

**Linnaeus Arboretum National Advisory Board
2018 Crown Council Report**

Members

John Chamberlain	Kim Sogaard	Chuck Syverson
Connie Fortin	Scott Moeller - campus facilitator	Cathy Waldhauser
Bruce Gray	Bob Moline	Buster West - chair
Harriet Mason	John Rasmussen	Gary Wyatt
Krisan Osterby	Bob Shoemaker	
Bill Pedersen	Nancy Sizer	

The group will meet four times this year.

Goals and Objectives Review

The group reviewed the 2014-2017 goals and objectives and was pleased with the progress. The group then established goals and objectives for 2018-2022 moving forward relevant objectives not completed from the previous planning period.

Interpretive Center Building Project

The group has discussed for several years a desire to do some type of building project with the Interpretive Center. Minimally to provide restrooms that are accessible to the public and staff without interrupting an event in the main room. In addition, the expansion following the tornado is showing structural decline and sooner than later will need major repair or replacement. Due to a NAB member connection, the Arboretum has secured funds from the Schmidt Foundation to work in 2018-2019 to complete the pre-design stage.

City of St. Peter Road Work

The new high school prompted major road and sidewalk work along the south/west border of the Arboretum. The group discussed opportunities and concerns in response to City asking for input on the project.

Borgeson Cabin Renovation

The college raised \$25,000 to complete the restoration of the cabin, which was the first restoration since the tornado. The group discussed possible interpretives displays as part of the renovation project.

Protecting the Arboretum

At several meetings the NAB discussed the balance between protecting the Arboretum as it currently is and projects that could enhance usage and education that may alter the space. This discussed related to the new sidewalk along the south/west border, possible expansion to the Interpretive Center, and a proposed solar array that would destroy 10% of the prairie. Over the last 40 years ideas have been proposed and rejected for building expansion into the Arboretum borders. The group believes on-going effort is required to inform the Gustavus community about the educational and recreational value of the Arboretum as a space to be utilized and preserved.

Linnaeus Symposium

Thursday, July 12, 2018 - *Soil Stewardship: The Ground We Stand On*

Topic is linked to the Nobel Conference 2018 topic of soil. The day is a series of presentations to improve understanding of soil the threats to soil and solutions from the perspective of communities, industry, agriculture, and individual to care for the ground we stand on. It includes a Taste of the Minnesota River Valley dinner which is a partnership with area Farm Bureau groups.