

# FULLERTON ARBORETUM COMMISSION

MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
June 13, 2018  
-DRAFT-

*Approved  
9-12-18*

The 191<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Fullerton Arboretum Commission was held in the Pavilion Classroom at the Fullerton Arboretum.

Commissioners present: Greg Saks, RJ Stager, Kari Knutson-Miller, and Doug Chaffee

Others Present: Gregory Dyment, Director  
Gregory Pongetti, Living Collections Curator  
Marta McDaniel, Recorder  
Miguel Macias, Education Manager  
Kathie Kingett, Friends President  
Harriet Bouldin, Development Manager  
Mary Dalessi, Friends Boardmember  
Christopher Swarat, Interim A.V.P., EIP  
Christopher Reese, Ex. Dir., Corporate & Community Outreach  
Tami Bui, A.V.P., Government & Community Relations

Commissioner Saks called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

No public comments.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Action Item: Approve Minutes of March 14, 2018 - Saks**

President Saks asked for approval of the March 14, 2018 minutes.

**MSC – Minutes accepted and approved unanimously.**

### **2. Review: 2017-2018 Financial Worksheets - McDaniel**

Financial worksheets reviewed page by page.  
(Exhibit A)

### **3. President's Report – Saks**

Saks said President Virjee attended a welcome reception at the Arboretum and also Green Scene to meet staff and experience events at the garden. With the JPA coming to an end in 2020, many discussions will take place on how to proceed from here and President Virjee appreciates all the feedback. Currently, the Arboretum falls under Extended International Programs (EIP). Christopher Swarat has asked Dymont to set goals that align the Arboretum with EIP and the university. Saks highlighted a couple of points from Swarat's memo regarding Arboretum Operations Plan:

- Continued accreditation of the Arboretum;
- Continued engagement by the Arboretum with faculty, staff, and student research and immersive experiences;
- Maintenance of the Arboretum's public accessibility so that it can be enjoyed by many and future generations to come;

These Arboretum goals need to be accomplished in a timely manner.  
(Exhibit B)

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **4. Director's Report – Dymont**

Dymont introduced Christopher Swarat, Interim Associate Vice President of Extended International Programs, Christopher Reese, Executive Director, Corporate & Community Outreach and Tami Bui, Associate Vice President, Government & Community Relations

Dymont said we want to be involved with the master plan. Between now and mid-August, the Arboretum will put everything down on paper because not everyone knows what goes on at the Arboretum. Many are not aware of how much campus involvement we already do. We will brainstorm on what we will do to resolve the loss of income from our partner. These exercises will be intense and a lot of work. We expect to submit goals at the end of the year and plan on presenting an update on progress at the September Commission meeting.

Saks said he is excited about the journey and stated that the university was very lucky to have such an awesome resource.

Dymont said the Phelps Foundation donated twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) for the purchase of an electric 8 passenger cart.

Dymont said in mid-March the Eco-Counter was installed at the front gate. The counter allows us to collect valuable data on visitor numbers and times.

(Exhibit C)

Dyment said the Steward of Place event allowed for the presentation of 2 scholarships in the amount of twelve hundred (\$1200) each. Dr. John Carroll is head of the scholarship committee. He was responsible for choosing the recipients. Doug Chaffee was on hand to make the presentations.

## **5. Grounds Report – Pongetti**

Pongetti demonstrated how to find the *Aloe pillansii* plant on the interactive map via Arboretum website. The Aloe is on the endangered plant list. Last April, the Aloe flowered and with the help of Ed Reed, CSUF Biology, pollen was collected and exchanged with Petra Crist of Rare Succulents Nursery in Fallbrook which also had a flowering *Aloe pillansii*. Our plant was pollinated and the fruits are maturing. Seed from pollination will help towards removing the Aloe from the endangered list. This exercise in conservation and collaboration is part of why the Arboretum achieved Level IV accreditation.

Pongetti said we were contacted by Dr Jesse Bellemare, Smith College and Dr. Dov Sax, Brown College, who are gathering information from botanic gardens about reproduction and survival of plants outside of their native range and how they adapt to climate change. They found the Arboretum through Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) Plantsearch. A site visit from one of their research technicians was conducted in early June. The technician examined the condition of 9 species, gathering data on reproduction and survival. The technician also visited other gardens in San Diego, Rancho, Huntington and L.A. County. This was another opportunity to collaborate.

## **6. Friends Report – Kingett**

Kingett said we've had a busy spring with a successful Veggiepalooza in March and Green Scene in April. Both event exceeded expectations.

We attended the Master Planning event on campus on May 3 and plan to continue to be represented in that process.

We have accepted three new board members: Fran Colwell, Scott Hewitt and Marti Landry. They will add depth and expertise to our board.

We had successful events with the Victorian Tea and Mother's Day Brunch in May. Next is the Summer Solstice, Party in the Garden this weekend. The event

has been modernized with chefs staffing food and drink stations around Heritage House. This year the Golden Oak award presentation will be to Pat and Tony Florentine.

Summer will wind up with Brews and Blues on August 18<sup>th</sup>. While not a big revenue event, it does bring in about 700 young people to the garden.

## OTHER BUSINESS

## ADJOURNMENT

Saks adjourned the meeting at 3:49 p.m.  
The next Commission meeting will be held Wednesday, September 12, 2018

Lucinda Williams, Fullerton City Clerk and  
Secretary for the Fullerton Arboretum Commission

By Marta McDaniel

Marta McDaniel, Administrative Analyst and  
Recording Secretary for the Fullerton Arboretum Commission  
Exhibit A: Financial Worksheets ending April 2018  
Exhibit B: June 5, 2018 Memo Re Arboretum Operations Plan  
Exhibit C: Eco-Counter Report 6/13/2018