

National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council

Summer 2016 Virtual Council Business Meeting

Wednesday, July 13, 2016,

10:30 AM - 12:45 PM Eastern

Matsutake (3SW01) – Rsv. #1156779

Connect using: <https://usfs.adobeconnect.com/faca100/>

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1:00-2:15 PM Eastern Urban Forest Connections Webinar

NUCFAC Highlights: Climate change impacts and adaptive strategies

10:30 - 10:45 Introductions (Roll Call – Nancy)

Present: Lance Davisson, Liam Kavanagh, Claire Robinson, Sara Davis, Eli Suzukovich,

Walt Warriner, Karen Firehock, Kamran Abdollahi, Steve Goetz, William Hubbard, Patti Hiram

Not Present: Scott Josiah, Robert Ruano, Lisa Ortega

Staff: Lauren Marshall, Jan Davis, EJ Solomon, Nancy Stremple

Guests: Beth Larry FS – Research, Paul Ries- Sustainable Urban Forestry Coalition, SUFC,

Nancy provided virtual meeting protocols and requested any copies of the work team documents that would be shared for the public record.

Nancy recapped the Council's requests to hear close out presentations from grantees that they recommended. This year's close out presentations are to be included as one of the Forest Service's (FS) Urban Connections Webinar Series. Lauren provided some background related to how it was part of the Science, Technology Delivery Team. One of their action items is to have several Urban Forestry related webinars to showcase the latest in FS urban forestry research and technology transfer. Lauren Marshall and Beth Larry are Co-Chairs. This month they are highlighting NUCFAC recommended grants. These will be presented after the business meeting at 1:00 PM.

Patti Hiram briefed the members on the FS national leadership forum at Grey Towers. The meeting consisted of 350 virtual and in-place participants. The group was made up of urban forestry and stewardship staff. The meeting focused on strategic items and one day focused on urban forestry. The Ten Year Urban Forestry Action Plan Summary was presented and referred to often.

Paul Ries- Both SUFC and NUCFAC completed their strategic plans within the last year. They were very similar and they discussed how to connect more in their efforts. Paul and Lance will work together more to ensure crosswalking and a value added approach to implementation of the two plans.

10:45 – 11:00 Council Updates (Nancy)

COUNCIL DECISION-Past Meeting Minutes were submitted for review and voting - Steve motioned, Second by Kamran, Consensus, Approved

-Grants Team - 2016 Grants were recommended, 2017 Received **Category 1 Funding/evaluation systems: 5 unscreened proposals, Category 2 Ecosystem Services: 9 unscreened proposals.** The review panel will initiate the review in September.

11:00 – 11:30 Council Work Team updates

-UCF Ten Year Action Plan (TYAP)

Implementation / Outreach – Claire Robinson /Liam Kavanagh

Lance facilitated the discussion: Claire- discussed the collective impact model and how we work with TYUFAP every day.

Score card –Walt: We need to reconnect with community efforts and gather antidotal information on what is happening with them. He referenced California’s \$30 million coming on board with cap and trade to help disadvantaged communities. It came out without tracking protocol money. No way to document urban dollars. **Claire will include this in her report.**

Liam – on partnerships. We need to leverage our existing organizations that we already work with. He referenced a potential blog post on the National City/ Park Alliance about the TYUFAP in relation to the nationwide parks movement. Incorporate their values and goals. Follow up with a webinar with the City Parks Alliance. Repeat this with the National Arbor Day Foundation. People are generally interested and included discussion with the urban heat island and steps to take to highlight the issue.

Lance- Thanked them for identifying actions with the TYUFAP. Requested the FS to highlight what FS is doing that links up goals with the action plan. Lauren will provide him with a list.

We will also format our grant categories to reflect Goals and Actions in The Action Plan. It is good to see how the pieces are building.

Lauren commented – Field leadership forum. Does include the forest supervisors and how the community is working together.

-Annual Report to the Secretary of Agriculture

– Bill Hubbard: We are working on the Letter to the Secretary this fall. Kamran, Walt and Eli, will collect input from WO and will put together a four page report that will be followed up with a letter. The report will focus more with what is happening with the plan and include the Council’s impact. **They will engage Council on the direction they wish to go.** Presently they are gathering input from WO staff.

Promote the plan, promote healthy communities, and highlight investments (i.e. urban waters, and research science, and technology delivery team. Use info graphic areas we can repeat.

Highlight the successful grants.

What does the Council think of the format? Lauren commented that last year’s format was spot on and well received. Lauren will share the five page document.

Lance- our target is November meeting as the due date for final draft. Focus the report on TYUF action plan and what it might look like. Lance suggested to set up a call with the work team leads and what they would like to add. Follow the format of the new action plan.

The grants team highlighted different sections of the action plan.

-National UCF Challenge Cost Share Grants

– Sara Davis -Already discussed the next cycle for our next grant category. We are using the research agenda. Our presentations will be a result of the TYUFAP action plan

-Leadership Team

– Lance Davisson- At the November meeting we will continue to demonstrate transparency and leadership.

Work team leads – **We will identify work team leads and the Chair.**

Jan noted that it will take a while to have the appointments finalized. We had the renewal of the Council's Charter that required a Barrier Analysis by Civil Rights for Outreach. Our meeting with them went well. Our outreach efforts will be used as a good example of how we are increasing diversity on the Council. We also anticipate a possible slow down with administration change. Robert and Liam will continue to serve until their replacements have been appointed.

ACTION ITEMS:

Claire to include in her report Walt's comment on the "Score Card" to connect with communities and gather antidotal information on what is happening with them and how to document urban dollars.

Due date: November NUCFAC Meeting

NUCFAC Accomplishment Report Work Team:

-Engage the Council on the direction they wish to go.

Due date: Prior to November NUCFAC meeting

Accomplishment Work Team -Final Draft of 2016 Annual Accomplishment Report for Council approval vote: **Due date:** November NUCFAC meeting.

Bill to set up a call with the work team leads and what they would like to add. **Due date:** Prior to Fall NUCFAC meeting.

Grants Work Team - Nancy to draft final description for 2018 RFP, share with Grant Work Team.

Due date: November NUCFAC meeting, for a January 2017 Release

Leadership Team- to meet and come up with work team leads and recommend a Vice Chair that would eventually become chair.

11:30-11:40 Break -Ten minutes.

11:40 – 12:15 Forest Service Updates (Lauren and Jan)

-Program & Budget

– The overall program with states running smooth. We have new Federal Program managers coming on board soon to replace the ones that recently retired.

The CARS state data reached 8000 communities and over 2 million people. The final data should be available in November.

Julie Mawhoter is detailing behind Alice and doing Urban Waters.

Dan Jiron new deputy chief.

Patti talked about the fire fixes and an alternative path to have it addressed.

-Budget – 2017 house and senate

House kept us at our present funding levels, the Senate's proposed budget reduced our level of funding for 2017. Most likely we will be in a Continuing Resolution CR in which we will be kept at our current 28 million, but the potential of a 23 million budget is still out there.

-Initiatives

Lauren provided updates on the urban water initiative, American Forests and the Science, Technology, Delivery Team Web platform

-Ten Year Urban Forestry Action Plan

FS activities around the implementation of the Action Plan.

We linked the plan to the USDA blog. It shows all the areas that they have worked on the plan. We are letting partners know about the Action Plan and how to use it as a guide.

Beth is working with Kathy Wolf to have the research piece printed within the next couple of months.

Karen – will send out a spreadsheet of where we are presenting at state conferences.

Scott work will work on overlap and alignment with the new positions at the National Association of State Foresters (NASF)

Lance has templates for presentations.

SAF- is struggling to find their niche with urban forestry.

Initiatives

-Started a project with American Planning Association, APA – Paul and Karen were at the first meeting.

What would the population of the US look like in the future? Focus on Green Infrastructure, GI, the Wildland Urban Interface, WUI and urban wildlife. Next phase APA – looking at cities to pilot.

Arbor Day Foundation ADF is working on energy saving trees.

Beth and Lauren are working with American Forests, AF in developing a web platform for Forest Service research.

-Travel

We are changing the way we track our travel. It will make it easier to make your travel arrangements and easier for the travel folks to have a clear understanding of your travel needs and plans. The new travel form will explain what you can or can't do. And the limitations outside of NUCFAC business. It is also for safety reasons that we know where you are once you are in travel status.

ACTION ITEMS:

Karen Firehock to send out a spreadsheet of where we are presenting at state conferences.

Due date: Prior to Fall NUCFAC meeting.

Scott Josiah will work on overlap and alignment with the new NASF positions and provide an update.

Due date: Prior to Fall NUCFAC meeting

Lance has templates for presentations to provide copies to Nancy, **Due Date:** October 2016

12:15 – 12:30 **Council Activities Discussion**

-Fall Business Meeting at the Partners in Community Forestry Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana – Council. We will be sending our letter of availability with the new Travel form.

- Council Business meeting Monday November 14, 2016, 9 AM – 5 PM
- Other Pre-Conference meetings Tuesday November 15th
- NUCFAC Booth or Exhibit - have poster boards, 1 pager of the NUCFAC action plan, and backdrop banners sent to the conference. Identify who will be staffing the booth.

ACTION ITEMS:

Nancy will send out with the letter of availability with the new Travel Form. **Due date:** September

Nancy to ship TYUFAP poster boards: Summary NUCFAC Action Plan, backdrop banners. **Due date:** Ship Week before NUCFAC meeting.

Council to identify who will be staffing the exhibit booth. **Due Date:** Fall NUCFAC meeting

12:30-12:40 **Reserved Public Comment** – Contact nstremple@fs.fed.us a minimum of 1 week prior to meeting.

Paul Ries, SUFC – Complimented the Council and their work on the action plan. It has been great, and he also noted that they will be working together on it with NUCFAC. Updated the Council on the SUFC activities.

ACTION ITEM:

Lance to update the Council on mutual activities that SUFAC and NUCFAC have been working.

Due date: Fall NUCFAC Meeting.

12:45 **Urban Connections Webinar Introduction**

Lauren explained how the Science Technology Team has worked together for about 2 years and as part of it developed the Urban Connections Webinar series to share with the public the result of recent research and studies. This particular segment of the series focused on showcasing past Forest Service National Urban and Community Forestry Grants that the Council recommended for funding. The series will start after the business meeting adjourns.

Adjourn 12:15 PM

Urban Forest Connections Webinar

1:00-2:15 Urban Connections Webinar – *NUCFAC Highlights: Climate change impacts and adaptive strategies*

Lance Davisson (NUCFAC Chair) will introduce the Council, the National UCF Action Plan and Research Agenda that guide the future of UCF research across the country.

Graeme Lockaby (Auburn University) and Wayne Zipperer (US Forest Service) will present results from an Atlanta study of the common risk factors associated with the transmittal of West Nile Virus, such as forest patch size and composition, climate variables, and socioeconomic conditions, all potentially relevant factors to transmittal of the Zika virus.

Andy Whitman (Manomet Sustainable Economies Program) will introduce a new workbook designed to help communities manage and use their urban forest resources to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

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Due date: Fall NUCFAC Meeting.

Jan Davis to provide Bill Hubbard a copy of the applicable CARS data for the annual Accomplishment Report. **Due date:** Prior to Fall NUCFAC meeting.