

SEATTLE URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

Tom Early, Chair • Steve Zemke, Vice-Chair
Weston Brinkley • Leif Fixen • Megan Herzog • Craig Johnson
Joanna Nelson de Flores • Sarah Rehder • 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

December 6, 2017

Meeting Notes

South Park Community Center
8319 8th Ave S, Seattle

Attending

Commissioners

Tom Early – chair
Steve Zemke – vice-chair
Weston Brinkley
Megan Herzog
Craig Johnson
Joanna Nelson de Flores
Sarah Rehder

Staff

Sandra Pinto de Bader - OSE
Alberto Rodriguez - OSE

Public

None

Absent- Excused

Andrew Zellers

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

The Commission travelled to the South Park Community Center to get briefed by the Duwamish Valley Youth Corps and go on a field tour. The work plan review will be moved to one of the January meetings.

Public comment

None

Duwamish Valley Youth Corps briefing

The DVYC talked about the benefits of the urban forest/urban trees; job opportunities; trees along the Duwamish river; simple ways to save trees; and ways to get involved such as planting more trees and becoming a Tree Ambassador.

They pointed out that the Duwamish Valley has the lowest tree canopy in Seattle and the highest rates of asthma.

The DVYC in partnership with several groups have planted 1,000 trees in the community.

Field tour

The DVYC took the Commission to 8th Ave S where SDOT implemented an innovative solution to preserve mature trees while providing ADA accessibility for the community. The DVYC has been maintaining the pedestrian path removing leaves and debris.

The field tour included a visit to the 'scary trail' that connects the two portions of the South Park neighborhood that were separated when Hwy 99 was built. On one side of the highway is the school and on the other side are the library and play field. The DVYC has been removing blackberry and other invasive plants from the trail to make it accessible (community members would rather cross the highway than use the scary trail).

Public comment

None