**Minutes

*Horticulture*

Advisory Committee Meeting

March 5th 2019 at 2pm | Meeting called to order by Janet Gallagher

# In Attendance

Members Present:

Daniel Davis – “Weed Man”

Joyce Grattoni – Flowers by Grattoni

Mike Krueger – Midwest Groundcovers

Larry and Vickie Hubbard– Pepper Creek Rockford

KC Members Present:

Terrylyn Funstan – Director of Curriculum, KC

Catherine Marsh – Adjunct Professor, KC / AJG

Janet Gallagher – Instructor, KC

Rich Alde – Instructor, KC

Matt Ewert – Chair, Instructor, KC

Chase Budziak – Dean of Instruction, KC

Justina Peck – H/E Student Worker, Recorder, KC

# Consent Agenda Items

1. Minutes from the previous meeting
2. Department Activities
3. Fall 2018 Enrollment Data and Recruitment results

a. There were no announcements and no unfinished business from the last meeting. There are no necessary changes needed to be made in the previous minutes.

b. **The NALP National Student Collegiate Competition:** This spring we have 6 students that will be participating in the NALP National Collegiate Competition at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado. Our students will compete in Woody Plant I.D., Floral Plant I.D., Annual and Perennial I.D., Landscape Design, Interior Plant I.D., and Landscape Installation. This event takes place over March 19th through the 23rd.

**Floral Club (SAIFD):** We have students that have started meeting regarding attending symposium this summer. AIFD is working on more education classes at symposium and fewer stage programs. The Illinois State Floral association is meeting March 15-17, we will possibly be taking a few students to this state program. Students have started selling flowers in the bookstore for raising money for these trips. We will be having Polly Klein AIFD do an AIRS program on February 20th. She will be presenting on her experience with the Rose Parade.

**Audubon Report:** Rich will be working on the recertification of the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary program this year. The recertification progress is very extensive and is due in April. It is going good and it is a big project for recertification.

**Greenhouse Update:** Kim Rotella has joined our department as our new Greenhouse Tech. She is also one of our second year students. We are beginning to start material for the spring plant sale. Our bedding plant class will be growing all of the crops and will be in charge the day of the sales.

**Work Week:** This past work week our students work to improve different beds and planting areas on campus. There was a big emphasis on campus maintenance. We did have some very wet weather during work week this year, which kept us from starting on some other projects that we have had planned.

c. There could always be more students enrolling in classes. That is what the program needs. The lack of enrollment is not just at Kishwaukee College. It is happening all across the state and country. Super attendants and assistant attendants are declaring a crisis due to the lack of students enrolling. For example there were two students enrolled in the turf class that used to have fifteen enrolled. Wisconsin is already starting to cut various classes due to the lack of enrollment. There needs to be more students. The golf industries are starting to struggle due to no students graduating in turf and understanding the requirements dealing with tur

# Curriculum Updates

**Turfgrass Management Program:**

This is the sod industry. Golf course super attendants might offer scholarships to try and bring more people in to get a degree in turf. There will be raising of wages for 2 year degrees at these golf courses. This will bring forth the incentive to get in and get out quicker and helps the entire industry by getting workers. The workers need to have a passion for their job. There is also an incentive because there will always be jobs in the Golf industry. It was suggested to not make the classes inactive (cut the classes), but to revamp the classes to ensure positive labor forces and enrollment / graduation rates.

**Consolidation of Degrees:**

A Prototype was handed out of a new way to get a degree in Horticulture with a concentration in a specific field. Every student would have to take General education courses that every student must take: Intro Soils and Fertilizers (AGT 215), Oral communication (Com 100) or Communication in the Workplace (Com 108), Intro to Technical Writing (Eng 109), and Technical Mathematics (TMAT 100) for an additional 13 credit hours. Then to specify in the Horticulture field these classes must be taken: Intro Hort Related Occupations (Hor 101), Horticulture Science (Hor 103), Botany for Horticulture (Hor 105), Orientation to Hort Internship (Hor 106), Trees/Arboriculture (Hor 122), Plant Propagation (Hor 128), Beginning Floral Arrangements (Hor 141), Sustainable Perennials (Hor 146), Landscape Design (Hor 166), Horticulture Internship (Hor 196), Ornamental Shrubs Ident and Culture (HHor 231),Turf and Lawn Management (Hor 256) or Green House Management (Hor112), Bedding Plant Production/Sales (Hor279), and Field Studies (Hor) for a total of 39 credit hours.

After those base classes have been taken then the student can focus on a concentration. There is three different options for concentrations

Option 1 is Landscape / Nursery. The courses included with this concentration are: Landscape Construction (Hor 251), Advanced Landscape Design (Hor 266), Digital Landscape Design (Hor 267), and Nursery Management (Hor 126) for a total of 12 credit hours.

 Option 2 is Floral. The courses included with this concentration are: Special Events 1 (Hor 158), Advanced Floral Arrangements (Hor 142), Flower Store Management (Hor 235), and Wedding and Sympathy Design (Hor 249) or Special Events 2 (Hor 247) for a total of 12 credit hours.

Option 3 is Sustainable / Greenhouse. The courses included with this concentration are: Sustainable Prairie Management or horticulture elective (Hor 168), Sustainable gardening 1 (Hor 186), Sustainable Gardening 3 (Hor 188), Interior Plantscaping (Hor 243), Propagation Techniques (Hor 127), and Horticulture Elective (Hor) for a total of 12 credit hours.

The total completion of credit hours will be 64 credit hours. The concentrations are not certificates and will not be treated as such. There needs to be some revamping and Tarralyn is working on the revamping of the classes with the concentrations. The goal of having concentrations is to bring in more students to the program and making the program more functional.

There was some worry about numbers not being high enough to run certain classes and it is being considered to do some classes every other year to ensure the numbers to run classes. The majority agreed that it makes sense doing concentrations because the employer can’t be picky for a certain degree.

The idea was brought up to have advanced certificates after the completion of a degree.

# Industry Updates

Pepper creek – Sales up and down over the season due to weather but overall a good year

**Snow**

This year and last year were both good seasons for snow. This year it was hard to find people to help with the snow (i.e. plowing, salting, shoveling, etc.)

**Nursery**

The greenhouse expansion is complete. They are waiting for the weather to break. They are starting to worry about the effects of having a 15 dollar minimum wage will have on the business.

**Weed and Lawn Care**

Quality labor is getting hard to find. Labor in general is getting hard to find. They are also starting to worry about the effects of having a 15 dollar minimum wage.

**Floral**

There was a good Valentine’s Day. The weather is complicating deliveries. When there has to be a delivery in temperatures below zero degrees it is not good.

**Pepper Creek**

The Christmas season was interesting with the weather being out of the ordinary. “The evergreens were weird because of the snow after thanksgiving.” –Vickie. The poinsettias sold very well. In the fall they sold Mums. They believe that the public is on edge because the public is unsure about the politics. The stocks were going down at Christmas time and people were being cautious with their money. They sell luxury items so the items the sell are not priority. Valentine’s Day was okay. Thursdays by record do not do as well as Tuesday or Wednesday Valentines Days. Another factor for decrease in business is Chrystler will be laying off 3rd shift which is about 1300 jobs. People are being more cautious with their money due to these factors. They are also struggling with labor shortages. “It is hard to find people to work. Finding people who do quality work is harder.” –Larry.

# New Business

There is talk of turf suspension going through the division. Most of the members want turf to stay. There are more and more turf related issues that needs people to fix them. The industry will go up because uneducated people should not be in charge or things they do not know for sure how to do. There is now environmental friendly turf.

The Job Interview Day was a success. The lunch with Interview Day was a very good idea it worked very well.

# Next Meeting

Wednesday, October 9th 2019 at 2:00 PM

Meeting Adjourned at 3:00PM.