

Minutes of the Arboretum Advisory Council

Monday, December 1, 1997

Members Present: Mr. Gordon Bailey, Mr. Gary Deason, Mrs. Nancy Diedrich, Mrs. Dorothy Johnson, Fr. John Kulas, Mr. Scott May, Ms. Janette Monear, Mr. Peter Olin, Mrs. Sarah Pruet, Mr. Ron Weinholt, Fr. Paul Schwietz, Chair.

Members Absent: Dr. Gordon Brown, Dr. Cheryl Knox,

Meeting Summary: Developed a Vision and Mission Statement. Dr. Clark Hendley talked to us about the financial connection with the University. We formed three committees which will meet before the next board meeting.

Mission and Vision. Mrs. Linda Marrin was present to help us work on the Vision and Mission Statements. After a discussion of how the mission statement developed and difference between a vision and mission statement, Linda divided the members into three groups. The groups discussed and recorded their comments before joining together to construct a new Vision and mission statements based on the original mission. Linda was very helpful in facilitating the process which resulted in the following:

Saint John's Arboretum celebrates the distinctiveness of God's creation in Central Minnesota by fostering environmental respect, knowledge and land stewardship in the Benedictine tradition.

Our mission is to:

- model sustainable stewardship practices incorporating native and introduced plants**
- provide opportunities for education and research**
- preserve native plant and wildlife communities**
- provide environment for spiritual renewal**

Finances

Dr. Clark Hendley joined us to talk about the University financial aspect of the Arboretum. The salary of the director will be totally covered by the Provost in three years. They have funded an office budget of \$600.00, which they hope to be able to develop further. He sees funding coming from various other sources, such as EMPC and Strategic initiatives. This year the arboretum was funded with \$12,000.00 through these.

Clark also noted other opportunities, such as joint abbey and university funding of some projects like the oak savanna restoration. The institution has committed itself to contributing \$5,000.00 per year for three years to cover the restoration of 15 acres.

In addition to these sources, there are special anonymous sources of funding for less than \$5,000.00 at a time. Fr. Paul said that he has put in a grant request to Dayton Hudson for \$27,000.00 which would cover the kiosk, entrance and planting of an additional six acres of prairie. We would have a safe entrance for buses and eliminate most vehicular traffic from the prairie.

Committees: We decided to form three committees to develop ideas and action plans to bring to the full Council. Members indicated their preference and chairs were elected. .

Education Committee:

The members are: Gordon Brown-chair, Cheryl Knox, Nancy Diedrich, Gary Deason, John Kulas, Sarah Pruett, and Paul Schwietz. Janette Monear offered to be a resource. The areas of the education committee are:

- K - 12
- Prep School
- University
- Adults (private landowners)

Management and Restoration Committee:

The members are: Tom Kroll, Peter Olin, Ron Weinholt, Paul Schwietz-chair.

Fundraising and Publicity Committee:

The members are: Dorothy Johnson -chair, Gordon Bailey, Scott May, Janette Monear, and Paul Schwietz.

Next Meeting--Monday, February 9, 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Agenda for the meeting is to review the goals and objectives of the committees.

Concentrate on the next 12 months. Linda Marrin will facilitate this meeting.

Additional Meetings for the year:

April 6, June 1; August 2, October 5; December 7

Respectfully submitted:

Paul Schwietz, O.S.B.