

Minutes of the Arboretum Advisory Council November 10, 1999

NEXT MEETING: Wed, 2/2/2000 @ 2pm

Members present: Bob Ellenbecker, David Hartwell, Dorothy Johnson, Tom Kroll, Linda Marrin, Scott May, Janette Monear, Fr. Paul Schwietz, Ron Weinhold

Members absent: Gordon Bailey, Fr. John Kulas, Peter Olin

The meeting was called to order at 2:20 p.m.

The minutes of the August 1 - 2, 1999 retreat meeting were approved.

1. \$50,000 Match Grant from Gordon and Jo Bailey:

Office position: Bailey \$50,000 donation generated suggestion of office person & KECK grant for environmental education, combining responsibilities to create a full-time position. We need a \$50,000 match, the grant and match will cover 3 years salary for the position. Janette proposed we consider an educator to fill the position. **Scott will revise the job description to incorporate environmental education responsibilities.**

Matching Dollars: **Fr. Paul will check to see how the Bailey grant money is to be released** (eg: dollars per year, time relative to matching funds) We discussed methods to raise the match dollars, small fundraisers (plant sales) or major donations. **Fr. Paul to identify potential donors from past donors and consider current member potential, Dayton's.** Will SJU help write grants?

2. Tours:

Just under 650 student (K-12) have used some of the new curriculum. One group of 7th and 8th graders spent 2 days at the arboretum and it went very well.

Winter programs need definition. First off we need to decide if we want to run year-round. If so, need program identification, dollars and integrate into plan. Suggestions:

- Tours during maple syruping or logging.
- Snowshoe tours
- Cross-country skiing
- Full and ½ day curriculum by season
- Get hats and gloves to keep on hand for the kids
- JHS and HS summer camps for service projects and college connection, SJP considering addition of environmental unit to summer camp programs, **Bob will connect with Fr. Paul to explore integration**

3. Education Committee Update

Curriculum activities have been completed for K-4 and 5 -8 for Woodlands, Wetlands and Prairies. Activities include classroom and field options, committee will continue to grow the curriculum. The field activities worked out well this fall.

David and Ron will send curriculum samples to Bob.

4. Land Management

The land management committee desire to get consultant forester for green certification is moving ahead. Local forester, Don Peterson, completed an informative regeneration survey and will be meeting about these results and a management plan.

5. Strategic Plan

- ❑ LAND: All 2,500 acres at Saint John's were designated the arboretum at its establishment. However, there are different goals for managing and using the land: i.e. the product block, the habitat restoration project, the inner campus...
Suggestion: Include map identifying areas available totally, for education only and limited (seasonal, monastery, etc.)
- ❑ COMMITTEES: Need to finalize plans and related dollar needs for completing draft plan by February. **Any member with ideas for additional appendices should contact Fr. Paul by 12/31.**
- ❑ EDUCATION: Needs a place for supplies. Suggestions- short-term needs might be met by a metal or tuff-stuff storage shed, mid-term needs might be met by a trailer with an education and storage building as the long term plan. Education and land management need to ensure the programs and any building planned are created in conjunction with land plans.
- ❑ LAND ACQUISITION: The impact of development in the area was discussed. We want to create and publicize a "preserve" design to impact what happens around us to help protect what's here. Plan should include study, recommendation and education in this area.
- ❑ The advisory council decided to add a **Community Outreach Committee**. Their mission is: How to get people here!!
- ❑ **Janette and David** volunteered and will meet to develop the Outreach plan, including contact of Community Ed coordinators, County conservation, DNR, Soil & Water, etc. They will work with also need to work closely with the education committee on promoting curriculum beyond the educational community with ideas such as CEUs for teachers, getting the curriculum on the internet, etc.
- ❑ We will attempt to get the plan in draft form for the finalization at the February meeting so we have a working plan we can use for project identification, presentations and grant applications. We will discuss progress and updates to plan at future meetings.

Submitted by Linda Marrin, Fundraising & P.R. committee serving as meeting assistant for the 1999 meetings.