

Indiana Urban Forest Council

Board of Directors Meeting

December 8, 2004

The Board Meeting took place at the IDNR, Community and Urban Forestry Office in Indianapolis.

Board Members Present: Leigh Bangs, Katie Booth, Tom Coleman, Tim Detzner, Tammy Doty, Trish Eccles, David Gorden, Lee Huss, Donna Kavanagh, Jason Lietz, Nate Mathews, and David Oberst. Also in attendance were Nancy Anderson, IUFC Executive Director and Pam Louks, State Urban Forestry Coordinator.

Tammy Doty called meeting to order at 10:10 am. Introductions were made.

Pam Louks, State Urban Forestry Coordinator addressed the Council and thanked the Board for serving and staying involved in Indiana's urban forests. She shared the history of the Farm Bill with the Board and advised the Board that IDNR is mandating that the Council create an annual report and set a yearly meeting with State Forester, Burney Fischer, to share that report with him. The report is to include: our annual budget, expenditures, measurable outcomes, projects, advise to the State Forester, state challenges, recommendations regarding the Community and Urban Forestry Office.

Pam also discussed the Council's sustainability. She expressed that Burney Fischer and Phil Wagner were concerned about the Council's sustainability and that they would like to see the Council funding its own operating costs in five to seven years, but still apply for grant funding for projects only. Pam suggests we have a corporate facilitator come and advise the Board.

Nancy distributed the meeting minutes from the June and August Board Meetings.

MOTION: Lee Huss motioned to accept the June and August 2004 meeting minutes and Katie Booth seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report- Nate Mathews

Nate Mathews presented the treasurer's report to the board. Current Balance: \$8, 797.36. The Council still has an outstanding claim of approximately \$8000.

MOTION: Jason Lietz motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted and Lee Huss seconded. Motion carried.

Executive Director's Report- Nancy Anderson

- Nancy asked the Board for website promotion ideas. They included candy bars, mouse pads, post-its and calendar. David Oberst suggested contacting Yes Corp. for ideas.
- Nancy passed around committee sign-up sheets. She will create a list and send it to members via email.
- Nancy discussed the 2004 grant application and announced that the Council has applied for funds to create a Benefits of Trees brochure for homeowners.
- Nancy distributed a list of 2005 goals. They include the creation of Annual Report, revising the 1999 bylaws, board member participation, revising the membership directory, creating a position paper (IUFC fact sheet) per senate district, promoting the website, creating a sustainability plan and revising the scholarship guidelines.
- Nancy announced the Indiana Green Industry Alliance is submitting a grant to create a green industry survey for Indiana.
- Nancy reported on the Midwest Coordinator's meeting at Morton Arboretum.
- Nancy suggested that the Annual Meeting be held during the February meeting instead of at the annual conference due to time restraints.
- Nancy announced that press releases have been sent out on the award winners.
- Nancy will take orders for the 101 Trees of Indiana book and try to get a discount by ordering in bulk.

IDNR, Community & Urban Forestry Report- Pam Louks

- Pam announced that there was 28 grant requests totaling \$298,000 with only \$170,000 available.
- Tree Aid inventory database is now incorporated into Palm Pilots. Communities may now borrow and receive training from Pam's staff. This is a free service, but may also be used in conjunction with a hired consultant.
- Pam published an urban forestry article in the INLA magazine and had an article in the Pothole Gazette, Indiana's Federal Highway Administration magazine. She will present at Road School in March.
- Pam will hire a new part-time Urban Forester to complete a statewide inventory. The last inventory was completed ten years ago.
- New towns with urban forestry programs are: Mt Ayer, Linton, Russiaville, Upland and Newport. The Forest Service categorizes the 568 Indiana towns for reporting purposes as informative, developmental, sustainable and sustained.

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IDNR, Community & Urban Forestry Report- Pam Louks (*continued*)

- IDNR, CUF will be submitting a bid for Indianapolis to host the 2006 Society of Municipal Arborist Conference.
- The Green Team II will be created to work on an IDNR urban forestry strategic plan. Participants will be contacted by the end of the year.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee:

Nancy reported that \$460 in scholarship funds remains, but she has received an application from Paul Pinco for \$600. Nancy also reported that plans are underway for the Winter Meeting. Nancy also discussed creating a new name for the program to be called the IUFC Continuing Education Fund.

MOTION: David Oberst motioned to change the existing program guidelines, which state, "a 50% match up to \$600," to allow each applicant to apply for up to "\$500 in funds unmatched."

Education Committee:

David Oberst and Nancy has been working with Yes Corp. of Valparaiso on the design of the website. David suggests that the Education come up with a theme for the year and announce it at the Annual conference.

Fundraising and Development Committee:

The membership brochure revision is underway. Tom Coleman will design the brochure. The website is still under construction.

Annual Conference Committee:

Nancy distributed the 2004 conference report. A small profit of \$400 was made. Nancy suggested that we stick to the same date and place every year to build continuity and familiarity to our members. The 2005 conference will be held in Indianapolis.

Award Committee:

Applications will be ready for the winter meeting in February.

Old Business:

No old business.

New Business:

Donna Kavanagh expressed her concerns regarding the IUFC and its perception to members and others around the state of Indiana.

MOTION: Trish Eccles motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:05 pm. David Oberst seconded. Motion carried.