

Red Butte Garden Advisory Board Meeting
Wednesday, May 10, 2023, 3:30 PM
Visitor Center Classroom

Present: David Classen, Kym Buttschardt, Curt Crowther, Lisa Andruess, Troy Aramburu, Erin Armstrong, Shaleane Gee, Greg Graham, Sarah Jack Hanners, Lindee Nance, David Reymann, Jamie Rubin, Laura Snow, JoLynda Stillman, Vicki Varela, Kamrin Wilson

Absent: Steve Barth, Sandi Behnken, Brandi Bosworth, Jeff Herring, Beverly Vargo

Staff in Attendance: Derrek Hanson, Natalie Cope, Eddy Dawson, Kristin Gelegotis, Sam Gluck, Tristin Tabish, Marita Tewes Tyrolt

- I. Approval of Advisory Board Minutes from February 8, 2023.
A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes.
- II. Committee Reports
 - a. Nominating Committee
The Committee has begun to identify candidates, and they ask that bios for prospective members be sent to them before they meet again in June. There are two Board members rolling off this term that we will want to replace. For those worried about the \$2,500 contribution, this does not have to be a direct donation from the member, and can be worked out in trade, etc.
 - b. 40th Anniversary Committee
The first meeting was spent discussing what the 40th Anniversary Celebration will be about: the evolution of the garden and its future hopes. A wide range of constituents will be invited to the celebrations, including former board members, donors, University of Utah students and faculty, people who are familiar with the Garden, plant lovers, and potential new visitors.
 - c. Planning Committee
The Garden is currently working on a strategic plan, a master plan, a Visitor Center upgrade plan, and multiple construction projects. At their first meeting the committee focused on interpretive signage, and how the Garden can best implement signs with multiple languages.
- III. ZAP Preservation Committee
The Zoo, Arts, and Parks (ZAP) Program tax will be on the ballot in 2024, and many Salt Lake City cultural institutions fund the lobbyists who support this initiative. The amount each institution contributes is based on how much they receive from the tax, and will be higher this year since it is on the ballot – our portion is \$15k. This donation can count towards your annual Garden commitment, and Kym will send another follow up email with details for those interested.

IV. Finance Report

At the end of Q3 of Fiscal Year 2022-23, Red Butte Garden has an apparent operating surplus of about \$433k. The overall decrease compared to FY 2021-22 can be attributed to a general increase in operational expenses, repaving the Visitor Center parking lot, a design review to expand the Visitor Center lobby, the Shuttered Venue Operators grant received last year, and increases in staffing & compensation.

V. Executive Director Update

a. Concerts

Since tickets went on sale on April 24th, we have sold out 17 shows, and 85% of the whole season. Etix did unfortunately glitch during the first on sale, which turned out to be a bug in the back end of their system. This was a frustrating experience for our first wave of guests, but the issue was fixed before the next sale date.

b. New Positions

We have filled two positions that have been on our wish list for quite a while: Arborist and Interpretation & Exhibits Manager. Charlie Perington, our new Arborist, has an associate's degree in Greenhouse Management, and worked as a Certified Arborist for seven years in Minnesota. Sarah Sandoval, our new Interpretation & Exhibits Manager, has held many positions at the Garden over the years – most recently that of School Programs Manager.

c. Projects

The service road project was finally put out to bid, and we had four contractors come take a look, but unfortunately none were interested. We did put it back out to bid yesterday to three new contractors, and they have until Tuesday to let us know if they would like to take on the project.

We are also working on repairing the Children's Garden fountain, since the underground vault where all of the controls are located flooded during the last big storm. The repair is taking longer than anticipated because we are having trouble getting the needed parts.

VI. Staff Reports

There were no questions on the Staff Reports.

Adjournment 4:42pm.