



To: CBJ Assembly Human Resources Committee

From: Ed Buyarski, Chair
Jensen-Olson Arboretum Advisory Board

Date: January 28, 2019

Subject: Jensen-Olson Arboretum (JOA) Advisory Board 2018 Annual Report

This Annual Report contains a recap in four parts: infrastructure, education, outreach, and plant collection. JOA hosted approximately 9,500 visitors in 2018.

Infrastructure – staff and volunteers made significant time commitments toward infrastructure projects in 2018 resulting in the following: completion of the new parking lot (begun in Fall 2017); completion of the long-overdue sunroom renovation to address maintenance concerns; completion of the new visitor access trail with gate (many thanks to CBJ staff, Trail Mix personnel, and volunteers); completion of the new entry court to coincide with the visitor access trail; completion of re-graveling Pt. Caroline Trail. Additionally, infrastructure projects included initial construction on the new visitor information entry panel located near the parking lot as well as initial research into installation of a permanent restroom. The visitor entry panel will be complete in Spring 2019, and the restroom is likely to be installed later this year. Funds for all of these projects came from a variety of sources including Arboretum general funds, Friends of Jensen Olson Arboretum, donations from other organizations, private donors, and future possible grant awards (restroom).

Education – JOA expanded its children’s program offerings serving ~ 72 kids in 2018 including a sold-out BugDay! event; JOA co-hosted the American Primrose Society’s National Show and Conference with 65 attendees including visitors from across North America; JOA docents (now in the third year of the docent program) contributed over 150 hours of volunteer time greeting and interacting with visitors throughout the season; as funding allows, interpretive signage and visitor information is added throughout the Arboretum.

Outreach – the JOA Director made presentations to multiple Juneau civic groups highlighting history and plant collections; JOA hosted multiple Juneau School District field visits as well as visits from Discovery Southeast, Montessori, and SAIL. JOA continues to partner with researchers and seed exchanges throughout the world through its plant collections.

Plant Collection – JOA continues to hold the National Collection for the genus *Primula* and makes the collection available for research and education; our plant collections database, IrisBG, is regularly updated; bear damage during the Fall to many of the specimen trees will result in removal of 4 -5 trees leaving an opportunity for new, non-bear-attracting plant material; The Word Garden suffered catastrophic plant loss during the freeze-thaw cycles of Winter 2017 resulting in assessment and replacement during 2018.

Resolution of the Commercial Use Policy is still in progress pending final approval from CBJ Law.

Ed Buyarski
Jensen-Olson Arboretum Advisory Board, Chair

Attachment: 2018 Attendance Record

JENSEN-OLSON ARBORETUM ADVISORY BOARD ATTENDANCE 2018

*LEGEND: **A** – Absent / **P** – Present / **P(t)** Present telephonically*

	2/21/18	5/9/18	8/8/18	12/5/18
Ed Buyarski, Chair Appt: 4/2007	P	P	P	P
Kristin Bartlett Appt: 8/2015	P	P	P	P
Shawn Eisele Appt: 11/2014	P	P	P	P
Peter Froehlich Appt: 4/2010	A	A	A	P
Kim Garnero Appt: 2/2011	P(t)	P	P	P
Patricia Harris Appt: 4/2007	P	P	A	P
Nell McConahey Vice-Chair Appt: 11/2014	A	P	P	P
Deborah Rudis Appt: 10/2009	P	P	P	P
Catherine "Rose" Evans Appt: 10/2018				P