

**OLBRICH BOTANICAL SOCIETY**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**September 29, 2015**

**Members Present:** Kevin Hess, Bill White, Dick Wagner, Mary Phillips, Tim Sherry, Renee Boyce, Dan Lauffer, Eric Knepp, Jeffrey Lewis, Betty Chewning, Roberta Sladky

**Members Absent:** Julie Herfel, Erin Ogden, Susan Derse Phillips, Julie Rupert, Michelle Taschek, David Ahrens, Laurel Neverdahl, Marsha Rummel

**Advisors Present:** Jack Bolz, Jt Covelli, Elizabeth Ogren Erickson, Dale Mathwich, Dan Matson, Barb Tensfeldt

**Guests Present:** Dan Rolfs, Kay Hellenbrand Rutledge

**Staff Present:** Patti Jorenby, Ashlyn Mehlhaff, Katy Morgan-Davies, Joe Vande Slunt, Nancy Vidlak

I. **President Hess called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.**

II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Ms. Chewning and seconded by Mr. Sherry to approve the meeting minutes of July 21, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

III. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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

IV. **UPDATE ON GARVER FEED MILL RE-USE**

Dan Rolfs, Community Development Project Manager and Kay Hellenbrand Rutledge, PE, Assistant Parks Superintendent gave an update on the Garver Feed Mill re-use. Dan Rolfs gave a presentation which highlighted Garver History to date, Garver Issues and Next Steps. Screen shots from his presentation are attached to these minutes.

V. **REPORTS**

**A. President's Report**

President Hess reported that OBS is breaking ties with McDonald Schaefer (capital campaign consultants) and that we believe staff can handle things moving forward. There is a full Capital Campaign Cabinet mtg on October 5<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Sherry circulated the printed materials for the Capital Campaign.

**B. Financial Report**

Ms. Phillips noted that August Financial Statements are pending the reconciliation of the Membership Revenue figures; reconciling the Accounting credit card receipts with the Membership reported receipts. The reports are expected upon completion of the reconciliation.

**C. Director's Report**

Ms. Sladky reported that the gardens look great – we are finishing up an amazing growing season. We have 2 new staff – Amanda Dix, Conservatory (city employee), & Joe Vande Slunt,

Membership (OBS employee). Marty Petillo is working on the volunteer cookbook and it should be available in the Gift Ship in November. It will be a great gift with a true ‘Olbrich feel’. On another note, the Schumacher Horticultural Library celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

#### **D. Development and Marketing Staff Update**

Katy Morgan-Davies report that GLEAM has been well attended. The media has been interested in GLEAM and in the Corpse Flower which bloomed at the GLEAM opening. Member Movie night attracted about 500 people this year --- likely due to the added benefit of seeing GLEAM. CRACKLE had record attendance also. 687 tickets were sold. There is discussion about changing the sponsorship thank-you party to the last Thursday night of GLEAM instead of January in the Conservatory. Olbrich’s Garden News was mailed yesterday and we continue to make changes to the content. New Development and Membership Specialist Joe Vande Slunt was introduced.

#### **E. Development Committee Report**

Ms. Covelli noted that GLEAM is doing very well -- revenue has already exceeded expenses with a month left. Congratulations to Missy Jeanne for her research and execution of this event.

#### **F. Marketing & Public Relations Report**

Please see reports.

#### **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

There is no new business.

#### **VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There are no announcements.

#### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15pm.