

## Possible Funding Projects

11/12/2007

Planning Committee meeting on funding projects

[members present: Tom Kroll, Mary Kroll?, Sarah Gainey, Stephen Saupe, Tom Wick, Bob Russell, and Bruce Dickau]

The committee developed a list of potential projects and ranked them into groups by being either low, medium, or high need. The lists are summarized here from the sheets used at the meeting. The estimated cost is parentheses (\$\_\_\_) but it should be noted that some are firmer and others are a complete guess. Who volunteered to write up the information sheet for each project is listed at the end in brackets [i.e., Bruce D.].

### Highest Rank

- Boardwalk repair on the floats (\$50,000) We discussed this project and found it to be most directly related to our program. [Tom K.]
- Build a new bridge on the way to the Chapel. (\$40,000) [Tom K.]
- Stewardship of the land and what is needed to carry this out. The discussion said that it would be good to get an endowment for this area.
  - Restoration funding (\$15,000/yr.)
  - Exotic control
  - Equipment needs: brushmower (We now have it.), burn supplies, drip torches, etc.)
- Sugar Shack renovation (new building supplies) (\$50,000 total)
  - New evaporator
  - New building and supplies
  - Maple syrup interpretation signage (\$15,000 to 20,000) [Bob R. +Stephen S.]
- Dedicated fellow  
There was discussion at the end on how this position would work if the office manager position got funded. Since this is uncertain, I will bullet all the projects that we found that fit under it and put in parentheses the positions which may be funded.
  - Junior/senior high programming (\$25,000/yrs) EE Fellow??
  - Catalyst for more CSB/SJU student involvement – EE Fellow #2 [Sarah G. & Tom K.]
  - Arboretum organizer - EE Fellow #2
    - OLC
    - Build connections with OL
  - Challenge course Improvements – EE Fellow #2, We did not indicate if we ranked this high or not.
  - (full-time office coordinator (\$20,000) I am listing this here but this is the position, which may be funded.) [Tom K.]
  - (full-time person for ?? programming) (\$?)
- Biological Inventory - database, bioblitz (\$500,000) [Bob R. & Stephen S.]

- Various research projects
  - Winter deer inventory – (\$5,000) [Tom W, & Tom K,]
  - Studies of turkey deer interactions (\$?) [?]
  - Create permanent point counts for birds (AIBI), (\$2,500) [Bob R.]
  - Hire summer staff of biologist (graduate student) to help with some of the research. (\$?) [Bob R.]
- Transport dollars for students both Prek-12 and informal education using buses to reach the center. (\$?) [?] *There was a EEE a?? On the sheet but I was not certain of the writing and what was meant.*
- Update and develop new teaching trunks/kits (PreK-12)
  - Update current trunks that circulate
  - Update trunks in district 742 system
  - Nature backpacks (naturalists) [Bruce D.]
  - Shorebird ID and Water bird kits (\$1,000 each) [Bob R.]
  - Winter equipment (\$?) [Tom W.]
  - Water quality and soil testing kits – new with lesson plans testing kits (\$?) [Bruce D.]
- More limnological education and interpretation - [Bob R. & Bruce D.] These recommendations are to better utilize the different lakes and ponds that we have on the campus.
  - Adding a trunk on this in our current series for K-12. (\$?)
  - Underwater cameras/scopes (\$?)
  - Glass bottom boat or some means to get people to see what is happening under water. (\$?)
  - Interpretive signs (see signage note elsewhere) and an informational brochure.
- Teacher training workshops for the teachers in the area. This could cover in-service and preservice. (\$30,000/yrs.) [Bruce D.]
- Develop a SNAP like program to develop a sense of place and show that the environment is everywhere and does not only happen on EE center.
  - Traveling naturalist that goes to schools to help establish the environmental center on campus
- Summer program – nature play camp for 4, 5 & 6 and K-2 year olds (\$?) [Tom W.]
- More evaluation and assessment on the program – It was agreed that it should be focuses first on the PreK-12 program first and then on to other areas. It should be contracted out because of the time and expertise to carry this out. EEE Fellows could carry out the evaluations and do some data entry. (\$35,000) [Sarah G. & Bruce D.]
- Orientation for new college students (\$5,000 to 10,000) [Stephen S.]
- Ways of working more closely with faculty on campus.
  - Database of senior theses conducted in the arboretum
  - Database of faculty/class usage of the arboretum
  - Resource library/nature trails (\$20,000) [Bob R. & Sarah G.?)
- Develop publications and pamphlets with an aim toward marketing and funding (\$?) [Steve S.]

- Web cam for observing the lake, vultures, bald eagles, etc. and transmitted remotely using solar power. (\$?) [Mary R.]

#### Medium ranking

- Well with hand pump in the Watab picnic area
- Interpretive signage – Besides what is needed at the Maple Sugar Shack, one down by the lake shore. This would include signage at the trail head to the chapel. [Tom K.]
- Seed bank, a repository for local seed from trees, prairie, and other wild flowers. This would be confined to an area around St. Johns. Is this within our mission or not? Pass to this project on to the Strategic Planning Committee.
- Career days (\$1,000/yr)
- Big Tree Program (\$6,000 capital) [Tom K. & Bob R.]
- Supplies for library/WACOSA type programming (\$1000/yr)

#### Lowest Ranking

- Build a bridge across the end of Stumpf lake to complete a circle trail. (\$30,000) This is low in priority but it should be done while the landowner on that end is still feeling amenable to its completion. [Tom K.]
- Visitor's Center (s) with facilities – It needs more discussion about where it/they should go on campus. It was decided that it should be handled by the Strategic Planning committee. There were some items that were associated with it.
  - Adult Education Center - Could this be a focus for an endowment? (\$?)
  - Log building school – educational building (\$?)
  - Recreate a pioneer “old days” building (\$?)
- Campus shuttle - Tom had priced trailer that was built for this purpose. (\$9,000) [?]
- Heritage varieties of trees (i.e., apples) vegetables, and/or flowers; nature landscaping examples Hold this project until Tom K. has a chance to talk to the head of grounds and eventually on to the Strategic Planning Committee.

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These were topics that were not put into the regular rankings. In some cases it was because we were putting it off to the strategic planning committee or for some other further study.

- Tighten ties with Environmental Studies (i.e., required fieldwork) This is under way.
- Gift store – several ideas were bounced around as a source of fund raising and PR. This should be sent to the Strategic Planning Committee.
  - Calendar
  - On-line store
  - Forest products equivalent of pottery on campus – this is part of marketing.
- Woodshop connection/wood education - This was not considered in the final ranking discussion.
- Having a mountain bike course [Tom will research this possible project.]

- Database of senior theses of research done in the Arboretum.
- Develop external rewards by setting up a system of passports, seals, stamps, etc. that would indicate that they completed some particular activity.

Submitted by Bruce Dickau

11/14/07