

Alaska Community Forest Council

Mission: Promoting the benefits of local trees and forests to improve Alaska communities

PO Box 241282, Anchorage, Alaska 99524

.AMay 8, 2020, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Atwood Building 550 West 7th Ave, Conference Room 1236

Teleconference line: 1-800-315-6338

Access Code: 08465#

Videoconference Link: [LINK HERE](#)



ACFC Spring Meeting Minutes

Call to order: 8:30 a.m.

Roll call

Nan Mundy

Gino Graziano

Jim Renkert

Kathy Sheehan

Meg Burgett

Pat Ryan

Mitch Michaud

Elise Huggins

Nathan Lojewski

Dan Reese

Kathy Sheehan

Jim Renkert

Josh Hightower

Ashley List

A. Housekeeping

8:30 – 9:00

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------|-------|
| a. Introductions | 5 min |
| b. Any changes or additions to agenda | |
| None | 2 min |
| c. Review and approval of March minutes | |
| Elise Moved to approve, Meg second | 5 min |
| d. Treasurers Report | |
| Checking \$13,082.51 | |
| Savings \$1,503.33 | |

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| B. Program Reports | 9:00 – 9:30 |
| a. Federal | |
| See forwarded message from Jim | 15 min |
| b. State | |
| See message from Jim | 15 min |
| C. Foraker Group Training | 9:30 – 11:30 |
| a. Board Facilitation - <i>Mike Walsh. Foraker Group</i> | 2 hrs |
| D. Lunch Break | 11:30 – 1:00 |
| | 1 hrs |
| E. ACFC Old Business | 1:00 – 2:30 |
| a. Arbor Day 2020 | 15 min |
| i. Governor's proclamation | |
| ii. Alternative celebration ideas | |
| b. 2020 ACFC Arbor Day Grants | |
| Gino moved, Nathan seconded that the Arbor Day committee review the Grant proposals and decide which to award so long as we stay within the just approved budget. People on the review committee: Elise, Nan, Dan, Gino, and Meg. | |
| Motion passed | |
| c. Switched to budget discussion | |
| Meg motioned to accept budget; Mitch seconded. Budget was \$4,200 in income, and \$4,026 in expenses. | |
| Discussion for changes and ideas for special projects. Tree forum, tree boxes, Prunus padus/virginiana alternatives, training with Foraker. Many members support funding Foraker training. | |
| Discussion to put \$750 in for training from Foraker group for strategic planning \$1,500 in the budget for special projects. | |
| New Budget anticipating \$4,200 from organizations | |
| Budget amended : Total expenses \$5,656, with \$1,500 for special projects, ACFC | |

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development \$750, and Arbor Day \$3,000, committee reimbursements for \$100, PO Box \$206 and Misc. supplies \$100. Meg and Mitch accepted amendment. Nathan calls the question. Motion passed.

30 min

- d. ACFC Nominating committee, Meg, Dan, Elise, and Mitch

15 min

- i. Present nomination slate
- ii. Vote

Dan suggested approval of all those that applied, and move Paul G. to the arborist seat. Discussion of the applicants backgrounds and seats they would go into. Nathan moved and Gino seconded to accept the recommendation of the nominating committee. Meg called the question. Motion passed.

- e. Elect a new Chair and Vice-Chair

Nathan nominated Meg for chair; Elise seconded. Gino called the question. None opposed. Meg is the new chair.

Discussion on new Vice Chair, and that a new treasurer is needed in another year.

Discussion of role of Vice Chair.

Elise moved, and Nathan seconded to table remaining nominations until the next meeting.

15 min

- f. Arbor Day Foundation, Trees for Alaska *Update*

15 min

- i. *Prunus Mackii*
- ii. *Sorbus aucuparia L.*
- iii. *Populus tremula 'Erecta'*

Josh discussed the lists, and those will be given back to the Arbor Day Foundation and post them on their website. Goal is to give Arbor Day Foundation a better list of trees.

Josh, Gino, Patrick, and Elise will go through the Arbor Day list, and then Plants For Alaska to provide input on those listed trees. The committee is tasked with seeking input from around the state.

Josh wanted to discuss the three species on the agenda, as part of the suitability.

Discussion of *Maackii*, some spread, but not really substantial. Is poisonous to moose, but is a great tree for parking lots, but not



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necessarily street trees. Gino asked if there are alternatives. Elise noted some crabapple, but not much else. Discussed a need to bring up some of the negative qualities of these trees. Sorbus aucuparia, does spread, but in Southcentral usually munched by moose. Not the case in Southeast Alaska. Discussion to not recommend species that may be invasive. For the populus erecta, there may be an alternative the columnar birch. The P. erecta seems to just spread by roots.

Josh hopes to have 10 trees in each category/region for these trees.

Discussion of audience this is for. General Public. We can remove the three trees discussed, Prunus maackii, Sorbus, and Populus and recommend not planting these.



F. ACFC New Business

2:30-3:00

a. Memorial Tree Planting (Steve O'Sullivan)

Trying to get ahold of the person that could facilitate this, more to come.

15 min

b. Anchorage Community Tree Forum #2

15 min

i. Wildfire in the wildland/urban interface

Would like to hold another, the first was very successful. Nan suggested using Zoom as Southeast AK Master Gardeners have done. Also discussed a webinar with a moderator addressing the questions in the chat room. Nathan asked when this would be and is fire the topic. Did a survey to come up with the next topic and wildfire came out on top, others included dealing with beetle etc.

Meg suggested doing shorter once a week community tree forums online covering one topic a week. Nathan suggested having the fire experts with Forestry or Anchorage Fire Department to lead this, and we would sponsor. Discussion of Social Media. How to do this, and get it out to partners to post on their Facebook pages.

G. Community/Council Member Reports (3 min/each)

3:00 – 3:30

Mitch doing a virtual pollinator hunt, and a tree planting at the library.

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Nan – Juneau Urban Forestry Partnership is working with the city to plant an orchard next to Twin Lakes. Goes down to the lake, may have some problems with beaver. It is going through and fun to see the enthusiasm.

Elise – Nothing new to report. Covid quarantines has slowed things down. The school bonds did pass so some work should occur in coming year/s.

Patrick- Community Tree Forum, and other committees with the Council. Alaska Botanical Garden is doing plant sales online. Offered to do the tree distribution for SAF through the garden.

Gino – Writing an article about *Prunus padus* for SAF. Will be conducting *Prunus* control research this summer in Anchorage and Fairbanks.

Nathan – Fire crew started a week ago. Some from out of state had to come up early. Has an employee doing a graduate student project that involves trying to identify green trees infested with spruce beetle to remove them before the beetles leave.

Dan – Did an assessment/appraisal of a tree. Arbor day committee met and are doing a couple of events this spring. M

Meg – not a lot to report. Wasilla SWCD is interviewing for Project Learning Tree coordinator next week.



H. Further Discussion

As time allows

I. 2020 Work Plan

Jim and Meg will work on an outline of a workplan to propose at the next meeting.

As time allows

J. Action Items

As time allows

K. Next Meeting, Monthly teleconference

June 11, 2020, 12:00 – 1:00 pm

L. Adjourn

Elise moved to adjourn, Patrick second. Motion passed

3:20