



1
2
3
4 **WCFC Meeting**
5 **August 11, 2010**
6 **Kirkland City Hall**
7 **Kirkland, Washington**
8

9 **Members Present:** Sarah Foster, Sandy Salisbury, Joe Scorcio, Jim Freed, Scott Thomas, Jim
10 Flott, Terry Flatley, Brian Cramer, Ara Erickson, Jeff Beckwith, Mark Kahley

11 **Members Absent:** Barbara Hollenbeck, Kathleen Wolf, Barry Johnson, David Nelson, Rich
12 Baker, Kelly Putney

13 **Guests:** Mark Gray, Deb Powers, Linden Mead
14

15 Meeting was called the meeting to order at 9:11 AM
16

17 **Introductions and Welcome – Chair**

18 Host Deb Powers, Kirkland’s Urban Forester, welcomed the group to Kirkland, explained her
19 role within the city and told the group she will be leading a walking tour of a sidewalk
20 restoration project in downtown Kirkland after lunch. She reminded council that there was
21 coffee in the back of the room, courtesy of Joe Scorcio.
22

23 **Agenda and May 1010 Minutes Review - Chair**

24 Scorcio reviewed the agenda, pointing out that subcommittee breakouts will occur at the
25 beginning of the meeting.
26

27 Scorcio reviewed the list of action items, and asked for updates. Foster distributed a list of
28 subcommittee members. The outreach team has reviewed information about Tree Campus, but is
29 still working on developing a letter of introduction to campuses, encouraging their participation
30 in the program. The Legislative Committee has drafted a letter to the Commissioner of Public
31 Lands regarding Articles of Association.
32

33 Scorcio asked for a motion to accept the meeting minutes. Motion by Beckwith 2nd Flott passed
34 unanimously.
35

36 Comments: Rich Baker, representing the Private Sector or Commercial Arborists, recently
37 submitted a letter of resignation DNR UCF will do its best to continue representation, but new
38 council positions –state-wide - are currently not being filled. There are several other positions on
39 the WCFC currently vacant that also need filled. Although Foster feels that the council still
40 represents constituents, there are several vacancies that she sees as crucial.
41

42 **Sub-Committee breakout – 45 minutes – Legislative, Executive, Outreach**

43 *Report from Legislative Committee:* a letter was drafted to the Commissioner re: the strategic
44 plan that will be routed through council. The letter will inform him that Community Forestry
45 Council volunteer efforts are continuing and that the overall program is supported through a

1 federal grant to the state. The group recommended pursuing the creation of state legislation to
2 prohibit tree-topping.

3
4 *Report from Outreach Committee:* The committee discussed the anti-topping campaign which is
5 in development with assistance from the DNR Communication Team. They will support the
6 campaign by generating an article about utility pruning for right of way clearance vs. topping.
7 Committee members will submit photos of positive and negative examples of tree pruning and
8 topping to Linden. In order to provide council updates to the public and positive content for the
9 Council Communiqué in Tree Link, each council committee should draft a short report following
10 the current meeting. Council members were also encouraged to write an update of projects
11 pertinent to urban forestry and their represented position on the council as part of their bio for the
12 Communiqué column.

13
14 The committee is developing a checklist for meeting organization at the local level that will
15 include recognition and outreach activities. (recognition or activities could include the mayor,
16 city council, local outstanding projects, etc.) Award presentations will be outside of the regularly
17 scheduled working lunch and will be dependent on the Awardees' schedule. The intent of the
18 list is to take some of the meeting responsibility off of DNR staff while continuing to partner
19 with staff. Both committees will work together with the executive committee to formulate
20 meeting agenda.

21
22 *Executive committee report:* According to the articles of association, the Council must meet
23 once per year, and must meet to schedule upcoming meetings. No amendments to the Articles
24 are necessary at this time. Scorcio: While establishing meeting schedules for the upcoming year,
25 council needs to recognize that travel is restricted for state agency staff. There followed a
26 discussion about meeting locations. New State regulations require that meetings must be held in
27 public facilities. The executive committee will act as the Nominations Committee; however, no
28 new nominations will be taken at this point.

29 30 **Meeting Schedule and Locations for 2010/2011**

31 The consensus is to meet in Olympia or west side to accommodate travel restrictions. Gray: The
32 State is not trying to limit travel if good work is transpiring but if travel is not necessary, or
33 alternatives to travel are possible, the council should be aware of public perception, since most
34 state boards have been eliminated and make wise choices. Staff support is in minimal, so
35 meetings need to be simple. A meeting in Olympia, would give the council the opportunity to
36 interact with and educate different, but pertinent, UF related partners and programs, (such as
37 legislative assistance, Puget Sound partnership, others). Discussion ensued.

38
39 Ara made a proposal that we pencil out the meeting schedule for the next 2 years; with the
40 majority of meetings on the west side of the state and a few in other communities state-wide.
41 This will address the public perception issue while meeting Council outreach goals.
42 Executive committee proposes November meeting be in Olympia. There was discussion
43 regarding locations for the meeting and reasons for other locations. Value needs to be shown if
44 the Council is going to travel anywhere. We haven't been effective in this in the past. If
45 November is in Olympia, we need to meet with other organizations (Puget sound partnership,
46 WSAC, AWC, etc). Meetings need to have value added, not just to deal with the agency travel
47 restrictions and public perception.

48
49 Spokane is the currently scheduled meeting location for November.

1 **MOTION:** Change the November meeting to the greater Olympia area (central Puget sound
2 area). Salisbury, Foster 2nd . Five in favor, four opposed; one abstention. Majority in favor,
3 therefore, meeting will be held in Central Puget Sound (Lacey)
4

5 Discussion: The February 2011 meeting will be at DNR office in Olympia for purpose of
6 engaging with the State Forester and Commissioner of Public Lands.
7

8 Council discussed the number of meetings to be held; three meetings per year vs. four meeting
9 per year. Three meetings per year not only reduce Council costs but will help avoid weather and
10 vacation conflicts. February, June, and October were proposed for the three meeting schedule
11 with February meeting in Olympia, June meeting in one of 3 regions (east side, north sound or
12 southwest) on a rotational basis, and October in the Central Puget Sound. Preference is for the
13 June meeting to be on the east side of the state. It was recognized that the 3-meeting schedule
14 should be viewed as a temporary change in response to current economic conditions. The onus of
15 meeting organization resides on council members within the immediate area of the proposed
16 location.

17 Alternative meeting formats are effective and advised for sub-committees. DNR UCF can assist
18 with conference calls.
19

20 **MOTION:** Temporarily modify Council meeting schedule to three meetings per year initiated in
21 2011. Flott, 2nd Salisbury

22 Discussion: none. 2 opposed 1 abstention

23 **MOTION:** One meeting, either June or October, will be held on the east side of state. Flott, Ara
24 2nd

25 Discussion: Should be easily accessible location. Unanimous decision.
26

27 **MOTION:** In between meetings, April or August, Council subcommittees shall convene – Ara,
28 2nd Freed

29 Discussion: No decisions will be made at these meetings as there will not be a Council majority
30 present. Passed unanimously
31

32 **Urban Forest Stewardship Award Presentation**

33 Council members introduced themselves and described their role on the Council to guests.
34 Deb Powers introduced herself and Sharon Rodman, Volunteer Coordinator for Kirkland.
35 Sharon Rodman accepted the Community Forestry award for Karen Story, Volunteer
36 Extraordinaire, and described her work within the Kirkland community in parks, restoration
37 activities, etc.
38

39 **Roundtable with council members/Lunch**

40
41 On site visit – Deb Powers took the council on a tour of Park Lane, a recent sidewalk repair
42 project in Kirkland. She described the public process involved with the redesign and
43 implementation of the project that impacted adjacent trees in a very public downtown area.
44

45 **U&CF Program Update - Sarah Foster**

46 Community Forestry Assistance (CFA) Grants have been awarded. Nicki Eisfeldt, GIS
47 Specialist for the division, is the doing the grant logistics and coordination. 25 communities were
48 awarded grants (max \$10,000). \$265,000 was awarded for CFA grants; 2 grants were returned to
49 DNR due to city staff and city council prioritization. Recipients of the Urban Initiative grants

1 will likely be announced next week. A second round of CFC grants is anticipated for early 2011
2 with additional available Federal Funds.
3
4 Washington is hosting Pacific Northwest International Society of Arboriculture Annual Training
5 Conference this fall – September 26-29 in Tacoma.
6
7 Foster reported that she just returned from fire assignment in Cashmere as a Public Information
8 Officer. It was a great learning experience.
9
10 Program staff are starting a western competitive grant with OR ID and AK. The focus of the
11 project will be technology transfer and will see the four states working together to create online
12 course offerings, videos and other information.
13
14 **Break out** into committee sessions.
15 Legislative committee submitted their short report in written format for Tree Link.
16 Outreach committee Jim Freed will write the Communiqué for the September edition of Tree
17 Link.
18
19 Scott will check to see if Lacey may be available and willing to host council for the meeting in
20 November or he will find an alternative site. Sandy volunteered to work with the Lacey contact
21 to make meeting arrangements. Partners will be invited to visit the November meeting – Puget
22 Sound Partnership. Council members were encouraged to invite colleagues to WCFC meeting.
23
24 4:00 PM - Motion to adjourn. Freed – non-debatable motion, passed unanimously.
25