

MINUTES
JENSEN-OLSON ARBORETUM ADVISORY BOARD
Mendenhall Library, Conference Room | Wednesday, February 21, 5:15 P.M.

I. Call to Order at 5:25 by Chair, Ed Buyarski

Present: Kristin Bartlett, Ed Buyarski, Shawn Eisele, Kim Garnero (t), Patricia Harris, Deborah Rudis

Absent: Peter Froehlich, Nell McConahey

Staff Present: Merrill Jensen, Arboretum Manager; Lauren Verrelli, P&R Staff Liaison

II. Agenda Changes – None.

III. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items – None.

IV. Approval of Minutes –

- A. November 8, 2017:** K. Garnero moves to approve the minutes, no objection. *Minutes adopted.*

V. New Business –

A. M54 Toilets at Arboretum

D. Rudis: I spoke to M54 who created Eaglecrest's compost toilet up at the Nest; if we want a standalone building with a single toilet, it will be \$24k plus all the exterior additions which would drive it up to \$30k. It would be waterless.

M. Jensen: My concern with composting toilets is the temperature of the soil. I have been looking at another vendor which is a little cheaper but you have to have a concrete slab for it to sit on with annual pumping (not compost). We're looking to put this in near the little parking area by the garage.

S. Eisele: The ones that are made with structurally insulate panels (SIPs) generally fail in Juneau. So we would want to buy the toilet infrastructure and then find someone local to build the structure without SIPs.

E. Buyarski: It would be good to look into how much we're spending on pumping out the current porta-potty and see if those funds could be used.

M. Jensen: The solar panels on the roof are for a fan for circulation but ours is going to be located in a shady space so the solar panels would be placed on the garage roof.

E. Buyarski: I appoint Deb, Pat and Merrill to do further research on these toilets.

B. 2017 Annual Report

Board approves 2017 Annual Report with Merrill's additions and Merrill will be presenting to the HRC on March 5, 2018.

VI. Unfinished Business –

A. CBJ Finance Report on Endowment in Juneau Community Foundation

Moved to next meeting.

B. Arboretum Rental Money

K. Garnero: A 25% allocation of the rental money could go into the emergency repair fund which would be around \$3K per year.

E. Buyarski: Do you see any needed repairs coming?

M. Jensen: What I would like to propose to the Board is the kitchen is in need of some repair work. The plumbing is outdated and Building Maintenance came out and

assessed it; materials are going to cost around \$14k. I propose we take leftover money from the parking lot & sunroom construction which will be about \$60,000 that would be going back into the endowment and putting some of it towards the kitchen remodel. Ideally, construction would start in August this year.

K. Bartlett: I move to direct leftover rental money from current Arboretum construction projects in conjunction with other funds the City has to contribute go towards the kitchen remodel and the remaining go into the endowment.

All in favor; motion passes.

C. Commercial Use Update

M. Jensen: We are still waiting for the Land Trust attorney to sign off on it. We should have something drafted in the next month or two for us to take to the Visitor Bureau.

VII. Committee Liaison and Staff Reports

A. Chair Report: Attend Haines Gardening Conference.

B. Manager's Report: *Included in packet.*

C. Friends of JOA –

P. Harris: As of February 2018, pledges received through Pick-Click-Give is \$450. Having a hard time getting new board members; looking into an alternative structure for the Friends of JOA.

VIII. Other business— None.

Adjournment – 6:21 p.m. *Having no further business before the Board.*

Respectfully submitted, Lauren Verrelli, Administrative Assistant II, 5/22/2018.