

Saint John's Arboretum Advisory Council Meeting
Monday, June 13, 2011, 1:30-5:30 PM
Natural History Museum, Saint John's Abbey and University

Council Present: Tom Haeg, Bob Russell, Scott Daninger, Kari Dresow, Greg Miller,
Emily Franklin, Mike Connolly, Terri Barreiro, John
Benschoter

Staff Present: Sarah Gainey, Tom Kroll, John O'Reilly, Stephanie Theobald, Hannah
Froehling

Welcome and brief introductions/updates:

- I. Administration – Tom/Sarah/John
 - a. No Internal Fellow for FY12
 - i. Partnering with Anita for two 1 year AmeriCorps promise fellows
 - ii. Find out for sure in September
 - iii. Leads to a need for new definition of responsibilities for fellows, full-time staff, and student staff.
 - iv. Applicants would go through Sarah and Tom for hiring process
 - b. OLC PRP ARB partnership this year
 - i. Big success
 - ii. The three organizations continue to partner over the summer. Both OLC employees are part time in the office and part time helping the land management crew.
 - c. Logic Model
 - i. Membership is stable or partly up
 - ii. Funding has increased
 - iii. Long term goals similar to last year
 - d. Nature Conservancy on Campus
 - i. 2 Federal work study positions offer \$6000 to CSB | SJU students
 - ii. Want to move in by September 1
 - iii. Have an office lined up on campus but need warm storage shop- considering Avon and St. Joe
 - e. Maps
 - i. Been out of stock for a year
 - ii. Next model will have more information printed on the back as well as an inset of ski-trails
 - f. Office Space
 - i. Possible new ENVR professor in the future
 - ii. Long-term Arboretum may need to move offices to allow for more professors
- II. Motion by Tom Haeg- Tom's Sabbatical or Work Study
 - a. No current budget for it. Letter to Abbot has been drafted.
 - b. Tom would take 3-4 weeks to spend time in Japan to learn and add value to his work.
 - c. Benefit three groups
 - i. Abbey in Collegeville
 - ii. Arboretum

- iii. Abbey at Fu Jimi
 - d. More research charged to Tom Haeg
 - i. Find out more on rules for taking Sabbaticals. Will draft a letter to the Abbot to be sent to the Arb Council for approval at a later date.
 - ii. Will look into what Tom can offer to Japan that would encourage Fu Jimi to bring him there
- III. CSB/SJU Education – John
 - a. Highlights
 - i. Increase with CSB collaboration i.e. green bike program
 - ii. Successful leadership development
 - iii. Very successful fundraising for events.
 - b. Challenges for next year
 - i. Adding leadership development component to CSB | SJU and Community Ed. Logic Model
 - ii. Improving relationship with IWL and Women’s Expeditions
 - iii. Looking for new and better model for PRP to incorporate the new challenges
 - c. Logic Model revisions
 - i. Change the language for output numbers to delineate between events/education and outreach/advertising events.
 - ii. Change the language from “arboretum” to “environmental” and “leadership” to encompass all the services provided.
 - iii. Change contact 10% of faculty to contact one department, i.e. bio department, a year.
 - iv. Still questioning how many trips the organization wants to shoot for.
 - v. Input about leadership goal for logic model taken.
 - d. Looking forward to using student surveys and Student Voice to get a better idea about how the Arb is reaching people.
- IV. Fundraising – Tom
 - a. Membership donations increased
 - b. No new Grants this year- turned down by a few
 - c. Frugal staff led to \$40K-50K roll forward for next FY
 - d. Of the \$500K, \$300K is from the institutions
 - e. Looking toward ensuring bus program remains
 - f. Reserve Money
 - i. Not for Tom’s potential sabbatical
 - ii. Save it up to a certain point then start to use it for prioritized necessities.
- V. PR & Membership – Tom
 - a. Online market place established
 - i. Student IDs can no longer be used for events t-shirts etc.
 - ii. Now registration will be paid online or through new CSB | SJU debit cards
 - iii. Senior memberships
 - 1. This year sold pilsners with memberships (20 students)
 - 2. Next year will sell a unique Bresnahan mug for graduating seniors. Possibly cost \$20.12

VI. Community Education – John

- a. Highlights (See Ed. Committee agenda)
- b. Avon hills conference
 - i. Loss of funding
 - ii. Possible name change? Addition of Arboretum?
 - iii. Nature Conservancy as a possible partner or sponsor
 - iv. John will work this year to find local sponsors to keep the cost lower. May also use roll over funds to give members a discount on the cost.

VII. Lands – Tom

- a. CAP X 2020
 - i. Final committee meeting voted 4 to 0 to follow the administrative law judge's decision
 - ii. Now called the St. John's diversion (Route G)
 - iii. Follows the township line
- b. Forester Conference
 - i. June 2012
 - ii. To study the old-growth oaks
- c. Oak protection
 - i. New Project
 - ii. 15 acres in 4 units to be fenced to protect from deer
- d. Chapel trail
 - i. On going project
 - ii. Hit another hurdle-no foundation
- e. New Syrup Pan
 - i. \$15,000 from Abbey
 - ii. To be purchased; currently in the research stage
- f. Ski Trails
 - i. Nordic changed from varsity to club.
 - ii. The snowmobile for grooming is now broken
 1. Could borrow from nature conservancy
 2. Could invest in tracks for tractor but \$40,000
 3. Athletic department has full responsibility but Arb will help to insure good trails for community members.
 - iii. Ski team members will offer ski lesson days to community members
- g. Three pairs of nesting loons and five chicks
 - i. Another loon study taking place on campus
 - ii. Big John needs a new battery
- h. Birding survey to be taken this month
- i. Land Management
 - i. Arb was approved for last easement from LCMR
 - ii. Called the MAPLE process
- j. Gypsy Moths
 - i. Thinning oaks for their arrival
 - ii. Historically take 30% of the old-growth oaks
 - iii. Currently in Duluth with an advance rate of 3-15 miles per year
- k. No news on the wind turbine

VIII. preK-12 Education – Sarah

a. Successes

- i. Served 8232 kids with a high quality product
- ii. Being creative and flexible to address the needs to the teachers
 1. Science of sledding class for 5th graders
 2. Nature Journaling for 2nd graders
 3. Digital Photography- Digital Bridge
- iii. 6th grade Prep School
 1. Biomimicry unit- Sarah in the Classroom
 2. Entered National Conference, Winning group in class (Cozy Paws Boot)
- iv. Expanded horizons from mainly K thru 5 to pre-K thru 7th and 8th grade.

b. Challenges

- i. Expanding the season for next year
 1. Encouraging teachers to come at less popular times- early September and during the winter
 2. Not enough staff, time, or space to hold more kids at the same time
- ii. May need to start to reserve spaces on calendar for returning teachers and ISD 742 classes
- iii. Transportation dollars
 1. 70% of teacher responses say bus money is crucial
 2. Sarah and Jenny presented in Rochester about buy-a-bus program

c. Priorities for next year

- i. Pre and post testing in classrooms
- ii. Quarterly upcoming events for teachers
- iii. Getting two Promise Fellows or getting contracted helpers

IX. General discussion and wrap-up

a. Student movements for Greenhouses

- i. On both campuses
- ii. To grow food for campus
- iii. May require increase in awareness within student body about the effort it takes to upkeep our standard of land.

X. Next Meeting October 3rd 2011