

9 March 2014

TO: SASYNA Council

FROM: Sue Thering, SASYNA Council Rep. to the Olbrich Botanical Gardens (OBG) Board

RE: Report from the 25 February 2014 Meeting of the OBG Board

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Copy of the meeting agenda.
2. Copy of the monthly report prepared by Roberta Sladky
3. Copy of *OBG in the 21st Century: An Interim Report from the Olbrich Botanical Gardens Ad Hoc Committee on Space Needs for the 21st Century (OBG in the 21st Century)*

Major Points of Interest to SASYNA:

1. The Garver Building and the North Plat

The attached report, *OBG in the 21st Century*, unfortunately, is undated, however it references data as recent as 2011. This is an excerpt from the paragraph in the introduction that references the Garver Building and the North Plat:

"In 2009 the Madison Parks Commission developed a new Land Use Plan for Olbrich Park which designates 9.8 acres adjacent to the Thai Garden and along Starkweather Creek for future OBG growth in gardens rather than onto the 23-acre Garver property, which, other than a few acres for Olbrich Gardens maintenance is dedicated to a re-use of the Garver Feed Mill and green space." (pg. 2).

This excerpt is from page 2; page 5 has a drawing of the most recent masterplan.

There was discussion about the Garver Re-Use RFP at the meeting. Roberta Sladky advised the Board that she has been working with the RFP development/writing committee, and she made it clear to that committee that OBG has to have some space in the building and grounds for storage and leaf mulching.

As we are unclear about the details of the agreement of the land exchange referenced in the quote above, I have asked Alder Rummel to let me know how to find the official document(s) that record those details. I will let you all know as soon as I hear back from Marsha.

2. Building Expansion:

The development committee is in the process of planning a capital campaign for Phase One of the planned expansion, which will include new greenhouses and an education wing, both attached to the existing conservatory.

NOTE:

Roberta informed me that she sent my predecessor a report each month, which, if I understand it correctly, he submitted to the SASYNA Council as part of his monthly report. I have asked Roberta to continue sending me this brief, but to also include the meeting agenda. I will preface those documents with my own notes each month, as I have done here. If the Council has a preference for format and/or content of my monthly reports in the future, do please let me know.



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Olbrich Botanical Society Board of Directors Meeting

Date: Tuesday, February 25, 2014
Time: 4:00 p.m.
Place: Olbrich Botanical Gardens, Meeting Room

AGENDA

If you need an interpreter, translator, materials in alternate formats or other accommodations to access this service, activity or program, please call the phone number below at least three business days prior to the meeting.

Si necesita un intérprete, un traductor, materiales en formatos alternativos u otros arreglos para acceder a este servicio, actividad o programa, comuníquese al número de teléfono que figura a continuación tres días hábiles como mínimo antes de la reunión.

Yog hais tias koj xav tau ib tug neeg txhais lus, ib tug neeg txhais ntawv, cov ntawv ua lwm hom ntawv los sis lwm cov kev pab kom siv tau cov kev pab, cov kev ua ub no (activity) los sis qhov kev pab cuam, thov hu rau tus xov tooj hauv qab yam tsawg peb hnuv ua hauj lwm ua ntej yuav tuaj sib tham.

Если Вам необходима помощь устного или письменного переводчика, а также если Вам требуются материалы в иных форматах либо у Вас имеются особые пожелания в связи с доступом к данной услуге, мероприятию или программе, пожалуйста, позвоните по указанному ниже телефону и сообщите об этом не менее чем за три рабочих дня до соответствующей встречи.

I. Call to Order – by President Tim Sherry

II. Approval of the January 21, 2014 minutes. Motion

III. Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda

IV. Reports

- A. President's Report – by President Tim Sherry
 - a. Introduction of New Board Members
 - b. Presentation and Recommendations – by Dick Wagner/Roberta Sladky
Phase 1 – Facilities Masterplan/Capital Campaign
- B. Updated December 2013 Financial Report
January 2014 Financial Report – by Jennifer Curliss

INFORMATIONAL



C. Director's Report – by Roberta Sladky
INFORMATIONAL

Staff Written Reports

The “Numbers” Report (Patti Jorenby & Kai Stanecki)

Horticulture (Jeff Epping)

Conservatory & Greenhouse (John Wirth)

Volunteers (Marty Petillo)

Gift Shop (Cindy Sullivan)

Education (Jane Nicholson)

D. Development Report – by Jt Covelli
INFORMATIONAL

Staff Written Reports – by Ann Heiden

Development (Ann Heiden) & Special Events (Missy Jeanne)

Membership Report (Natasha Fuller)

Capital Campaign – by Ann Heiden and Kevin Hess

E. Marketing & Public Relations Report – by Jt Covelli
INFORMATIONAL

Staff Written Reports

Marketing & Public Relations Report (Sharon Cybart)

V. New Business

VI. Announcements

VII. Adjournment

NOTE: This agenda has been recorded with the City Clerk's Office. The meeting notices and agenda have been posted. If you need an interpreter, materials in alternate formats or other accommodations to access this service, activity or program, please contact Olbrich Botanical Gardens at 608.246.4550, or TTY # 866.704.2315 so proper arrangements can be made in a timely fashion.

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
Report for the Superintendent's Report to Madison's Board of Park Commissioners
March 2014

Olbrich's Spring Show: Dinosaurs & Daffodils opens Saturday, March 8. A great opportunity to partake of Spring! (Hopefully our Madison spring won't be too far behind).

Olbrich staff are preparing for spring and expecting that there will be some repairs to the site because the frost is very deep. The walkways will need some work and possibly the irrigation system as well. The movements of frost in the ground can cause irrigation pipes to break – not because there is water in the pipes as they are completely drained – but because of the force of the movement of the frozen soils. Brick walkways are impacted for the same reasons – they don't always return to their previous positions after frost upheavals.

March's Bolz Conservatory shutdown is a sign of spring also. It is time to prune the tropical trees and let some light into the understory. This project entails the use of a large lift inside the Conservatory that allows Curator John Wirth access to the forest canopy. We compare what happens in the Bolz Conservatory every spring to the natural occurrence of tree-falls in the tropical forests. When a tree falls in a rainforest, an entire patch of forest floor is opened to the sunshine (a light gap), and natural regeneration occurs. Something similar occurs at Olbrich every spring in our 10,000 square foot tropical forest. Also during this time Olbrich's maintenance staff replace the large fans that keep the air moving in addition to performing other maintenance tasks. This year one of two bamboo arbors will be replaced with large diameter bamboo pieces purchased from the University of Georgia's bamboo farm. The Bolz Conservatory reopens Friday, March 21 in the evening for Cocktails in the Conservatory and for everyone else on Saturday, March 22.

Visitor comment from the past month:

"Why was Palm tree pruned back but trunk left standing? Why not cut trunk closer to the ground?"

Nancy R (2-10-14) Reply from Schumacher Library: "John was hoping to grow vines around the trunk, but they didn't survive. It will be cut back this spring"

October Numbers

OBG Attendance (counted from 9 – 4 only + event participants)	2014	2013	Previous 5 yrs average
January 1 - 31	10,331	9,019	10,338
YTD January 31	10,331	9,019	
Total Member Households (individuals*) December 31	6,226 (10,002)	6,375 (9,803)	

**based on the number of membership cards issued*

OBG City of Madison Major Revenue Categories (unaudited)	YTD 1/31/2014	YTD 1/31/2013
Bolz Conservatory Admission YTD	\$4,920	\$4,728
Room Rentals YTD*	\$9,468	\$10,204
Catering Percentage Revenue YTD**	\$3,189	\$510
TOTAL YTD	\$17,577	\$15,442

**accrued at time of booking – up to 21 months before the rental date, ** accrued on a monthly basis following each catered rental*

March 2014 Public Events at Olbrich Botanical Gardens call 608-246-4550 for more info

Spring Flower Show: Dinosaurs & Daffodils, March 8 – 23, 10 – 4 daily,
 \$3 age 13 and up, \$2 age 3 – 12

Primrose (Primula) Sale, Saturday, March 8, 9 am – until sold out

Bolz Conservatory Closed for Maintenance, March 10 – 21

Cocktails in the Conservatory, Fri, March 21, 7 – 11 pm, \$6 admission; tropics, cocktails and DJ Trichrome

Spring Show Used Plant Sale, Monday, Mar 24, noon – 4 pm or until sold out

Winter Concert Series: Sundays, 2 – 3 pm unless noted

March 2 – **Lazydeadpoets**

March 9 – **First World Probl3ms**

March 16 – **Kicks for Kids: Duke Otherwise**

March 23 -- **Botanical Boogie** (w/ dance floor) 2 – 3:30 pm: **Funky Chunky Band**
(\$2 admission)

March 30 – **The Mascot Theory**

Education – March 2014 classes and programs 608/246-4550 for info/registration or visit www.olbrich.org

Wellness at the Gardens

Yoga, Mondays 5:30 pm – 6:45 pm and Thursdays 7:30 – 8:45 am (drop in OK)

Tai Chi Meditation, Mondays, Jan 27 – March 17, 6 – 7 pm

Garden Walk

Behind-the-Scenes Greenhouse Tour, Sat, Mar 1, 1 – 2:30 pm

Classes & Workshops for Adults

Pruning Pointers Workshop, Sat, Mar 1, 9 am – noon

Pastel Expressions: Celebrate Spring!, Sat, Mar 1, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Under-utilized Woody Plants for Wisconsin Landscapes, Tues, Mar 4, 6:30 – 8 pm

Permaculture Systems on Your Property, Thu, Mar 6, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Death by Chocolate Tea Party, Sat, Mar 8, 1:30 – 3:30 pm

Elements for a Pollinator's Paradise, Tues, Mar 11, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Gardening With Flowers for Drying, Wed, Mar 12, 6:30 – 8 pm

Pine Needle Basket Weaving Workshop, Sat, Mar 15, 10 am – 4 pm

Growing Unusual Fruit, Sat, Mar 15, 1 – 3 pm

How to Make Bentwood Trellises, Thu, Mar 20, 6:30 – 8 pm

Fruit Tree Grafting, Sat, Mar 22, 1 – 3 pm

Scionwood Exchange (Fruit Tree Grafting) Sat, Mar 22, 3 – 5 pm

Native Plants for Any Garden, Tues, Mar 25, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

All About Willow, Sat, Mar 29, 10 am – noon

Rustic Willow Trellis Workshop, Sat, Mar 29, 1 – 4:30 pm

Top Fifty Plants for Birds in Wisconsin, Sat, Mar 29, 1:30 – 3 pm

Learn & Play Together

I Wonder...? Series (grades K – 3 with adult)

How is Paper Made? Fri, Mar 7, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Toddler Story and Stroll: Rainforest Romp Series (ages 2 – 4 with adult)

Animals in the Rainforest, Tues, Mar 4, 10 – 11 am

Morning in the Rainforest, Sat, Mar 29, 8:30 – 9:30 am (Grades 1 – 5 with adult)

Roberta Sladky

Feb 28, 2014