



Red Butte Garden
THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH
Red Butte Garden Advisory Board Meeting
Wednesday September 14, 2016, 3:30 PM
Classroom

Present: Greg Lee, Tom Ramsey, Tim Welsh, Cathy Angstman, Byron Barkley, Sandi Behnken, Thomas Brickey, David Classen, Fred Esplin, Cindy Kindred, Kristy Larsen, Tori Magleby, Nancy Martin, Joe Sargetakis, Susan Speer, Stephen Urquhart, Henry Wurts, Zeke Dumke, Sandy McOmber.

Absent: Gayle Everest, Chuck Horman, Kevin Murphy, Chris Satovick, Angie Welling.

Staff in Attendance: Derrek Hanson, Yasmine Jarvis, Kevin Jensen, Roxanne Kulakowski, Wendy Loyning, Sara Sorensen, Angela Wilcox.

- I. Approval of Advisory Board minutes from May 11, 2016
A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes.

- II. Announcements
Joe Sargetakis has joined the Advisory Board as the University-appointed alumni representative. Joe and his wife, Paula, grow organic food for local farm-to-table restaurants.

We will not be having a gala this year, but next year the Board can expect a joint gala between Red Butte Garden and the Natural History Museum of Utah.

- III. Concert Series
We have sold 89,000 tickets this year, which comes to 96.5% of all tickets sold. Of the thirty-one concerts, only four did not sell out (five counting the Symphony). Every year, we try to make small improvements to the venue to enhance the visitor experience and ease back-end operations. This winter's projects include possibly moving the ADA section and expanding the merchandise/concessions pad.

- IV. Finance Committee Report
Some revisions have been made to attachment 2a. Concert revenue was originally listed as down by \$609,000 which would bring earned revenue down by \$439,000. By removing the concert revenue, we can see that total earned revenue otherwise increased by \$230,000 since last fiscal year. The drop in concert revenue is due to fewer concerts occurring in May and June this year than last year. This year's auditors chose to recognize ZAP revenue when it's received rather than deferring it, which creates a perceived increase in ZAP revenue. Sponsorship revenue

increased due to the addition of tables for sale on the east section of the terrace as well as more blankets. The annual operating surplus increased from \$711,000 to \$1,363,000. Membership revenue has also increased due to a fee increase, program restructuring, and an overall increase in total memberships.

The Garden's present goal is to build its endowment which is currently a fraction of the size of other national gardens of a similar size. This is a very important goal and Tom Ramsey encouraged the Board to help in whatever way possible.

V. Programs Report

a. Summer Camps

Ten new camps were added this year. Overall, we had 874 children participants (82 more than last year). This is largely due to the addition of our new pre-K program called Li'l Buds.

b. School Programs

We saw a record high of almost 16,000 students onsite for Field Classes. The Grow Lab programs visited 180 classrooms, for a total of about 4,730 students served all over the state.

c. Botany Bins

We currently have two modules: Ethnobotany and Conserving Water in the Desert. A third module is currently being developed called Patterns & Partnerships: An Introduction to Botany. This program served over 5,600 students all over the state.

d. Volunteer Base Increase

This March, we hosted our first annual Volunteer Fair which increased volunteer sign up by 35%. There will be another Volunteer Fair next year as we will need volunteers for the opening Water Conservation Garden.

VI. Construction Update

a. Water Conservation Garden

Upon completion, the three-acre Water Conservation Garden will be the largest themed garden at RBG. The main intention of this garden is to show homeowners how they can landscape to save water and not have to resort to a typical, dry desert style. Some areas in the upper portion of the garden are almost finished and ready for top soil. Phase 1 plantings are well underway all over the garden with the lower third being almost complete. Many of the plantings are arranged to take advantage of the views of Salt Lake Valley. Much of the steel work, including guard rails and terraces, has been completed. Concrete pouring is underway and we anticipate it being completed in the next

few weeks. There is a rainwater distribution system which channels water from the upper gardens down the hillside to the lower plantings. Some of the themes include a food garden featuring unusual low-water crops and a rain garden with a raised boardwalk over plantings.

b. Horticulture Compound

The new Horticulture Administration building has been designed to house all the Horticulture staff at full Garden grow-out. As such, it's been built bigger than is currently needed. The building will be adjacent to the University parking lot 75 (also known as the Sponsor Parking lot for concerts). Phase 1 of this project entails realigning the Hort compound entry road. The new design will have an angled entrance as well as a softened curve which will be easier for tour buses to navigate. Phase 2 involves the Horticulture Administration building itself and will begin in October or November. Phase 3 will consist of a maintenance facility. The entire project should be completed by early spring 2017.

c. Pond Dredging

Due to a large amount of sediment buildup as well as overgrowth of cattails and bulrushes, the middle pond needs to be dredged. The June Sucker has been delisted as an endangered animal, so all existing fish in the pond will be relocated to Utah Lake. Once the fish have been removed, we can begin the mechanical dredging process.

d. Damara's Gift

This installation has been planned in conjunction with local artist Colour Maisch. It features 10' to 20' steel tubes arranged at the entrance to the wildflower meadow which will eventually become a sculpted garden.

e. Creekside Walk

As part of the Master Plan, there are plans for a meandering trail and bridges along Red Butte Creek upstream from the ponds. This area would be able to provide shade on a hot day. This project would require University, local, state and federal approvals. We hope to start concept design by the end of the month.

f. OSH Building Water Conservation Garden

This large classroom building on campus was recently demolished to make way for a new structure. On the South end, there's an opportunity for us to partner with the Office of Sustainability for the creation of a demonstration garden. It would be an extension of our Water Conservation Garden including a rainwater harvesting system as well as drought-tolerant plantings. Hopefully, it will provide a template for the University to use in all future planning. This alliance

was begun on the suggestion of Board Member Kevin Murphy. This sustainability-oriented project came after University President Pershing released a call to action for the University to become more sustainable and eco-friendly.

g. Williams Building Landscaping

The Williams Building, a nearby office and research facility, is redesigning their landscaping, calling it the "Landscape Lab". The idea is that researchers and students can come to this area to collect data on storm water management techniques, bio soils, and water-wise plantings, among other things. Currently, there is a huge area of grass that is being proposed for the Landscape Lab. Kevin Jensen serves as the Red Butte Garden representative on the planning committee for this project.

VII. Nominating Committee

Tom Ramsey asked the Board to submit suggestions for new Board Members to the Nominating Committee.

VIII. Staff Report

There were no questions on the Staff Report.

Adjournment 5:00 pm