



Trustee Meeting Minutes

Date & time of meeting: May 8, 2017, 8:00am Central Time at The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, IL

Attending: Brian Sayers, Chairman; Steven Geist, Chair Elect; Tom Wolf, Vice Chairman; Ray Henning, Treasurer. Trustees: Jim Barborinas, Beau Brodbeck, Paul Fletcher, George Hudler, David Krause as proxy for Brent Asplundh, Sharon Jean-Philippe, Sharon Lilly, Will Nutter, Bill Schleizer, Jim Urban, Jeff Wilson. President and Chief Executive Officer: J. Eric Smith.

Absent: Trustee: Brent Asplundh

Meeting call to order: Chairman Sayers called the meeting to order at 7:57am. He welcomed the board and introduced Sharon Jean-Philippe and Sharon Lilly as new Trustees and David Krause as proxy for Brent Asplundh.

Consent Agenda: Chairman Sayers asked whether any item(s) should be removed from the Consent Agenda for review. None were noted. Motion was made by Proxy Trustee Krause to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion was seconded by Chair Elect Geist. Discussion: None. Motion carried.

- Consent Agenda items:
 - Minutes from December 5, 2016 Trustee Meeting
 - President and CEO's Report
 - Treasurer's Report and First Quarter Financials
 - Development and Communications Committee Report
 - Research and Education Committee Report
 - Governance Committee Report
 - Liaison Committee Report
 - Audit Committee Report

Endowment Building Campaign Update: Chairman Sayers discussed the importance of 100% Trustee giving to the Endowment Building Campaign, and noted that President Smith will contact each Board member in the weeks ahead to discuss each Trustee's individual plans for supporting the campaign. President Smith presented the Board with a status report on Campaign efforts since December.

- Motion was made by Trustee Nutter to reaffirm the three million dollar goal for the campaign based upon work completed with CCS. Motion was seconded by Treasurer Henning. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion was made by Trustee Barborinas that the Board commits to 100% individual financial support to the Endowment Building Campaign. Motion was seconded by Trustee Nutter. Motion carried unanimously after discussion.

Research and Education Committee: Committee Chair Hudler reviewed the Committee's recommendations for funding.

- Motion was made by Trustee Wilson to fund a Hyland Johns grant for Dr. Rich Hauer's project "Sustainable Urban Forestry Planning Models and Decision Making Dashboard" for \$49,837.15. Motion was seconded by Trustee Fletcher. Motion carried unanimously after discussion.



- Motion was made by Trustee Barborinas to fund a Hyland Johns Grant to Dr. Kathleen Wolf for her project “Urban Forests for Human Health: A Focused Economic Valuation” for \$46,950. Motion seconded by Treasurer Henning. Motion carried unanimously after discussion.
- Motion was made by Trustee Barborinas to fund Friends of the Urban Forest’s program “Green Teens – Vocational Skills Job Training” for a \$5,000 Arboriculture Education Grant. Motion was seconded by Chair Elect Geist. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion was made by Trustee Wilson to award TreeFolks an Arboriculture Education Grant for their program “Youth Tree Climbing Initiative” for \$5,000. Motion was seconded by Chair Elect Geist. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion was made by Chair Elect Geist to award Robert Felix Scholarships to Conor Smith and Laura Mantin. Motion was seconded by Trustee Schleizer. Discussion ensued regarding amount of award. Friendly amendment to motion was made by Trustee Urban to increase the awards from \$3,000 to \$5,000. Amended motion was seconded by Trustee Barborinas. Discussion ensued regarding promotion of scholarships. Trustee Jean-Philippe suggested that President Smith investigate whether funding departments on behalf of students may be more effective than funding students via scholarship offices due to financial aid impacts; President Smith committed to do so before 2018 awards. Motion carried unanimously as amended.
- Motion was made by Treasurer Henning to fund Columbus State Community College project “Columbus State Arboriculture Education Expansion and Tree Care Academy Project” for a \$5,000 Ohio Chapter ISA Education Grant. Motion was seconded by Chair Elect Geist. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion was made by Treasurer Henning to fund Dr. Brian Kane’s project “Arboricultural Safety Around the World” for a \$15,000 Safe Arborist Techniques Grant. Motion was seconded by Trustee Fletcher. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Governance Committee:

- Motion was made by Vice Chairman Wolf to ratify the electronic vote to elect Sharon Jean-Philippe as a Trustee. Motion was seconded by Treasurer Henning. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion was made by Trustee Lilly to split the Development and Communications Committee. Motion was seconded by Trustee Schleizer. Motion carried unanimously after discussion.
- Motion was made by Treasurer Henning to endorse the principles defined in the *Responsibilities of a Board Member* document. Motion was seconded by Trustee Barborinas. Motion carried unanimously after discussion.
- Discussion regarding Committee Chair succession planning. Trustee Wilson stated that Mundy Wilson-Piper will replace him after the October Trustee Webinar as the TCIA representative.
- Trustee nomination process and criteria will be documented by Governance Committee.
- Governance documents are in revision process.
- Research and Education Committee Structure: no decision made to revise; on hold.

Report on Strategic Planning Task Force Meeting: Chairman Sayers reviewed the progress made by the Task Force made up of standing Committee Chairs and Trustee Lilly. Seven topics were divided among the Committees for further action.



Chair Summaries of Committee Highlights: Committee Chairs reviewed key developments since last board meeting.

New Business:

- Non-K-12 Community Engagement Grants – recommendation on hold until completion of Strategic Plan. No action.
- Motion made by Trustee Urban to increase all future Robert Felix Scholarship awards to \$5,000. Friendly amendment made to motion by Trustee Lilly to cap awards at five per year. Amended motion seconded by Trustee Barborinas. Amended motion carried unanimously after discussion.
- Motion was made by Trustee Urban and seconded by Trustee Brodbeck to authorize President and CEO Smith to prepare for the Research and Education Committee two RFPs — one for an educational grant baseline study, and one for a TREE Fund research impact study — within the currently approved \$350,000 grant budget for 2017. Vice Chair Wolf made a friendly amendment to cap the aggregate value of grants awarded under these RFPs at \$25,000, with the RFPs to be issued within 30-45 days and awarded at or before the December Trustee meeting. Amended motion was seconded by Chair Elect Geist. Motion carried after discussion.

Old Business: None

Housekeeping:

- Next meeting via webinar on October 18
- December 4 and 5 meetings in Chicago

Meeting adjourned at 11:15pm and was followed by lunch. Executive Session was called to order at 12:10pm. Executive Session and the Trustees meeting adjourned at 12:35pm.

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Duke.