

OLBRICH BOTANICAL SOCIETY
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2014

Members Present: Tim Sherry, Kevin Hess, Dick Wagner, Jennifer Curliss (late), Janet Loewi, Fred Anderson, Julie Herfel, Dan Lauffer, Bill White, Eric Knepp, Jeffrey Lewis, Roberta Sladky

Members Absent: Carolyn Gilb, Erin Ogden, Tricia Perkins, Susan Derse Phillips, Michelle Taschek, Mary Phillips, David Ahrens, Laurel Neverdahl, Marsha Rummel, Sue Thering

Advisors Present: Jt Covelli, Sandy Dolister, Dale Mathwich, Dan Matson, Paul Williams

Staff Present: Natasha Fuller, Patti Jorenby, Katy Morgan-Davies, Katy Plantenberg, Nancy Vidlak

I. **President Sherry called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.** Jeffrey Lewis, new representative for the Park Commission was introduced.

II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Ms. Loewi and seconded by Mr. Hess to approve the meeting minutes of October 21, 2014, with a correction. Ms. Dolister is listed as attending the meeting as an Advisor, but was not in attendance. Motion carried unanimously with correction.

III. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no members of the public who wished to comment on items not on the agenda.

IV. **REPORTS**

A. President

a. Thank you to Board members who have completed terms

President Sherry wished to thank Board members who have completed terms: Fred Anderson, Jennifer Curliss, Carolyn Gilb, Janet Loewi and Tricia Perkins. A photo plaque was presented to members that were present.

b. Nominations

Ms. Loewi reviewed the following nominations:

The Nominations Committee recommends the following nominations to begin terms in 2015.

Elect **Renee Boyce** to a three-year term on the Board of Directors

Elect **Julie Rupert** to a three-year term on the Board of Directors.

Elect **Julie Herfel** to a second three year term on the Board of Directors

Elect **Kevin Hess** to a second three year term on the Board of Directors

Elect **Dick Wagner** to a third three year term on the Board of Directors (with special circumstances per the bylaws)

A motion was made by Mr. Lauffer and seconded by Mr. Anderson to approve the above nominations for new terms beginning in 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

The Nominations Committee recommends the following Officers be elected for the calendar year 2015.

President – Kevin Hess
Vice President – Bill White
Secretary – Dick Wagner
Treasurer – Mary Phillips
Past President – Tim Sherry

A motion was made by Ms. Sladky and seconded by Mr. Lauffer to approve 2015 officers. Motion carried unanimously.

Elect the following OBS members to serve a one year term for the calendar year 2015 as non-voting Advisors to the Board of Directors

Fred Anderson	Dennis Birke	Jack Bolz
JT Covelli	Sandy Dolister	Elizabeth Ogren Erickson
Edith Lawrence-Hilliard	Jeff Levy	Janet Loewi
Dale Mathwich	Dan Matson	Jerry Minnich
Jennifer Nordlof-Curliss	Tricia Perkins	Emanuel Scarbrough
Barbara Tensfeldt	Paul Williams	

A motion was made by Mr. Hess and seconded by Ms. Herfel to approve the nominations for Advisors to the Board of Directors. Motion carried unanimously.

In addition to the elected directors, the OBS Board has seven ex officio positions which are filled as follows:

Madison Parks Superintendent – **Eric Knepp**
 Neighborhood Association Representative – **Sue Thering**
 Olbrich Garden Club Representative - **Laurel Neverdahl**
 District 15 Alder – **David Ahrens**
 District 6 Alder - **Marsha Rummel**
 Madison Board of Park Commissioners Representative – **Jeffrey Lewis**
 Garden Director - **Roberta Sladky**

This is informational – no action taken.

c. Confirm OBS Foundation Election

President Sherry explained that elections for the OBS Foundation Board were held at their November 19, 2014 meeting. The following is an excerpt from the minutes of that meeting:

Election of Officers and Directors for 2015

A motion was made by Ms. Lovrien and seconded Mr. Birke to approve the nomination slate as follows.

Re-elect as President - Sandy Dolister
 Re-elect as Vice President - Tim Sherry
 Re-elect as Secretary-Treasurer - Phyllis Lovrien
 Re-elect for first full five-year term - Dan Matson
 Re-elect for another five-year term - Tim Sherry

OBSF Ex Officio Directors for 2015 (assuming nominees are elected Dec 9, 2014)

OBS Board President Kevin Hess

OBS Board Past President Tim Sherry

OBS Board Treasurer Mary Phillips

OBG Garden Director Roberta Sladky

The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Loewi and seconded by Mr. Wagner to confirm the election results. Motion carried unanimously.

d. Privacy Policy - the 2nd Draft was presented

A motion was made by Mr. Wagner and seconded by President Sherry to approve the Privacy Policy as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

e. Capital Campaign Update & Budget

President Sherry reviewed the Capital Campaign budget. We currently have month-to-month contract with McDonald Schaefer (@ \$7500 per month) to jump start the campaign. We expect the monthly needs and costs to go down as the campaign progresses.

A motion was made by Mr. White and seconded by Mr. Lauffer to approve the Capital Campaign budget. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Financial Report**a. November 2014 Financials**

President Sherry reviewed available reports. He notes that revenue has been increasing to cover increasing expenses, but the gap is getting smaller.

b. Approval of 2015 OBS Operating Budget

Ms. Sladky presented the 2015 OBS Budget and notes a 7.56% increase from 2014. The budget reflects an increase in health insurance costs and a raise for staff (which they have not had in past 3-4 years). Ms. Sladky notes a plan to look at new health insurance options for 2016, which will likely match the changes the City of Madison will likely do to work within the Affordable Care Act.

A motion was made by Mr. Wagner and seconded by Mr. Lauffer to approve the 2015 OBS Operating Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Directors Report

Ms. Sladky requests you review staff reports provided. She notes that the Lego sculptures in the Holiday Train Show are very popular. The Gift Shop continues to run ahead of budget and we will have Holiday Concerts every Sunday in December.

D. Development Report

Ms. Covelli notes the year end appeal went out last week and a 2nd mailing will go out later this week. We are also looking at what we can do on "Giving Tuesday".

E. Marketing & Public Relations

Ms. Covelli discusses continued work with how to communicate best with visitors and the public. There is on-going work with marketing for current events and looking at a new event for 2015 – which you should hear about at the January meeting.

V. NEW BUSINESS

There is no new business.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There are no announcements.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 5:00pm.