

Summary of SUFC Steering Committee Call November 8, 2012

Participating: Gerry Gray, Keith Cline, Don Winsett, Steve Sinclair, Julia Anastasio, Scott Steen, Carrie Gallagher, Dan Lambe, Jen Hinrichs (convener)

NOTE:

Wednesday, December 5th

9 a.m. – 2 p.m. SUFC Steering Committee meeting

ASLA Offices

636 Eye St NW

Washington, DC 20001

2 p.m. – 4 p.m. Vibrant Communities Pilot meeting (all invited)

ALSA

5:30 p.m. NASF Reception

Hall of States, Rm. 283

444 North Capitol Street (next door to The Phoenix Hotel)

Short-term funding solutions:

- Despite SUFC member contributions to underwrite the bulk of SUFC annual meeting expenses – SUFC will still need nominal funds to operate. The default plan is to use unrestricted funds to cover operational expenses and invoice the Forest Service for retroactive reimbursement if grant funds are awarded in 2013.
- Steering Committee will look at our longer-term funding solutions to reduce dependence upon Forest Service funding (on-going shrinking federal resources noted). This issue will be included in the December 5th strategic growth conversation in DC.

Long-Term planning and strategic growth:

- Continuing the conversation from past Steering calls, SUFC members confirmed focus of December meeting and requested the following be addressed (not inclusive):
 - Recognition of where SUFC has been, are currently and what are the next stages/steps for SUFC (thinking deeply about the direction of SUFC and how to grow to X level of maturity)
 - What models or structure should SUFC consider going forward (AMC, 501 c (3), current scenario, +)

- Administrative questions linked to maturing and growing SUFC: Does our current dues structure reflect true costs; is our decision-making process effective/efficient & should we formalize and elevate the research ad hoc committee to reflect coalition interest;
- What are the benefits of stepping up to be the next SUFC fiscal sponsor/managing organization
- How does SUFC more effectively work toward financial independence
- How does the Vibrant Communities Initiative fit into SUFC growth scenario
- What is the best process to advance the issues and discussion of strategic growth and change among full SUFC membership
- Revisit our operating and policy principals and past strategic planning documents

All of these issues are linked to each other in some form direct SUFC's strategic growth. The December meeting is a starting point for developing your responses, being transparent and inclusive about the process, and finally making recommendations to the larger membership.

ACTION ITEMS:

- ALL: Please confirm if you will stay through the evening to attend the NASF Reception at 5:30 p.m. in DC. I will provide a confirmed guest list to NASF later this month.
- ALL: Please make travel reservations as necessary for the Dec 5th meeting. The Steering Cmte meeting will be 9 a.m. -2 p.m. (breaking for lunch), followed by a Vibrant Communities pilot meeting from 2-4 p.m. All are encouraged to participate in this meeting. (NASF reception to follow).
- Jennifer: will develop December 5th meeting agenda and distribute one week prior to the meeting
- Jennifer: will pull other coalition models and past strategic planning efforts by SUFC as appropriate
- Jennifer: draft potential benefits for SUFC members considering SUFC fiscal sponsorship/management