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4 **WCFC Meeting**
5 **May 11, 2011**
6 **Finch Arboretum**
7 **Spokane, Washington**
8

9 **Members Present:** Joe Scorcio, Jim Freed, Barry Johnson, Jeff Beckwith, Sandy Salisbury,
10 Sarah Foster, Brian Cramer, David Nelson, Scott Thomas
11

12 **Members Absent:** Barbara Hollenbeck, Kathy Wolf, Ara Erickson, Jim Flott, Mark Kahley
13

14 **Guests:** Angel Spell, Ian Scott, Garth Davis, Linden Mead
15

16 Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM
17 Council introductions completed.
18

19 **Introductions and Welcome – Angel Spell, Urban Forester City of Spokane**

20 Finch Arboretum has several botanical collections, a creek, native pine forest, and other exhibits.
21 Angel encouraged the Council to take time to explore the Arboretum. The City is trying to find
22 opportunities to get students to the Arboretum, as well as connect bike trails from downtown to
23 the facility. Brochures are available about the plant collections.
24

25 Angel gave a history of Spokane and its urban forestry program. Spokane hired the Olmsted
26 Brothers in 1907 to provide a report. The document is available in the Spokane City website.
27 One result of the plan was the purchase of 1761 acres of park lands.
28

29 Spokane has more than 4,100 acres of protected green space and manages more than 50,000
30 street trees and another 28,000 trees on developed park land within the City of Spokane. She
31 would like to see the inventory updated (or completed in some parts of the city), to aid in
32 developing a city-wide management plan.
33

34 Community education & outreach efforts are building stewardship capacity and advocacy in the
35 city. Spokane has several successful donation mechanisms and programs including a Heritage
36 Tree Program, and NeighborWoods program (through Alliance for Community Trees (ACT)
37 managed by an Americorps volunteer).
38

39 **Agenda and Review of November Minutes - Chair**

40 The agenda was modified as the Mayor of Spokane was unable to attend. The agenda was
41 approved as amended. Minutes from February meeting; Dave moved, Sandy seconded.
42 Comments from Barbara summarized. Approved.
43

44 **Council Business**

1 Sarah gave an update on Jim Flott's daughter, Grace. She was injured while studying abroad in
2 Paris. A card was signed by Council members and will be sent to Jim. If you would like more
3 information, please contact Sarah.
4

5 **DNR Program Update – Sarah and Linden**

6 Arbor Day recap provided by Linden; over ½ of the 80 Tree City USA communities requested a
7 DNR representative at their Arbor Day events. The program also recognized 9 Tree Line USA
8 utilities and 4 Tree Campus USA colleges/universities as requested. Sarah and Linden covered
9 the majorities of the events this year. Program staff would like to thank Joe, David, Brian, Kathy,
10 Sandy, and Jim Freed for attending events on DNR's behalf.
11

12 Grant update – 2011 grants just awarded and 2010 projects are finishing up. Sarah is optimistic
13 grant funds will be available in the fall of 2011.
14

15 Anti-tree topping campaign materials are available and being distributed to communities and
16 non-profits across the state.
17

18 A new interagency agreement has been signed with Spokane Conservation District to provide
19 urban forestry technical assistance in a 5 county area in northeast Washington.
20

21 **Sub-Committee Breakouts:**

22 Subcommittee meetings were tabled until the next meeting due to low attendance. Council
23 members toured the Arboretum with Angel Spell.
24

25 **Western Competitive Grant Discussion- Sarah**

26 Sarah discussed the Western Competitive (WCG) grant process to the Council; Washington
27 DNR has received 3 WCG's since they were established four years ago. These include the Best
28 Management Practices for tree protection during construction with the Oregon Department of
29 Forestry , the Rathdrum Aquifer project that included other program areas (forest health,
30 Firewise, etc) with the Idaho Department of Lands, and the Urban Forestry Technology Transfer
31 (with ODF, IDL, and Alaska Forest Service). We were unsuccessful with a project submitted
32 last year, and plan to revise it for 2012. The project will focus on urban forest restoration work
33 using inmate crew labor to remove invasive plants and plant trees. In areas where inmate crews
34 are not available, we will look to partner with non-profit groups. More details to come; the
35 Council will be requested to review drafts and provide suggestions. Applications are due in
36 September; more details will come. It was moved by Barry second by Sandy to create a
37 subcommittee to work with Sarah. Sandy will chair the committee appointed by the Chair to
38 include Sandy, Jeff, Jim Freed, Ian Scott, and other interested. Sarah will send websites for
39 these projects.
40

41 **Council Roundtable:**

42 Brian – City of Richland did a geocache for Arbor Day this year. One spot was an undeveloped
43 park with utility lines, and participates were given a list of trees to pick from. Good opportunity
44 to educate people on the benefits of trees.
45

46 Jeff – Enumclaw celebrated Arbor Day at council; they do their official celebration in October.
47

1 David – Arid lands initiative is underway with the Nature Conservancy; David is on the working
2 team. They are opposed to trees as they are invasive in sage and prairie lands. Connectivity
3 issues are key to arid land ecosystems as well.

4
5 Ian – iTree Hydro is the new model in the iTree suite; he is looking for areas to run the model.
6 The challenge is that it is watershed based, not city/county based.

7
8 Barry – Fife is working on their tree inventory. Joe attended their Arbor Day celebration.

9
10 Jim – Met with Sarah and Rod Saylor at Washington State University yesterday to help WSU
11 become a Tree Campus. They toured the vision for the arboretum and wildlife center. He’s also
12 working with Native American groups with native plant issues.

13
14 Sandy – She is working on median tree policy for Washington DOT. She is reviewing research
15 and working to define the policy. She is also working on the Climate Change Risk Assessment
16 with WDOT.

17
18 Linden – Continues to work with the Department of General Administration with the trees on the
19 Capitol Campus. One project idea is to complete an inventory of their trees.

20
21 Scott – Covington planted 10 trees in honor of their 10th Arbor Day event.

22
23 Joe – They have had two emergency response issues in the last few months; a train derailment
24 and a worker in a sewer pipe.

25 26 **Meeting Logistics checklist**

27 Sandy moved that we endorse and implement the meeting checklist as living document. Second
28 by Scott. Discussion – recognition to Ara for pulling this checklist together and spending time
29 and leadership. Motion carried.

30 31 **Council Vacancies/Job Descriptions/Council Challenge**

32 Sarah reviewed the roster and noted that over half of the Council member terms are set to expire
33 in December 2011. If you are interested in continuing to serve, or if you would like assistance
34 in working with your organization to find a replacement, please let Sarah know by July 1. She
35 also asked Council members to be more diligent in reaching out to the organizations they
36 represent to unite the DNR program and the organizations more effectively.

37
38 In addition to filling vacancies and/or extending terms, the Council discussed a need for Council
39 Position Descriptions and reappointment discussion to be completed and to Sarah by July 31, so
40 that final descriptions can be completed by September 15, 2011. Sarah and Linden will create a
41 template and work with Council members on each position.

42
43 Jeff challenged Council members that represent an organization to set up a meeting with their
44 organization with Sarah and Linden prior to our October meeting.

45
46 Scott suggested a public works organization be considered for a Council position. Sandy
47 suggested American Society of Landscape Architects (WA Chapter).

48 49 **Tree City USA Presentation**

1 The Mayor was unable to attend.

2

3 It has been requested that cell phone numbers be included on the roster for Council member use
4 only; please send Sarah your number.

5

6 Action and Agenda Items for October 12, 2011:

7 Kathy and Ara to be meeting leads (Seattle or Bainbridge Island); vacancies and job descriptions
8 revisited, meeting schedule for 2012; articles of association review by Exec committee will be
9 reported on; report on competitive grant submittal; pre-meeting discussion with meeting with
10 Commissioner regarding vacancies; award discussion.

11

12 Meeting adjourned at 2:18.