

SEATTLE URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

Tom Early, Chair • Steve Zemke, Vice-Chair
Weston Brinkley • Leif Fixen • Reid Haefer • Donna Kostka • Richard Martin • Joanna Nelson de Flores
Erik Rundell • Andrew Zellers

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 4, 2017

Meeting Notes

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

Attending

Commissioners

Tom Early – chair
Steve Zemke – vice-chair
Craig Johnson (non-voting)
Donna Kostka
Erik Rundell
Andrew Zellers

Staff

Sandra Pinto de Bader - OSE

Public

None

Absent- Excused

Weston Brinkley
Leif Fixen
Reid Haefer
Richard Martin
Joanna Nelson de Flores

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 Commission’s mission and agenda. Due to lack of quorum, the meeting notes will be adopted later.

Public comment

None.

Adoption of December 7 and December 14 meeting notes

ACTION: A motion to approve the December 7 meeting notes as written was made, seconded, and approved.

ACTION: A motion to approve the December 14 meeting notes as amended was made, seconded, and approved.

SCL pruning practices letter – discussion continues

Steve walked the UFC through the new iteration of this letter. He expanded the letter to cover more than SCL and included coordination of tree pruning among City departments. SDOT, Parks and SCL all work on street trees and the letter encourages the City to coordinate that work in order to save money and don't damage trees by over-pruning. Coordination would also result in fewer traffic disruptions and permits for work on street trees.

The Commission discussed the issue.

Donna would like to see the Mayor set up a special committee to study this. Maybe issue a letter about updating the tree regulations as a multi-departmental effort, not just SDCI's. Tom and Steve will work on a new iteration to discuss

UW Urban Forestry Management Plan – letter of recommendation discussion continues

The Commission discussed the draft letter, amended it and adopted it.

ACTION: A motion to approve the December 14 meeting notes as amended was made, seconded, and approved.

DRAFT 2017 Work Plan - continues

Tom has tried to reach out to school district arborists and has received no response. The UFC would like to understand the approach the School District has regarding their urban forest.

The Commission discussed the work plan and amended it. Sandra will clean up the new version for further discussion next week.

Public comment

None.

New Business

None.

Adjourn

Public input:

None.