issue included: an updated map as the centerfold, an article by Yvonne, reminders about the plant sale, concert, and papermaking classes, then and now photos, and a report from the Horticulturist. If possible, we would like to get this issue out before the plant sale.

Plant Sale
Paul noted that the annual plugs have been ordered and he’s still working on the order for perennials. Yvonne offered to help grow plants from seed, which Paul has just ordered. Zinnias will be the primary theme for the annuals this year. A suggestion was made that annual poppy seeds might be packaged for giveaways at the Annual Meeting. Kat offered to help with designing the seed packets.

Arboretum Updates
Paul showed us the new label printer which will allow him to make plant labels locally, rather than having to send requests to a printer in Portland.

Paul presented a slideshow highlighting recent projects. He reported that one of his student employees, Robert Castelo, has received a $5000 scholarship from the American Public Gardens Association.

Paul provided an update on the bridge replacement project near the lower pond. A welder in Garfield who also builds bridges may be able to build a steel bridge. A UI project architect submitted a draft design for a flat bridge with six-foot arches and cables on the sides. Paul suggested a design with an arched bridge with lower side arches. The proposed material is COR-TEN, a weathering steel, similar to what was used for the moon gate.
Paul continues to investigate options for improving the ponds. He found information about a solar powered aerating fountain that sounded promising. Paul contacted the local dealer at Aquatechnex in Spokane. The person he spoke to thinks phosphorus is the issue in our ponds and promoted chemical solutions. He offered to come down to test the pond water. Yvonne is also trying to track down a pond specialist to help with this issue.

Zach Green, another of Paul’s student employees, is interested in planting *Nymphaea* ‘Colorado’ Hardy Water Lilies in the ponds. In late April several varieties would be planted in the upper pond. A few may also be planted in the lower pond and smaller ponds. Zach is hoping to apply for a $3000 grant from the Garden Clubs of America for this intern project.

Paul received positive comments from Ray Pankopf and Guy Esser about the proposed new entry project along Nez Perce Drive. Ray offered to help fund consulting with a Spokane architect, Bernardo Willis, to discuss options for the sign. Eric Bennett, the Director of Development for the College of Science, has expressed continuing interest in funding this project in honor of a science professor. Paul also discussed the potential for progress on the Nez Perce Drive reconfiguration project and has sent out additional information about this.

Paul described a prairie restoration project at Eastern Washington University that will be interesting for us to monitor.

Two large boxes of tulip bulbs were donated to the University of Idaho in honor of the students who were killed. Paul checked with growers about options for the bulbs. He planted them in large pots with frost blankets. They will be distributed around campus, including to Greek houses, when they bloom.

Erik asked if there was any damage from recent winter storms. Paul noted that the Golf Course had lost several spruce trees, but there was no major damage in the Arboretum.

Paul asked for suggestions for updating the Arboretum brochure. He will work with Creative Services to try to increase the font size, add a QR code, and update the text. Yvonne offered to help with editing and updates.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10pm.

**Next meeting:** February 13, 2023.