



## May Center Report – January 2020

### Open Space and Regional Park Commission Meeting



#### May Arboretum Report

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ The arboretum opened the seedling program to WC School District. Currently 3 elementary schools are participating. Vegetable orders are taken by the horticulturist from interested schools and seedlings are grown in the greenhouse for teachers to use in the classroom for their own school gardens.
- ◆ The horticulturist also received a seedling order for the Washoe County employees for the county vegetable garden on 9th and Wells. The arboretum will be providing the seedling for the new garden.
- ◆ The Horticulturist proposal for an interpretive panel project was approved by the May Foundation (\$149,600.00). Thirty five panels will be placed throughout the gardens. Each panel provide the history of each garden and highlight the dominate plant species.

#### **May Arboretum Environmental Educational Programs**

- ◆ Nichole Tracey, AmeriCorps member and the Arboretum Educational Program Coordinator is launching several May Arboretum educational programs for February. May thanks to the May Arboretum Society for supporting this position (\$9,500.00).

#### **Arboretum Upgrades and Projects**

- ◆ Burke Garden received a minor adjustment from the Garden Shop Landscaping to one of the garden planters this month as not cost.
- ◆ Staff is preparing a list of projects for endowment funding cycle which is in April.
- ◆ Staff is identifying trees in the collection for pruning and also listing noxious and invasive trees for removal. Funding for this pruning and removal is provided by a generous donation from May Arboretum Society (\$15,000).
- ◆ The horticulturist proposal for an edging project in Burke Garden (\$3,817.00) was approved by the May Arboretum Society. Many thanks for their continue support.
- ◆ Nevada Bell irrigation upgrade was completed this month (\$13,067.00). Many thanks to the May Arboretum Society for their support

#### **Arboretum Operations**

- ◆ Phil Brazier, Horticulture Assistant and Bradon Franklin, Park Maintenance Worker and seasonal staff continue to work on winter projects and pruning.
- ◆ The May Arboretum webpage is being updated by the horticulturist.
- ◆ Gary Zaepfel, Washoe County GIS Coordinator installed the latest upgrades to the Arboretum plant records software Iris BG.
- ◆ The horticulturist maintains the plant records/plant curating and plant accessions using and Iris GB, ESRI, ARC Map software weekly and throughout the year.
- ◆ The horticulturist and Washoe County's Volunteer Coordinator, Denise Evans have been researching software programs for the Arboretum volunteer program. Software like Volgistics stream line volunteer digital records and volunteer hours. It will also be used communicate directly to volunteers.



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- ◆ The horticulturist continues to meet with active and potential donors, assist with fund raising events and maintains the Arboretum donor data base and donor records, maintains two county budgets and manages May Arboretum Society (MAS) projects and seasonal employee budgets.
- ◆ The horticulturist continues to serve as chairman of the May Arboretum Society Endowment Fund.

#### **May Arboretum Volunteer Program**

- ◆ In December, 2019 volunteer logged 53 hours of service and in January 2020, 152 hours were recorded. Total volunteer hours for the Arboretum for December 2019 and January 2020 was, 205 hours which has a service value of \$4,641.50.

#### **Memorials**

- ◆ The horticulturist manages and oversees the memorial tree, bench and brick program. One memorial bench, two memorial trees and two memorial bricks were purchased.

#### May Museum Report

##### HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Prepping for upcoming exhibition: hiring, marketing, booking tours.
- ◆ The museum hosted a PBS-Reno murder mystery dinner for their members. The dinner and show was well attended (approx. 75 people).

##### UPCOMING

- ◆ The Art of Animation exhibit opens February 15. This traveling exhibit explores the history of animation and features hand-on and interactive elements. It will be on display until May 10.
- ◆ The museum will have a booth at the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Reno Grand Bridal Showcase at Grand Sierra Resort on February 9.
- ◆ Samantha will give a lecture on Wilbur May to the Historic Reno Preservation Society at the Northwest Library on February 19.