Washington Community Forestry Council Meeting
November 3, 2020
Conference Call

Members Attending: Angel Spell, Cindy Deffe, Dave Bayard, Juli Hartwig, Kirsten Lints, Lisa Ciecko, Paula Dinius, Semra Riddle, Kathleen Wolf, Kathy Sheehan, David Miller, Ian Gray

Members Absent: Gary Stamper, John Bornsworth

Guests: Jeremy Porter, Daria Gosztyla, Sandy Letzing, Garth Davis, Terra Rentz, Andy Tate, Margaret Brost

Meeting Convened: 9:02 a.m.

Welcome: Chair welcomed members. Roll was taken.

Approval of Minutes: Semra approves, David Bayard seconds, a vote was called for: motion passes. Kathy Sheehan abstains

Nominations for 2021 Council leadership nominations:

Juli briefed the council on her experience as the council chair, as did David Bayard. Ben offered perspective on the council’s history and current momentum as a body. Angel Spell reflected on her experience as past chair and thanked Juli and David for their leadership. Juli led a call for nominations from the floor.

Semra nominates Juli and David for another term as chair and vice chair. Kathy Wolf offers the reverse, with David taking on the role of chair and Juli serving as vice chair. Kathy commented on a synergy she perceives between DNR efforts and current council membership and leadership. Juli nominates David Bayard for Chair. David nominates John Bornsworth for either chair or vice chair. Juli nominates Semra for vice chair.

Angel commented that the vote occurs at the February meeting, which gives nominees time to consider.

Juli called for a motion to end the nominations. Kirsten moved, Angel seconded. Vote was called for, motion carries. Kathy Sheehan abstains.

Dates for 2021 meeting dates: Discussion of mixing up the length and frequency of council meetings in 2021. A discussion ensued about whether to keep the existing schedule or not. David Bayard and Semra Riddle endorsed longer meetings but not necessarily less frequent. David B suggested the use of additional subcommittees to spread out the workload and save time at meetings through updates and
report outs from subcommittees. Kathy Wolf suggested more frequency to help maintain momentum on projects. David Miller suggested there may be more opportunity to meet in person in 2021, which would make more meetings more challenging in the way of personal obligations of time required for travel. Kathy Wolf offered that a hybrid model is likely.

Kathy moves to keep the Feb, April, June, September, November, meeting schedule with details of Kirsten seconds.

The Council then discussed durations of the meetings. Kirsten suggested blocking out larger blocks of time to have the time if needed, and cut the meeting down if there isn’t as much to discuss. Semra suggested a 3.5 hour meeting duration that includes a half hour break. Kirsten moved, Semra approved.

Ben will send out a doodle poll for a 3.5 hour meeting duration for those 5 months.

Council check-in

Kathy Wolf discussed conversations with healthcare providers about the health benefits of urban forests

Juli commented on how the head of WSDOT has made a concerted effort to stay in touch with agency employees and supports self-care and mutual support. Juli requested an updated copy of the council roster. Ben will update the roster and provide a copy to all council members.

Paula has had 100 people register for the on-line tree stewards course and had 25 of those complete the course. Paula suggested it might be time to promote the course again.

David B announced their new UFMP is open for public comment. He applauds the city of Seattle for their efforts to include the voices of community members and organizations that are not typically represented in urban forestry activities.

David Miller has been serving on an equity subcommittee with AWC, working with national league of cities to develop capacity for cities to implement more equitable and inclusive ways of doing business. David’s participation was directly related to the work of the WCFC

Juli moved to adjourn the meeting, David M. seconded. A vote was called for, motion passes

Meeting Adjourned: 11:00 a.m.

Next meeting: Zoom, in February, date and time t.b.d.