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**WCFC Meeting
November 12, 2014**

**SeaTac Community Center, room 107
13735 24th Ave. S., SeaTac, WA 98168**

7 **Members Attending:** David Miller, Garth Davis, Cindy Deffe, Joe Scorcio, Sheila Gray, Sandy Salisbury,
8 Terry Flatley, Linden Lampman, Kirsten Lints, Jim Freed, Brian Cramer,

9 **Absent:** Kathy Sheehan; Kathy Wolf, Dave Nelson, Lisa Ciecko, Dave Erickson

10 **Guests:** Ben Thompson, Juli Hartwig (WSDOT), Roger Chouinard (SeaTac Parks), Mia Gregerson, WA
11 State Representative, District 33 and Mayor of SeaTac.

12 **Meeting Convened:** 9:07 a.m.

13 **Welcome:** Chair Sheila Gray called the meeting to order and welcomed council members. Council
14 members introduced themselves.

15 **Minutes approved:** Request to approve minutes from the September 10, 2014 council meeting in
16 Spokane. Motion by Sandy Salisbury, Cindy Deffe, second.

17 **Agenda approved:** Request to amend draft agenda to change order of events. Mark McPherson will
18 present at 10:00 a.m. followed by stormwater discussion. Motion to approve amended agenda, David
19 Miller, second, Salisbury.

20 **Welcome by Mayor:** Mayor Mia Gregerson welcomed the council to SeaTac. Council introduced
21 themselves by name and position they represent on the council. Gregerson talks about the history of the
22 SeaTac community; the city is only about 20-24 years old, but the community existed long before. She
23 cites her challenge as a policy-maker to bring “new” policies that are in line with the historical and
24 cultural nature of the community. She credits the great staff, including as Parks Operations Supervisor,
25 Roger Chouinard (urban forestry manager) and Director of Community and Economic Development,
26 (WCFC council member), Joe Scorcio, for the assistance they provide.

27 Sheila asked about Mayor Gregerson’s background. The Mayor told the council she was born in Taiwan
28 but was adopted and moved to SeaTac at age two. After living in the community she wanted to give
29 back and serve. She became, in her words, an “Accidental Politician.” A city council member was her
30 neighbor and encouraged her to run for an open seat on the city council.

31 The Mayor became increasingly interested in the politics of improving the community and in serving
32 such a diverse population. She cites that voters she talks to are concerned primarily on what they can
33 see, smell, hear and touch; larger policy issues are less of a concern. The Mayor said she is very proud of

1 her city's parks and green space and understands the connection between urban forestry and food
2 security.

3 Joe cites the city's 2 year budgeting forecasting process and says that helps the city take the long view
4 and really work toward clearly identified goals.

5 Gregerson said she will be serving on State Legislative Committees for higher education and
6 transportation.

7 **Program Report:** Linden Lampman recently travelled to North Carolina for the Federal and State Urban
8 and Community Forestry Coordinators Meeting and the Arbor Day Partners in Community Forestry
9 Conference. The meeting and the conference held many opportunities to learn of successes from other
10 states; engaging underserved communities, canopy studies, for example. A Utah presentation described
11 how that state reinvigorated their big tree program, an idea that might be replicated in Washington.
12 There was significant discussion, at the local and national level, about managing programs for resilience
13 in the face of the invasive pest, Emerald Ash Borer. The pest is as close as Boulder, Colorado, and
14 appears to be moving west through the transport of infested firewood.

15 Lampman talked about the 2015 grant program and encouraged council members to promote and
16 distribute the grant applications through the organizations and affiliates which they represent. One goal
17 of the inventory grant is to fulfill in part the intent of the Evergreen Community Act; to inventory all
18 community forests throughout the state.

19 Ben Thompson talked about two upcoming webinars; a grant information webinar and an inventory
20 webinar for inventory grant recipients to learn about how to use inventory data. Tree City USA season is
21 upon us; applications are due by December 15.

22 Gray suggested that workshops that include WSDA pesticide recertification opportunities. This is
23 popular and a way to draw new interest.

24 October 3rd was the kickoff planting for UCF month; the Commissioner of Public Lands was guest
25 speaker. Highlighted at the ceremony was a bench crafted from locust trees as part of the Cedar Creek
26 Correctional Facility wood utilization project. Trees were removed due to their deteriorating condition.
27 There was also a bench of cedar, removed from the City of Olympia and crafted in partnership with the
28 Evergreen College wood shop.

29 Municipal Forestry Institute Scholarships are available. The professional learning opportunity is
30 scheduled to be held at the Oregon Garden Resort in Silverton, Oregon in February 2015; the first time
31 in the Pacific Northwest.

32 Thompson is planning a trip to Yakima to facilitate a meeting with the Yakima Area Arboretum to start a
33 regional tree board. He will also travel to Bainbridge Island for a presentation to a local advocacy group
34 about tree ordinances.

35 UCF is anticipating a proposal from the Washington State University Master Gardener Program to
36 partner in the development of a tree steward program.

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1 **Guest Speaker:** Lampman introduced Mark McPherson. McPherson, a Seattle lawyer and urban forest
2 advocate, served on the Work Group that created the second Urban Forest Protocol for the Climate
3 Action Reserve in California. He is interested in assuring that urban forestry is included within cap and
4 trade legislation, if proposed during the 2015 legislative session.

5 McPherson gave a presentation that explained the California cap and trade program and its impacts for
6 urban forestry. He talked about the 17 million dollar revenue for UCF from selling allowances to carbon
7 sources. In his opinion, the protocols that were developed for UCF offset projects are cumbersome. To
8 date, there have been no UCF offset projects proposed in California.

9 Governor Inslee has set up a Carbon Emission reduction task force for WA. Mark met with Governor's
10 staff to educate them about urban forestry.

11 Mark discussed possibilities for UCF carbon policy and protocol for offset projects in WA.

12 **Stormwater Discussion:** Gray framed the discussion. Earlier this year, State Forester Aaron Everett
13 encouraged the council to explore connections between urban forestry and stormwater. Doug Howie
14 from Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE) was invited as a guest speaker at the last council
15 meeting to educate council members about stormwater regulation, from a DOE perspective.

16 Gray opened discussion, asking for suggestions about actions the council might be taken to advance the
17 role of urban forestry in storm water mitigation.

18 Jim Freed reported that he recently spoke to Everett about possibilities to promote revised stormwater
19 retention designs to include trees and native vegetation.

20 Joe Scorcio said that DOE stormwater policies need to be stronger; not just encourage trees but require
21 them. DOE sets the standard and locals follow it.

22 The council brainstormed ideas and methods on how to frame messaging about trees and stormwater
23 for engineers at DOE as well as for other stakeholders.

24 In summary, the Council would like to create a chart that would summarize and quantify the stormwater
25 benefits of trees. Freed volunteered to do some additional research; Salisbury and Scorcio volunteered
26 to review the products for applicability to DOE-engineer audiences. Kirsten Lints suggested
27 disseminating tree/stormwater information through professional statewide networks of potential users.

28 Freed will take the lead on this effort.

29 **Meeting Dates 2015:**

30 Council discussed dates and places for meetings in 2015. Scorcio moved, Salisbury second the following
31 dates and places:

32	February 11	Olympia	UCF staff lead
33	May 13	Yakima	Lead TBD
34	September 9	North Bend Area/Cedar Creek	Flatley lead
35	November 4	Camas	Lead TBD

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1 **Leadership nominations:** Nominations for leadership positions 2015.

2 Nominations for Council Chair:

3 • Scorcio nominated Gray, Salisbury second.

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5 Nominations for Council Vice-Chair

6 • Flatley nominated David Miller, Freed second.

7 • Gray nominated Flatley, Deffe second.

8 • Scorcio nominated David Erickson, Flatley second.

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10 Voting will take place at the February meeting.

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12 **Meeting Adjourned:** 3:30 p.m.

13 **Next meeting: February 11, Olympia. Natural Resources Building, Room TBD.**