

Red Butte Garden Advisory Board Meeting
Wednesday, February 10, 2021, 3:30 PM
Online Meeting

Present: Jimmy Turner, Kym Buttschardt, David Classen, Erin Armstrong, Sandi Behnken, Curt Crowther, David Gee, Jeff Herring, Kristy Larsen, Selma Sierra, Laura Snow, JoLynda Stillman

Absent: Tory Magleby, Troy Aramburu, Brandi Bosworth, Ron Motzkus, Lindee Nance, Steve Price, David Reymann, Kathleen Riebe

Staff in attendance: Dion Duffin, Kristin Gelegotis, Derrek Hanson, Yasmine Jarvis

I. Approval of Advisory Board Minutes from November 11, 2020.
A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes.

II. Finance Committee Report

a. Audit Report

Auditor Jason Wheeler from our contracted auditing company Squire and Co. presented the audit findings. He commended Kristin and other staff for their detailed work. The audit is conducted annually to satisfy ZAP recipient requirements.

No material weaknesses were found during this audit, nor significant deficiencies. Over the years, challenges have arisen with reporting restricted net assets, which is a result of our relationship with the University of Utah. Reporting recommendations have changed over the years which has made tracking difficult as well. As in previous years, the Garden uses a modified cash basis for reporting. The pandemic has caused a decrease in revenues; however, management has taken action to remedy that. The Garden may consider alternate plans in the future to diversify income sources. Details can be found in the Management's Discussion Analysis.

Also provided by the auditors is the Governance Letter. It contains required communications, including significant estimates and financial statement disclosures.

b. Budget Report

Kym recommends that Board Members read the financial summary as it shows how staff in all departments have responded creatively to the dramatically reduced income caused by the pandemic. Individual and annual gifts increased \$12,000 and \$78,000, respectively. The Garden is at about a

\$405,000 deficit, which is impressive considering the circumstances. The Operating Cash Balance is \$1.3 million, which can keep staff paid for another year.

III. Executive Director Update

a. Grants

The Garden has had a banner year for grants and government income, receiving over \$2,275,000. The Shuttered Venues Operating Grant may be able to give the Garden up to 45% of the total loss, possibly up to \$3 million.

b. Board Nominations

Nominations have been put on hold for the moment. The Executive Committee felt it was, and the bylaws allows us the keep the number of Board members.

c. Concerts

Many acts who were scheduled last year are planning to tour in 2021, staff are constantly shuffling dates. We may have to extend the season into October. However, pushing concerts late into the year does pose challenges in keeping the band and stage warm. If concerts are permitted, we hope to hold as many as possible and have a very busy August and September planned.

d. Admission

The Garden is open, with no timed entry. Admission numbers are still limited to make social distancing easier.

e. Six Bridges Trail

Since this project was initiated before the pandemic, it has moved along fairly smoothly and under budget. Jimmy thanked everyone who contributed. So far, it looks as though we may be able to put \$100,000 extra into endowments.

f. BOOtanical

Plans for the 2021 fall festival, BOOtanical, are already underway. We hope it can be a good revenue source and help to diversify income.

g. Strategic Plan

Staff are preparing a "light" version of our strategic plan to determine the Garden's focus for the next few years. When we have a completed plan, it will be presented to the Board.

h. Potential Summer Plans

Dependent on the status of the concert series, we may be able to host some outdoor nighttime events, possibly with small stages. In various locations around the Garden. We hope this can be another strong revenue source for

this year and in the long term. JoLynda Stillman suggested hosting scavenger hunts and a winter or Holiday lights festival.

i. Utah Monolith

Red Butte Garden was approached to house the sculpture upon its removal from the desert. Several locations on campus have been approached with the same offer. For a variety of reasons, the Garden has decided to pass on this collaboration.

IV. ZAP Preservation Committee

As in previous years, Red Butte and other member organizations of ZAP have been asked to contribute to their renewal efforts. This kind of lobbying is not permitted by the University. However, Board Members as individuals are allowed to contribute to the ZAP Preservation Committee directly. Those interested can email Kym or Jimmy for more info. Several Board Members have offered to help.

V. COVID-19 Update

David Classen presented data on the number of cases. In Utah, positivity rate has decreased from 30%. Hospitalizations have also decreased. Over 44,400 vaccines have been administered to this date. ICUs now have over 50% capacity available and only 20% of ventilators in use. Vaccine eligibility will change on March 1 to include those 65 or older and people over 18 with certain preexisting conditions. Vaccination sites have also expanded, going from just hospitals to commercial pharmacies, health departments, and large venues like the Maverick Center. Vaccine availability continues to cause issues; however, it also improves, and doses have increased to 42,000 per week currently. Manufacturing continues to increase production and Pfizer and Moderna have promised to deliver 100,000 vaccinations by April 1. Johnson and Johnson as well as Astra Zeneca report that they have 50 million vaccines each ready for distribution and are waiting for approval from the FDA. David and his contemporaries are confident that a single vaccine dose will be sufficient to combat any and all strain variations. This is due to the vaccine's interactions with the human body's T cells. The Executive Committee is discussing the possibility of bringing the head epidemiologist for the University to one of our Board meetings to answer questions.

VI. Staff Report

There were no questions on the Staff Report.

Adjournment 4:30 PM