Arboretum Associates Board Meeting
Monday, February 13, 2023
UI Facilities Large Conference Room

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

Approval of Minutes
It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2023 meeting. Motion passed.

Arbor Notes
Yvonne reviewed the schedule for the upcoming issue and reminded contributors that content is due by February 17, but can be submitted up until the evening of February 19. She is working on an article about ArbNet and the history of the Arboretum and will also compile a collection of photos of plants that will be blooming in May. The issue will also include a report from the Horticulturist, president’s report, reminders of the plant sale, concert, and papermaking classes. Information on how to find us on Facebook and how to request the email newsletter will also be included. Yvonne will send an editing tips sheet to Kat who will email it to all board members. Deb will provide an updated mailing list. The last issue was printed for a little over $2000 for 1000 copies. Yvonne will check on the option of printing 750 copies for the upcoming issue.

New Board Members/Officers
Kat announced that if anyone is going off the board next year we will need more members. She will be completing her term as president and asked board members to consider volunteering to be president by the March meeting. Kat reported that Kris Roby is willing to continue as a Member-at-Large when Kat becomes Past President. Kat will bring more information about the term limits of board members to the next meeting.

Plant Sale
The location of the plant sale has not yet been confirmed. Jan and Dick are planning to tour the new ice rink and will check on parking options. The future of the old ice rink is uncertain.

Paul presented the following Potting Party schedule at 10am at Facilities Greenhouse:
Saturday, March 11 – small perennial order
Saturday, March 25 – big party, 867 annuals, 300 perennials
Saturday, April 1 – baskets and pots?
Saturday, April 15 – small party
Arboretum Updates
Paul presented a detailed itinerary for the proposed road trip to regional botanical gardens and arboreta on March 12-18. Harriet moved to approve funding for this trip, Erik seconded the motion, and all approved. Motion passed. Some of the gardens on the tour are members of The Garden Conservancy Northwest Network. Paul will explore the possibility of the Arboretum joining this network, possibly instead of our membership in Botanic Gardens Conservation International.

Paul reported that he recently met with Ken McCurry, his new boss, and discussed some budget issues.

One of Paul’s student workers, Robert Castelo, was a finalist in a design competition in Sicily for a fossil garden design. Robert may also be involved with a task force that is planning a memorial garden for the four UI students who were killed in November. Paul has been consulted about this project as the Arboretum was one of the top locations proposed for the memorial. Paul was opposed to this idea and proposed the I-Tank Hill as a better option. Several other locations on campus are under consideration, including near the Amphitheater in the Shattuck Arboretum, the old Kiva location, the Admin lawn, and the Commons Green. The proposed memorial will be a substantial project with permanent infrastructure. Paul will meet with Robert soon about this to see if he’s interested in participating in this project. Robert is also planning to use the Arboretum for his Masters thesis work.

Lucy presented a draft of the updated UI Arboretum color brochure for review. She made a number of improvements, including a larger font size and updated photos. Paul will request 500 copies of the new brochure.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15pm.

Next meeting: March 20, 2023.