

Red Butte Garden Advisory Board Meeting  
Wednesday, May 11, 2022, 3:30 PM  
Visitor Center Classroom

Present: Tory Magleby, David Classen, Troy Aramburu, Erin Armstrong, Sandi Behnken, Brandi Bosworth, Curt Crowther, David Reymann, Laura Snow, JoLynda Stillman, Beverly Vargo

Absent: Kym Buttschardt, Jeff Herring, Kristy Larsen, Ron Motzkus, Lindee Nance, Steve Price, Jamie Rubin, Selma Sierra, David Gee

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

I. Introduction of New Members

Two new members joined the Board this year: Jamie Rubin and Beverly Vargo. Due to the irregular timing of this election cycle, their terms will roll back to a November 2021 start.

II. Approval of Advisory Board Minutes from February 9, 2022.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes.

III. Advisory Board Chair Announcements

a. Nominating Committee

New members will be voted on at the November meeting. Board members were asked to send in nominations, including a bio, by October 1<sup>st</sup>.

b. Committees

In an effort to increase Board effectiveness and engagement, the Executive Committee is planning to bring back sub-committees, as well as redefine Board member responsibilities.

IV. Executive Director Announcements

a. New Director of Events and Guest Services

Derrek introduced Tristin Tabish, the Garden's new Director of Events and Guest Services. Tristin was previously the Executive Director at KRCL.

b. Plant Sale

This year's Plant Sale grossed \$190k, breaking the record from 2019. This year timed admission was introduced for the first day of the sale, which was a huge hit with shoppers as it allowed for a much more leisurely experience.

c. Concerts

The upcoming concert season is already 92% sold, with 18 of the shows completely sold out – all before the first concert has even happened. Etix did crash for about a half hour during the presale, which we believe was due to the overwhelming demand for tickets this year.

V. Projects Update

a. Children's Garden

The Children's Garden wall should be completed next week, however the interactive fountain flooded during the recent storms and will not open back up. With supply chain issues we are looking at a long lead time to even get the parts needed for repair, so there is no current estimate for it to reopen.

b. Sprinkler System

Installation has just finished on an advanced new sprinkler system, which will collect water usage & other data that wasn't previously tracked. We are hoping this system will allow us to decrease water usage by at least 25%.

c. Fire Access Road

Our next big project will be paving the fire access road that connects to the Water Conservation Garden. During that process we are planning to put a water diversion system under the road, that will direct water to areas it is needed & prevent the frequent flooding in the Children's Garden.

VI. Finance Report

At the end of Quarter 3, Fiscal Year 2021-22, Red Butte Garden has an apparent operating surplus of \$4.38M, in large part from receiving the Shuttered Venues Operators Grant. This grant had to be spent by the end of 2021, however it offset many of our expenses, which contributed to the current surplus. Some of that money will go back into new projects, and some is being added monthly to quasi-endowments.

VII. Staff Reports

a. Summer Camps

Curt asked how Summer Camps are looking this year. Eddy Dawson, Programs Director, let him know that they are currently all sold out, however we are having some trouble hiring seasonal workers. It was pointed out that this is an issue across all RBG departments, not just Programs.

Board members mentioned that the University of Utah qualifications on some of the postings may be discouraging to applicants, as well as the lack of public transportation access.

Adjournment 4:35PM, after which Advisory Board members were invited to the grand opening of the Six Bridges Trail.