

Alaska Community Forest Council

PO Box 241282, Anchorage, Alaska 99524

August Quarterly Meeting Minutes Compiled by J. Hightower

*** = action item

Attendance

Paul Guzenski
Dan Reese (remote)
Laura Charlton
Elise Huggins
Nathan Lojewski
Robert Gorman
Mitch Michaud (remote)
Alex Wenninger
Marya Pillifant
Patrick Ryan
Susan Rogers (remote)
Nan Mundy (remote)
Meg Burget

Josh Hightower
Jim Renkert

Craig Anderson

A. Housekeeping (9:00 – 9:25)

1. Welcome & Introductions (5 min)
2. Review and approval of May minutes (5 min)
Elise Motions to approve, Nathan seconds. None opposed.
3. Any changes or additions to agenda (5 min)
Add discussion of Arbor Day grants to item E. ACFC New Business.
4. Treasurers Report (10 min)
***Jim to check P.O. box – there may be a check from SAF.

***Alex to get key for P.O. box from Gino.

Alaska Community Forest Council

PO Box 241282, Anchorage, Alaska 99524

Activity since last report: \$0.20 deposited into savings account – interest.

Elise motions to approve, Pat seconds. None opposed.

ACFC Treasurer's Report August 18, 2021

By Nathan Lojewski

Account	StatementDate	Balance	Notes
Checking-1101204060	7/21/2021	\$5,054.06	Mat-Su School District and JUFPA Arbor Day Grants - \$800
Savings -7783585990	7/31/2021	\$8,051.88	\$0.20 interest deposit since last report
ACFC Checking Ledger	8/18/2021	\$5,054.06	
Savings and Leger Total		\$13,105.94	

B. Public Comments

(9:25 – 9:35)

1. None.

C. Program Reports

(9:35 – 9:55)

1. Federal

(10 min)

USFS is focusing on wildfire management and climate change. Climate change is a primary driver of Biden administration priorities, and USFS is working with administration to determine how this applies to USFS.

New legislation is currently before congress that may increase funding for forest resources. This probably won't result in changes for community forestry.

2. State

(10 min)

See report from J. Renkert.

Alaska Community Forest Council

PO Box 241282, Anchorage, Alaska 99524

D. Invasive *Prunus* Species Status Report, Tim Stallard Alien Invasives (9:55 – 10:20)

1. See PowerPoint from T. Stallard.

Treatment info/recommendations:

- Frill method is better accomplished with pruning saw than hatchet.
- Stem injections can be performed in winter if bark is not frozen.
- Glyphosate has a 30-50 day half-life in soil.
- Prunus* seed viability is 1-3 years.
- Glyphosate most effective when applied at full leaf expansion.
- Treated trees can take 1-12 month to die.

2. Further discussion on *Prunus*

***Council/DOF to look into setting up meeting with nurseries/landscapers to discuss issues associated with *Prunus*.

Discussion on performing informal visits to nurseries/box stores to determine who is still selling *Prunus*.

*** DOF to consider inviting MOA horticulturist/arborist to November meeting.

***March agenda item: look into distributing brochures at 2022 Alaska state fair.

Royalty Crabapple makes a good alternative, with similar fall color to *P. virginiana*.

***Discussion on creating a 'certified wildlife habitat' designation for homeowners. This could be a way to incentivize homeowners to remove *Prunus*, replant with beneficial species, etc.

Laura and Pat willing to serve on committee.

Look into working with Master Gardeners.

E. ACFC New Business (10:20 – 10:50)

1. Election of Officers (30 min)

Alex Wenninger elected to serve 1 year term as secretary.

Current treasurer (Nathan Lojewski) plans to step down in 1 year.

Alaska Community Forest Council

PO Box 241282, Anchorage, Alaska 99524

Treasurer is responsible for filing taxes, maintaining check book, monitoring accounts, filing exemption with Dept. of Commerce, etc.

Calls for interested individuals to 'apprentice' with Nathan over next year, learn the duties of position before Nathan quits.

No volunteers at this time.

Current Chair (Meg Burgett) plans to step down within the year.

Elise Huggins nominated as replacement.

F. Alaska Plant Database

Elise Huggins

(10:50 - 11:00)

1. Current Status & Update

No update at this time.

***November agenda item.

G. ACFC Old Business

(11:00 – 11:30)

1. ACFC Arbor Day grants Any new grants?

(10 min)

No report on new grants.

Call for council member to take over Arbor Day grant duties vacated by Gino. Would be responsible for collecting applications, tracking funds, forwarding suitable applications to review committee.

No volunteers at this time.

***November agenda item.

***DOF to invite Gino to next meeting to discuss duties.

Discussion of ACFC contributing funds to *Prunus* Remove and Replace Program. Could provide vouchers for applicants who removed their trees prior to site inspections.

***November agenda item.

2. Bylaws update committee

(10 min)

No report.

Alaska Community Forest Council

PO Box 241282, Anchorage, Alaska 99524

3. Paul Guzenski Spruce Up Anchorage update (10 min)
See Spruce up Anchorage website.

Has accomplished 200 tree giveaway, providing support for breast cancer patients, individuals can sign up for assistance on website.

4. *Anything Else?*

H. Lunch Break (11:30 –12:30)

I. Community/Council Member Reports (~3 min/each) (12:30 – 1:30)

Seat

A. Arborist
No Report.

Member

Paul Guzenski

B. Forester
No Report.

Dan Rees

C. Municipal Planner

Laura Charlton

Covid still stalling majority of projects in Ketchikan, though small community gardens are showing success.

D. Landscape Architect

Elise Huggins (Vice-Chair)

GCI building by Northway mall hired Elise to help with landscaping/rehabilitation. Removed all invasive *Prunus* from site.

E. Horticulture

Nathan Lojewski (Treasurer)

Working with folks in the Netherlands to increase trade between Netherlands and Alaska.

F. Construction/Right-of-Way

Robert Gorman

Plans to make contact with road crews to discuss tree related issues.

G. Small Community Service

Mitch Michaud

Reviewing MOU between council and DOF with Nathan. Starting on community tree plants with schools and small communities on Kenai. Involved in Soldotna Crane Peace Park Arbor Day grant project.

H. Community Forestry/Beautification

David Ezra Jay

No report.

Alaska Community Forest Council

PO Box 241282, Anchorage, Alaska 99524

I. Industry/Business
No report.

Corey Steffen

J. AK Cooperative Extension Service
UAF CES working on chokecherry control projects in Anchorage and Fairbanks, reassessing long term spruce beetle monitoring plots, tracking chokecherry gall midge.

Alex Wenninger

K. Member-at-Large
No report.

Marya Pillifant

L. Member-at-Large
Working with schools, distributed >100 trees to local planting projects.

Patrick Ryan

M. Member-at-Large
No report – noted that brown tailed moth is invading forests in Maine.

Susan Rogers

N. Member-at-Large
No report.

Nancy “Nan” Mundy

O. Member-at-Large
Working with Palmer SWCD to install demonstration forest trail at experimental forest in Mat-Su. Construction will begin in spring, with funding from UAF Cooperative Extension.

Meg Burgett (Chair)

J. Field Trip – Chanshtnu Muldoon Park Food Forest & Community Garden (1:30 – 4:00)

K. Further Discussion

as time allows

L. Next Meeting, Monthly teleconference

Monthly Teleconference, September 9, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

M. Next Quarterly Meeting

November 12, 2021

N. Adjourn 4:00