



Executive Council Meeting
Runge Nature Center, Jefferson City MO
April 12, 2018
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Minutes

Welcome & Introductions – Scott Skopec welcomed everyone to the meeting, and the following were in attendance: Sarah Crocker, Nancy Underhill, Casey Kellner, Jon Skinner, Martha Clark, Ron Lumb, Gene Brunk, Scott Skopec, Brett O’Brian, Jan Neitzert, Ann Koenig, Hank Stelzer, Scott Francis, Ben Voss, Jacob McMains, Stacy Armstrong, Doug Seely, and Jennifer Behnken.

Minutes Read and Approved – Scott asked if anyone had changes to the minutes from the February 2018 meeting. Gene Brunk made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Ron Lumb seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer Report – Brett submitted the following Treasurer Report:

- Regular share (savings)-\$10,979.80
- 02 Northwest-\$0.01
- 03 Northeast -\$0.01
- 04 Central-\$3,257.89
- 05 St. Louis Christmas club \$1,527.08
- 07 Southwest- \$277.13
- 77 East Central \$ 2,172.25
- 76 Square CC- \$65.27
- 75 Regular checking-\$60,464.56

Current total in all accounts - \$78,744.13

- Total from all accounts in February 2018 = \$74,362.61
- To be deposited today - \$820.00 from TCIA, reimbursement for SW region workshop. Received \$185.00 for conference registration which was sent to STL. MCFC address.
- Still need to pay Matilda van den Bosch \$1,406.58 C.A.D. (will visit with credit union to make sure they are ok with conversion).

Old Business

Update: City Scope – Brett O’Brien

Sarah Crocker will send the picture of Austin and Scott to Brett for City Scope. The deadline for the next City Scope is May 15th.

Update: 2018 Conference – Central Region

Jacob gave an update on the conference profit and expenses. Josh shared the results from the survey after the conference with Jacob. Overall the feedback was well received. Some feedback included more variety in the speakers. Scott Skopec commented the conference turned out very well. Gene Brunk really liked his acorn speaker from registering as an early bird registrant. Some lessons learned, getting word out sooner and reaching out to gain more interest. There

was a lot of great feedback on the stand-alone conference website. Everyone seemed to really like it. Casey mentioned to check on CEU's to make sure they are being submitted correctly.

Legislation Day – Scott Skopec

Scott reported that Austin and himself attended the Legislation Day at the capital. He presented the attendees at today's meeting with the promotional items that were handed out to **legislators**. Scott presented the new display to the group as well. Ann Koenig received red bud seedlings from the MDC State Nursery to hand out. Scott mentioned that out of every booth there, MCFC's was visited the most. He suggests purchasing a table cloth with MCFC logo on it. It was well worth the time and money spent to attend. With the money left over, could it be possible to purchase a table cloth per region? One suggestion for next year is to have available 4 to 5 people to man the table to talk to attendees and answer their questions. Ann Koenig suggested the group send a thank you to the nursery for giving the trees and bagging them individually.

NEW BUSINESS

2019 Conference – Group

Jim Mitchell spoke with the St. Louis Region and they are willing to host the 2019 conference. A little behind the schedule but willing to jump in and get things tackled. They are looking at shooting to the 1st or 2nd week in March of 2019. Martha Clark made a motion for St. Louis region to host the 2019 conference. Casey Kellner seconded the motion; the motion carried. Details will follow.

There was a discussion of suggestions for the 2020 conference: Cape Girardeau, Sedalia, Rolla, Hannibal, Kirksville. Scott requested everyone meet with their regions, discuss ideas, and bring back to the June meeting. Jennifer Behnken suggested coming up with specifications to hold a conference. The decision was made to develop a committee in June, preferably one person from each region and doesn't necessarily have to be a rep from the state committee. The committee also needs to include past and current conference chairs.

MPRA Conference Joining

It has been brought up that Missouri Parks and Recreation Association (MPRA) would like to have us meet with them at their annual conference once every 5 years. MPRA has had some changes to their membership framework, which would allow others to attend their meetings, and that it may also allow changes to registration, etc. Their last conference was held at Tan-Tar-A again which just wrapped up. The feedback was the most successful ever. The hotel was expensive but that is the only conference they have to use at that location. Usually about 400 attend their conference. Scott Skopec read an email sent from Brian Schaffer with MPRA.

Would it be helpful to send a list of specifications for MCFC conference? MCFC would need to send those points to MPRA and get a response back from them to see if they can accommodate.

2018 Officer Nominations

- Austin Lampe is in good standings to continue as President.
- Dean Alberty has accepted a nomination for Vice President.
- Jacob McMains has accepted a nomination for Treasurer.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to accept the nominations for Dean Alberty as Vice President. Martha Clark seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Doug Seely made a motion to accept the nomination for Jacob McMains as Treasurer. Jim Mitchell seconded the motion, the motion carried.

Missouri Arbor Award of Excellence – Russell

Russell would like to develop a committee to re-evaluate the award and the program. Do we need to have a larger award, new way to judge them, new way to bring awareness to it? Maybe need to change the title or even add a lifetime achievement award.

Gene Brunk wants Lisa Allen to send out an email to the regional supervisors asking them to include in forester's work plans to promote the award. Gene wants MDC to be the front runners regionally.

A suggestion from the floor was to create an online application to make it easier for applicants. Russell asks that if you have any additional ideas to please send to him.

The committee was created including: Russell Hinnah, Martha Clark, Ann Koenig, and Brett O'Brien.

Anti-Tree Topping Display—Doug Seely

Doug would like to replace panels on the display. The cost would be over \$2,000 to replace the panels. The group discussed the possibility to have a whole new display made. Scott is talking with Austin's brother about a possible redesign.

Master Gardeners Conference – Jon Skinner

Cindy Garner is wondering if MCFC would want to be a sponsor to the Master Gardeners Conference. Casey Kellner made a motion to support the Missouri Master Gardeners Conference in the amount of a \$600.00 sponsorship. The motion was seconded by Nancy Underhill; the motion carried.

Program Reports

Communications Committee –

- At the last meeting Casey Kellner and Cindy Garner agreed to come up with a list for a MCFC Constant Contact Manager. Casey presented the list to the group. The committee will discuss the list and vote on it at the June Annual Meeting. Casey Kellner made a motion to have a rewards system in place for the Poster Contest Coordinator, City Scape Editor, Constant Contact Manager, and Web Master for their annual conference registration and hotel reservation. Gene Brunk seconded the motion. Casey amended the motion to state nightly hotel rate only not to exceed 3 nights. Doug Seely seconded the amended motion; the motion carried.
- On 04/11/18 Plant-It GEO put on an event at Forest ReLeaf. Tom Ebeling gave a talk on Plant MOre Trees. www.plantmotrees.org. The program is more user friendly. Ann encouraged everyone to enter their trees for any tree planting projects going on.

Articles of Incorporation – No Report

- Will try to hold a meeting on May 30th to review.

Strategic Plan – No Report

Poster Contest & Education/Outreach Committee

Casey has been in contact with the company who has been working on the curriculum. Will send those updates to Jacob and Sarah.

Legislation Committee –

Already presented.

Financial Oversight Committee –

The committee will need to meet with Jacob McMains taking over Treasurer.

Liaison Reports

Utility Arborist Association – Scott Skopec

The Annual Meeting is May 7th or 8th. Labor is still a major problem which will be a discussion at the annual meeting.

Forest ReLeaf

Plant MOre Trees:

The Plant MOre Trees internet tool is taking on a life of its own! The tool currently has over 20 organizations enrolled and 90 individual users! Thanks to these people and organizations, we have successfully counted 264,172 trees, putting us over a quarter of the way to our **million-tree** goal! Good work everybody!

On 4/11, Forest ReLeaf hosted Plan-IT GEO (the builders of our tool) at CommuniTree Gardens Nursery for a tree inventory workshop and live tree plotting demonstration. At this event, Tom Ebeling had the opportunity to talk about the 20/20 Vision and to showcase the free internet tool to a group of 45 tree care professionals and community stewards. Much interest was generated, and we will be distributing informational handouts to several individuals and organizations that would like to contribute to our goal of planting a million trees by the end of 2020.

Forest ReLeaf and Plan-IT GEO also plan to seek an additional TRIM grant **to** continue the tools hosting and maintenance. The money, if awarded, will also be used for minor improvements to the tool itself and advertising to increase public awareness of our initiative and free internet tool.

Don't Forget! The tree plotting tool can now be accessed at **plantmotrees.org** and **plantmotrees.com**!

If you are interested in participating in the 20/20 vision or have questions/concerns regarding the tree plotting tool, please contact Tom Ebeling at tom@moreleaf.org

Project CommuniTree:

This spring has been busy. There were 4300 trees ordered through the **CommuniTree** program, we are currently at approximately 1892 trees given away to various organizations, municipalities etc. Again, the vast majority of the trees given away are being planted in parks.

With 4300 trees distributed, spring 2018 has the 4th highest number of spring trees given since 2002. A comprehensive breakdown of planting type, species distribution per planting type, and frequency of trees and shrubs requested will be given following the spring give-away season.

Priority ReLeaf:

We have developed a more salient definition for Priority ReLeaf:

Trees of any size given to planting projects that fit the following criteria:

- *Median household income by zip code less than 37,000 (150% of poverty level in 2017)
- *Ash Replacement (and other future invasive tree pests/diseases)
- *Natural Disasters
- *Planting projects that require a significant amount of hands-on staff time

Spring 2018

FRM was awarded grant, thanks to the Funders' Network, to plant a total of 500 trees this year in 4 separate plantings in downtown St. Louis Parks in the Spring and Fall of 2018. In partnership with the Mayor's Office of Sustainability and MDC, spring plantings are as follows:

Minnie Wood Park – 50 trees
Barrett Brothers Park – 100 trees

*Other Priority ReLeaf plantings include:

Beyond Housing/24:1 – 30 trees
Fairground Park - 50 trees
Ackerman School – 40 trees
Corondelet Park – 50 trees
Fairground Park – 100 trees; Fairground will also be the location for the planting of our 200,000th tree

ReLeaf Sales

So far, gross sales for the ReLeaf Sales programs is \$1,770.00 (138 trees ordered total; invoices still coming in)

The ability to order through the FRM website is still ongoing and orders will still be coming in. We will end the program for the spring orders at the end of April 2018

Other Updates:

*Forest ReLeaf's 25th anniversary celebration is scheduled for October 28, 2018 and is being held in partnership with Magnificent Missouri's annual Conservation Celebration. A Sunday afternoon party is planned for this occasion. Other events this year include: Concert in the Trees, featuring the Hulapoppers, on May 31 and ArborMeisters on September 8.

*We are currently in the process of preparing to install our pollinator garden thanks to the generosity of the **Franciscan** Sisters of Mary; we will also begin installing an Apiary in the prairie in May of 2018. We will have two hive colonies and will be mentored by Jane Sueme and Board president Gordon Schweitzer to ensure health, resilience and productivity of the colonies.

A new executive director for the Forest & Woodland Association was hired earlier this year. Laurie Coleman, previously with the Conservation Federation of Missouri, took Mike Hoffmann's place. Efforts are underway to integrate FWAM with the Missouri Forestkeepers Network.

Mo. Dept. of Transportation – Stacey Armstrong

Ann Koenig represents MCFC on a State invasive plants task force. Stacey and Ann are both on this task force. Tomorrow (04/13/18) they are doing a *Stop The Spread: Callery Pear* event.

Ann passed around a flyer about the event.

Mo. Forest Products Association – No Report

University/Extension – Hank Stelzer

Hank reported the following:

- SAF site review team visited the campus April 2nd – 5th to review Natural Resource Science and Management degree with emphases in Forest Resource Management and Terrestrial Ecosystems (old dual program).
- Exploring an Urban Forestry Certification (15 hours) with Plant Science.
- New Extension website: www.extension.missouri.edu
 - Tree Pests website rolled into new website. Each pest in the old tree pest site is now a publication under the Tree Pest banner of the Natural Resources & Environment portion.
- New Program for communities called Healthy Yards for Clear Streams. The program consists of seven modules to help homeowners reduce chemicals entering local streams. The program will be live and online soon (June 1st). The cost for the program will be \$40.00
 - Healthy Soils Healthy Plants
 - Right Plant Right Place
 - Basic Lawn Care
 - Vegetable Gardens, Pollinator Beds & Groundcovers
 - Basic Tree Care
 - IPM
 - Sustainable Landscaping
- Save the Dates
 - Sunday, September 23 – MU Botanical Garden to host Allan Armitage, Michael Dirr, and Vince Dooley.
 - Saturday, September 29 – SNR Courtyard Callery Pea Removal Event
- MU Campus is not an Arbor Day Foundation Tree Campus USA
- Long range plans for Quadrangle pin oak replacement with varieties of swamp white oak.

Missouri Parks & Recreation Association – Jan Neitzert

Jan reported the following:

- MPRA changed their membership structure. One change was to increase contact who worked with former members. If an agency pays at a higher rate, then the agency can have up to 50 members join per that agency. So far it has been very well received.
- The annual conference just concluded. Net was \$147,000. They had about 120 exhibitors with \$20,000 dollars in sponsorships. Used an escape room as part of their exhibit room.
- When the members join they choose where they think they belong. One section is park resources. MPRA is wanting to re-engage with park resource partners.
- The next maintenance rodeo will be next winter in Sedalia at the fairgrounds.
- There is a new program called Missouri Trails Project. Josh Adams is using GIS program to plot dying towns to bring more attraction to them.

Federated Garden Clubs – No Report

NRCS State Forester – Nate Goodrich – No Report

Society of Municipal Arborists – Brett O'Brien

Brett reported SMA intern applications are open. Ray Wallace will be the new SMA state liaison.

MDC – Russell Hinnah reported

- Russell is starting to pay TRIM Grant applications for FY18.
- FY19 TRIM grants are due June 1st.
- There are 104 TCUSA's this year.
- 12 TLUSA this year.
- Tree Campus still at 10. Lost one but gained one.

MWISA – Brett O'Brien reported

They are currently looking for a new director. Have a good selection of applicants just need to narrow it done. Conference will be in STL this year.

MOFRAC – Gene Brunk gave the following report.

Gene reported the group met March 7, 2018. Brent Bailey gave a presentation on promoting climate smart agriculture solutions. Gene did fill them in on the conference. Informed the group of the volcano mulching information.

Region Reports & Volunteer Hours

- **Kansas City** – No Report
- **Northwest** – Martha reported she's been working with another rotary group and Forest ReLeaf. Forest ReLeaf delivered 60 additional trees to St. Joe. Those will be planted on the 17th of April. The group has 3 arbor day events to celebrate still. Total of 20 volunteer hours were submitted.
- **Central** – Jacob McMains reported the group's efforts have been wrapping up the conference. Total of 195 volunteer hours were submitted.
- **Northeast** – No Report.
- **East Central/St. Louis** – They met last time discussing the 2019 conference. The last meeting started having new blood show up. A lot of the young guys are stepping up. Total of 40 volunteer hours were submitted.
- **Southwest** – The region is deep into arbor day celebrations. They had 10 schools participate in the poster contest and about half way through those celebrations. At their regional meetings members have been bringing in tree id to keep the identification fresh. Coming up on the region: ISA climbing competition on June 2nd. Total of 71 volunteer hours were submitted.

Adjournment – with no further business, the meeting was adjourned.