

SUFC Steering Committee Notes Monday, August 20, 2012

Participating: Don Winsett, Carrie Gallagher, Scott Steen, Gerry Gray, Steve Sinclair, Alice Ewen, Keith Cine, Jim Skiera, Julia Anastasio, Dan Lambe, (Jen Hinrichs)

National Academies of Science Work Shop:

- The National Academies of Science (NAS) is hosting a workshop, *Urban Ecosystem Services: Toward a national research agenda for quantifying the benefits of urban tree canopy*. (See the preliminary attached summary. More detailed information on the 1.5 day workshop is forthcoming.) October 29-30, 2012.
- The purpose of the workshop (funded in part by the Forest Service) is to bring a diverse science community together with practitioners and end users to advance common metrics and methodologies on urban ecosystem services and identify knowledge gaps.
- The results of the workshop will be multifold for the UF community, including informing the NUCFAC recommended urban research priorities (report out in 2015) and providing a synthesis of the state of the urban research field. The NAS has strong credibility on the Hill and the results/outcomes of the workshop are independent.
- Workshop capacity is limited to approximately 100 people. NAS will work to have a cross-section of communities and representatives participating in the workshop to help bridge multiple communities and raise the visibility of integrated urban system research. While on-site participation is limited (and full registration required/no early departures etc.), the workshop will be webcast and a dedicated website forum will be developed.
- SUFC leadership (YOU as the Steering Committee) is considering **sponsoring the reception on October 29th** at the National Academies of Science Building (on the Washington, DC Mall). Funds to support the reception (approx. \$2,500) would be pulled from the unrestricted funds raised by SUFC (held by ACTrees) and through other interested sponsors. *NOTE: Reception will be held on the eve BETWEEN the two events per SUFC suggestion and subsequent approval by NAS (29th). – good call Steering Committee.*

Current Unrestricted SUFC Funds Balance: \$7,195.75 (as of 8/12)

- Pending/invoiced: \$6,000 from SUFC strategic and supporting partners (SavATree and WRT)

Projected Available Funds Subtotal (9/12): \$13,195.75

Expected expenses through 12/12 include:

- SUFC contractual expenses: \$3,500 (advocacy related only)
- Proposed National Academy of Sciences Reception: >\$1,500
- Miscellaneous Expenses: \$1,000 (travel, refreshments, gen'l expenses not covered by restricted grant funds)

Projected Expenses Subtotal: \$ 6,000

Note: SUFC membership fees are collected in January 2013 for the calendar year, thus replenishing baseline unrestricted funds (approx. \$8,000 revenue expected from membership if annual dues of \$400 cap remains.) Outside of on-going nominal contractual expenses and special event refreshment expenses, there are no current draws on the unrestricted funds. However, the long-term objective is to build funds to cover more comprehensive advocacy work and diversify SUFC funding portfolio (outside FS funding).

[ACTION: Please respond to Jennifer re: your vote yes or no on SUFC sponsorship of the NAS reception.](#)

Partners Conference – Sacramento 2012

SUFC Reception – Pre-Partners Conference, November 13th

- SUFC, American Forests, Alliance for Community Trees, Utility Arborists Association, Society of Municipal Arborists and Continental Dialogue are co-hosting a mixer/reception on the eve of the Partners Conference. Cost to SUFC directly is minimal (<\$500 or none) and sponsorship is shared by SUFC listed SUFC member organizations. The reception is inclusive, open to all SUFC members and guests.

SUFC will present at the plenary session on Vibrant Cities (14th) and host a briefing breakfast (15th) but will not convene a larger SUFC membership outside these events. SUFC Steering Committee – or some members thereof – may reserve a small window of time to meet re: SUFC growth/capacity planning. TBD.

SUFC capacity building/leadership planning: Steering Committee will NOT meet in Washington, DC on September 6th but will hold a one-hour meeting to outline planning goals and objectives. The time has yet to be determined; a meeting poll will be issued shortly.

A tentative planning timeline was approved:

- September 6th Call
- October Call (x2?)
- November potential meeting in Sacramento at Partners Conf.
- First Week of December: Washington, DC – full day meeting*

*Meeting in PERSON in Washington, DC: First week of December (coincides with NASF meeting). Tentative date set for **Thursday, December 5th**.

[ACTION: Please mark your calendars for a full day SUFC Leadership Meeting in DC on Thursday, December 5th \(including your travel time\).](#)