

SUFC Steering Committee Call

September 27, 2013

Participating: Steve Sinclair, Cara Boucher, Jen Hinrichs, Carrie Gallagher, Keith Cline, Peter Hutchins, Julia Anastasio, Rebecca Turner, Scott Maco and Gerry Gray

1. Partners Conference, Pittsburg: Cmte members re-stated the importance of addressing the shift in the Vibrant Communities focus and reduction in vision/scope from last year's presentation in Sacramento to the present. Jennifer and Keith will work with Jan Davis to provide a few talking points addressing the direction change (re-evaluated resources available and what would provide best value; positive emphasis on the "good stuff" that came out of the VC (communications) initiative this year; poss. Reference to convening funders work)
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Keith and Jennifer to collaborate on talking points for Jan – and for quick reference during lightening round sessions with Jen/Scott Ward (Fifth Estate)
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Steve and Jennifer to connect on Steve's suggestion to re-engage Task Force members in some manner.
2. The attached invitation was designed to attract new audiences and potential funders to Partners Conf. It is being distributed by SUFC members to targeted funders/contacts. Funder's orientation session TBD by response to outreach. All welcome to sit in on next meeting 10/10.
3. Policy WG has several House staff appts this week as part of on-going advocacy strategy that has a year-round focus – several still on despite furlough. Discussing wider agenda but UF is part of talking points – including value of UF, good ROI etc. Continuing conversation with Rep. Moran (VA) office. Rebecca is also working with a Fire Funding Coalition (FLAME plus) to address fire funding transfer issues – bringing message to larger green groups to share message. Issue is receiving greater reception and interest by green groups than in past years.
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Jen to coordinate with Policy Chairs for Dec. meetings – include strong research element in discussion platform.
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Jen/Scott on behalf of Research WG are working to identify common language and underscore policy outreach efforts.
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Steering meeting in Washington, DC in early December is an opportunity to bring SUFC members to the Hill. There was a strong positive response from call participants and willingness to incorporate this into DC trip.
4. SUFC communication: Monthly "Notes from SUFC Chair" underway. eNewsltr re-invigorated with ADF graphic/communication/IT support. Vibrant Communities outreach underway via targeted articles on UF and social justice/equal access issues. ACTrees and others are willing to re-post and APWA always open to guest bloggers.
5. SUFC has signed MOU with American Forests re: fiscal sponsorship and Forest Service grant award issued.
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Keith will pursue a letter from FS leadership to thank Jim Skiera/ISA for their multi-year contributions to SUFC/UF community (targeted to ISA Board).
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Jen to draft letter from SUFC leadership to same above.

MISC:

- 10 year NUCFAC report delayed due to FS funding restriction (fire suppression).
- Jen coordinating NAS debrief on UF research workshop report/findings. Confirmed for DC-based APA hosted. (NB: all NAS grant funds fully depleted). Second briefing will be held via webinar for national audience. **Date confirmed: October 28, 11:30-1 p.m.** Invitation forthcoming.
- Julia, Peter and Jennifer will work together to craft agenda and outcomes for Steering Cmte meeting in DC, Dec.
- Brent Keith is confirmed as the new Policy Director at NASF.