

Urban Forestry Commission
March 3, 2010
Regular Meeting Summary

Seattle Municipal Tower Room 1940
700 5th Avenue, Seattle 3:00pm – 5:00pm

Attending	
<u>Commissioners</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Elizabeta Stacishin-Moura, Chair	Tracy Morgenstern, OSE
John Small	Shane DeWald, Roy Francis, SDOT
Kirk Prindle	Brent Schmidt, SCL
Peg Staeheli	Mark Mead, Parks
John Hushagen	Craig Chatburn, Tracy Tackett SPU
Matt Mega, Vice-Chair	<u>Public</u>
Jeff Reibman	Richard Ellison, Steve Zemke, John Dixon, Elizabeth Campbell, Margaret Thouless
Absent- Excused	
Nancy Bird, Gordon Bradley	

Public Comment

Richard Ellison, Steve Zemke, and John Dixon provided public comment. Comments included:

- Permits are important to give residents pause before removing trees.
- Can a meeting similar to the meeting with development community interests be set up for wildlife issues?
- John Dixon noted specific examples of tree removals which may violate City rules concerning exceptional trees including some situations where he felt City follow-up in response to his complaints was lacking.

Approval of February 3, 2010 Minutes

The minutes were approved as amended.

Elizabeta Stacishin-Moura moved to adhere to the meeting minute format in Roberts Rules.

Kirk Prindle noted that in his experience with boards and commissions related to natural resources and environmental protection in general, incomplete note taking and a lack of recording minutes was often used to marginalize important issues of natural resource protection. Kirk noted that this marginalization was especially germane to an unwillingness to formally and completely record important public comment. Kirk also noted that the UFC chair emphasized important concerns in regard to the practical ability to complete accurate meeting notes and that there must be viable technological options – i.e., video and audio recording – for fully recording both public comment and all the Urban Forestry Commission and Committee meetings. Kirk moved to table the motion and volunteered to research how other boards and commissions address the accurate recording of meeting minutes and public comment. The motion passed.

Committees

Committee reports were given by Jeff Reibman, Matt Mega, and Kirk Prindle.

Kirk reported that he was elected chair of the Ecosystem Committee. He noted that DR 5-2007 was revised in committee with John Small providing the large majority of edits. The recommendation was referred back to the full commission for approval.

Urban Forest Workplan

Staff provided an overview of the City’s 2010 workplan for urban forestry. Committee members requested more detail about planned activities including responsible staff for each, specific dates for completion, sorting activities by land use zones, total available 2010 budget, estimated cost of each activity, and an estimate of the contribution that each activity would make towards the 2010 tree planting goals.

It was requested that when regulations are being drafted that community members with interest and expertise be “at the table.”

Stormwater Presentation

A presentation, Making the Invisible Visible: Seattle’s Green Stormwater Infrastructure was provided by Craig Chatburn and Tracy Tackett from Seattle Public Utilities and Shane Dewald from Seattle Department of Transportation. The presentation provided an overview of recent changes to Seattle’s Drainage Code.

New Business

Jeff Reibman summarized his meeting with representatives of the Master Builders Association.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

APPROVED: _____ DATE _____
Elizabeta Stacishin-Moura, Chair
Urban Forestry Commission