

SUFC Steering Committee Meeting October 10, 2014

Participating: Scott Maco, Anne Buckelew, Dan Lambe, Paul Ries, Steve Sinclair, Don Winsett, Jen Hinrichs, Mark Garvin

Policy Update:

- Gerry Gray (ACTrees), Jen Hinrichs (SUFC), Brent Keith (NASF) & Peter Bachman (NACD) met with Under Sec. Robert Bonnie, Ag and his chief of staff, Meryl Harrell in September. The purpose of the high-level meeting was to reinforce support of urban issues and solidify the connection of urban forestry to climate change work.
- Don Winsett and Jen Hinrichs met with Rep. Sarbanes (MD) staff and Rep. Valadao (CA) staff. Sarbanes: To introduce SUFC/UF to Sarbanes and begin cultivation of UF champion. Next step is proposed UF tour in Baltimore, MD area with regional partners. Valadao: Introduce Don to enviro staffer and introduce idea of UF tour in San Joaquin Valley urban centers.

Urban Research:

- September meetings with DOI and Dep Under Sec. Butch Blazer focusing on SUFC/UF R&D. Common them b/w both meetings was youth education and development.
 - Blazer meeting: Carl Lucero, FS, Gerry Gray, Scott Maco & Jen Hinrichs attended. SUFC/Cara Boucher following up on SUFC representation on FRAC per Butch's query/suggestion.
 - DOI meeting: Gerry, Scott and Jen met with Lisa Pelstring, Urban Advisor, DOI. Noted multiple contact points/follow up opportunities @ urban within DOI; looking at presenting via webinar or conf. call to internal urban team at DOI.
- Urban FIA (see extensive R&D notes – to be posted) from October meeting. At annual NASF meeting, state foresters introduced urban forestry resolution as critical to FIA but ultimately tabled for further internal discussion in NASF. Focus on current programming and outstanding commitments. Importance of urban voice at future Congressional hearing on FIA was flagged. Policy WG to review.

Outreach Efforts:

- Don Winsett and Jen met with National Association of Regional Councils to identify potential areas of mutual interest (NARC has received UF grants in the past); WEF to introduce leadership and identify specific areas where WEF and SUFC can collaborate; National League of Cities (NLC) to meet new Sustainability Mgmt and explore specific collaboration ideas. Follow up with all three organizations under way.
- SUFC is drafting (with help from Fifth Estate Communications) an article for ICMA publication and with American Public Health Association (APHA - Q & A on UF). Next, SUFC will pursue another article on urban wood utilization with NE Research Station.

- Dan Lambe is facilitating an introduction to the [AASHE](#) (Assoc. of Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education) and SUFC. An assoc rep. should be attending the Partners Conf.

Strategic Planning:

- Jen is pursuing strategic planning and RFP development with Bill Kruidenier and other potential facilitators/experts to help frame our needs and next steps.
- Potentially host early summer meeting with Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Cmte (Jen, Don, Steve, Ann Gosline). Jen to invite all SUFC members to serve if interested.
- Plan should overlay with fiscal needs; affirm how members assess the value of the Coalition; and how to keep & attract members.

Gen'l:

- SUFC Breakfast Briefing will be held at 7:30 AM at the Partners in Urban Forestry Conference, Nov. 6th. SUFC is also a contributing member to inclusive mixer on eve of Conference. All the Urban Forestry Coordinators have been invited to the briefing via Jen/Cara.
- SUFC Annual Meeting will be held in Washington, DC on **Thursday, Feb. 26th** per Doodle poll of Steering Cmte members +. Reception TBD.
- Anne Buckelew is leaving U&CF program. Lauren Marshall is joining program and will be Partners Conf.
- Reminder SUFC dues are \$650 in Jan. 2015. Jen is working with American Forests to get all invoicing, payments, match hour tracking, and meeting registration moved on-line.
- SUFC Steering Cmte meeting, DC: December 9th.