

SEATTLE URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

Tom Early, Chair • Steve Zemke, Vice-Chair
Gordon Bradley • Leif Fixen • Mariska Kecskes • Donna Kostka • Richard Martin • Joanna Nelson de Flores
Jeff Reibman • Erik Rundell

The Urban Forestry Commission was established to advise the Mayor and City Council concerning the establishment of policy and regulations governing the protection, management, and conservation of trees and vegetation in the City of Seattle

January 13, 2016

Meeting Notes

Seattle Municipal Tower, Room 2750 (27th floor)
700 5th Avenue, Seattle

Attending

Commissioners

Tom Early – chair
Steve Zemke – vice-chair
Gordon Bradley
Weston Brinkley (not voting)
Mariska Kecskes
Donna Kostka
Joanna Nelson de Flores
Jeff Reibman
Erik Rundell

Staff

Sandra Pinto de Bader - OSE

Public

Linda Murtfeldt

Absent- Excused

Leif Fixen
Richard Martin

NOTE: Meeting notes are not exhaustive. For more details listen to the digital recording of the meeting at: <http://www.seattle.gov/urbanforestrycommission/meetingdocs.htm>

Call to order

Tom called the meeting to order and read the UFC's mission statement. Sandra introduced Weston Brinkley as the new proposed appointee for Position #3 (University Representative). His appointment is currently underway. He is attending UFC meetings without voting rights until confirmed.

Public comment

Linda Murtfeldt – chair of conservation committee of Seattle Audubon. Comments on the ECA update, her committee has been talking about recommending that developers are required to remove invasive species from the whole property, not just the piece they are working on. Regarding the UFC annual report – wants to commend the UFC on accomplishments and leadership. Appreciate the work they are doing with Cheasty and appreciate the UFC's request to have baseline data. Still wanting to tour the Arboretum and continue to advocate for saving some of the large trees. Regarding the 2016 UFC Work plan: would like to work with UFC on Tree Map. Have new Americorps person to work on that.

Chair report

Sandra mentioned the current Onboarding training for Boards and Commissions and that she is proposing to offer it to the whole group during one of the Commission meeting times.

It would be useful to get reminder of Robert Rules in the Onboarding process.

ECA letter of recommendation – discussion continues and possible vote

Donna walked Commissioners through the new version. Commissioners discussed the changes.

ACTION: A motion to approve the letter of recommendation as amended was made, seconded, and approved.

2015 Annual Report – continues and possible vote

Commissioners provided input and proposed edits.

ACTION: A motion to approve the 2015 Annual Report as amended was made, seconded, and approved.

2016 Work Plan – continues and possible vote

Commissioners went through the work plan and discussed items and lead roles.

Sandra to schedule briefings on the following:

SDOT's freight master plan.

DCI/OPCD on roles going forward.

reLeaf progress and re-branding

Budget primers

WSDOT

Sound Transit

King County

Port of Seattle

2016 is a good opportunity to get the Tree on Private Property ordinance going again and advocate for it to take place in an interdepartmental team fashion. Steve will put together a letter to urge the City to engage several departments on this issue.

Meet with other agencies – add to the work plan.

MIMP recommendation – discussion and possible vote

Move to the next meeting.

Public comment

None

New business and announcements

None

Adjourn

Public input

From: Mary <maryfleckws@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2016 12:36 PM

To: Hamilton, Hillary; Podesta, Fred

Cc: Aguirre, Jesús; Harris, Donald; Nevins, Chip; Shiosaki, Michael; Nyland, Kathy; Finn Coven, Jessica; Sugimura, Diane; Pinto de Bader, Sandra

Subject: 2016 Surplus Property -- SLI/How will these Places Be Part of Our Lives in 2016

Hello Hilary & Fred, Happy New Year!

On January 4, 2016, Seattle Green Spaces Coalition met with Parks Department Superintendent Jesus Aguirre, Don Harris, Chip Nevins and Michael Shiosaki to discuss how surplus properties fit into the city's growing open space and park needs. They were interested to learn of the Statement of Legislative Intent to develop an RFP to estimate the value of Seattle's natural capital and how it can be incorporated in planning, copy attached.

Can you let us know who will be heading this up in FAS?

If you have not already seen David Batker's (EarthEconomics) presentation to City Council on this topic, you may find it very informative.

We are committed to working with the City of Seattle and its many diverse communities to find best future uses for our "excess" and "surplus" properties. So that we can do this effectively, we request:

- (1) Would you kindly provide us with the most **current list** of excess and surplus properties?
- (2) We would like to have **notice given in the event that FAS or any City agents take steps toward disposing** of any property, such as communications with potential sellers, or undertaking analysis of the sites, notice to neighbors, etc. Would you be able to provide us notice of action taken with respect to the sites. Early notification will keep communities well informed and allow better lead time for community engagement.
- (3) Please **identify** whether any properties have been slated for potential sale/disposition in 2016? We have discovered that there is strong public demand for balancing our growing built environment with green space. Communities want to be involved in what the future of the Seattle looks like. We would like to meet with you to discuss your work plan for 2016.

I am cc'ing Kathy Nyland, Jessica Finn Coven, Diane Sugimura and the Urban Forestry Commission as they will undoubtedly be keenly interested in how the city re-purposes 414 acres of open space.

Many thanks,

Mary Fleck, co-Chair, Seattle Green Spaces Coalition