

SAN DIEGO REGIONAL URBAN FORESTS COUNCIL MINUTES

August 4, 2010

Welcome and Introduction:

Meeting commenced at 11:00 a.m. at the Joan Kroc Community Center, San Diego. President Mike Palat welcomed all and introductions took place.

Presentation:

Sharon May, Agri Soils gave a presentation on *Sustainable Soils for Landscaping*. Some of the main points were:

- know what type of soil is present
- create a soil management plan
- restore soils disturbed by previous development
- know what green sources are available to help you make wise decisions
- manage for long term care – replenish organics with bark mulch

The interrelationship between living organisms, mycorizhol, fungal & bacteria feeders and decomposers play an important process in the soil food web. Soil microorganisms function to transport nutrients & water, pathogen suppression and soil particle aggregation. They often create tilt and pore space, reduce compaction and provide drainage and air exchange. Mycorihzae can shield and protect roots.

Soil aggregates:

- improve water infiltration
- reduce runoff
- improve irrigation efficiency
- improve water storage

Proper methods of taking soil samples for testing in a soil lab were outlined. During the installation phase when incorporating soil amendments it is important to understand composted material verses nitrolized wood shavings. Compost has beneficial soil organisms and mycorrhizae where as nitrolized wood shavings washes out in 2 to 3 irrigation cycles, leaches through readily, is high in carbon and contains non-stable aggregates. Goal should be to have a good carbon/nitrogen ratio. For trees it is best to incorporate amendments in the top 12 to 15 inches. Mix 30% compost with native soil. Incorporate only 15% compost into the native backfill when planting natives. Unacceptable plant material in green waste facility: palms, yuccas, cacti with thorns, and bamboo.

Business Meeting:

- Mike announced that he will be attending the Maintenance Superintendent Assoc. (MSA) with CaUFC on Aug. 17 to discuss the upcoming conference Oct. 5 – 7, 2010. The theme is “Vision for the future – Bridging the gap between grey and green infrastructure”. Registration is now opened, visit www.caufc.org to register.
- Lynnette Short, Cal Fire spoke about the '09 grants that are now in contracts and have been given authority to commence work. New RFPs are being deferred. The State does not have a signed budget so payments are slow. You can help by

writing to your legislature rep. Go to Cal Fire web site under Resource Mgmt. if you're disappointed in the management of administrating grant monies.

- Vince Lazaneo, Master Gardner suggested planting Engelmann Oak trees to avoid being infested with the Gold Spotted Oak Borer. Infested wood should be chipped on site or treated with a tarp for solarization. Do not move infested firewood.
- Mike announced the money in our reserve will go to 4 people that demonstrate:
 1. through an essay their financial need
 2. interest in a particular topic or desire to learn more about a subject during the MSA/CaUFC conference
 3. if awarded, recipient will be expected to present a power point on their topic during one of the regional council meetingsThe money awarded will only cover the cost of the conference.
- Mike gave an update on the United Voices for Healthier Communities (UVHC) 2 Tree Planting Grant – Oct. 23, 2010. In San Diego County approximately 1000 15-gallon trees will be planted. Many volunteers are needed. Media involvement needs to be approved by the UVHC Board and guidelines followed. 48 more trees are available. **Action Needed:** Mike will contact Roger Boddaert to see if he would like to apply in order to utilize the trees for the memorial of Chelsea King and Amber DuBois project.
- The P.T.C.A. is having their lecture and field day “Risky Business Field Day” on Aug. 20 – 21, 2010. Ask Mike for details.
- Mike gave an update on WCISA 2011 Conference on May 11 – 13, 2011. The theme is “Serving the Environment with Quality Arboriculture – Environmental Science/Professionalism/Service”. Visit the web site: www.wcisa.net for more information. Call for presentation is now being solicited.

Regional Updates:

- Stan Baczynski, Port of S.D. Environmental Dept. funded the removal of turf and new planting of drought tolerant type plants. He anticipate an 80% reduction in water usage.
- Quint L. Driscoll, Santee Lake/Padre Dam M.W.D. is in the process of removing turf and planting drought tolerant type plants and pine trees from local nurseries.
- Sam Gludunfe, U.C.S.D. planted 840 trees from a Cal Fire grant at a student housing project, completion is expected in 2011.
- Lawrence O’Leary, representing Toro Irrigation Products and Dri-Water visited our meeting for the first time. Presently, he is working with the Port District removing/replacing old Toro spray heads with Toro’s rotating heads and low volume heads. He is also teaching at and pre-planning the 3rd annual golf tournament for Cuayamaca College.
- Micah Millet, City of S.D. is currently working on tree preservation and sidewalk removal, the city is looking into rubberized sidewalks.
- Robin Rivet, Landscape Architect is coordinating the Sustain La Mesa – Environmental Awareness Festival on Oct. 9, 2010; writing “Trees Please” for the SD Horticultural Society featuring “Need Big Trees Fast?”; collaborating with Sustainable Conversion Landscape Initiative (spin off from the Ocean Friendly

Gardening) to solicit for funding to focus on promoting trees in urban areas to address current/future sustainability concerns; and spoke at the SD County Fair during the Enviro Fair Day on “Trees for Green Investment”. Robin will be attending the Festival of Fruit for the CA Rare Fruit Growers on Aug. 14. at Cal Poly Pomona.

- City of Escondido is combining with the Rec Dept. for the Oct. 23 Tree Planting Day and is planting trees around City Hall.
- Vince Mikulanis, Davey Resource Group has been working with the CA Recovery Act/Forest Service, presently looking for u.f. Cal Poly students to hire for tree monitoring the current state of urban forestry and working with the EPA Manual for Storm Watering Treatments – if you know of any interesting bio swales contact Vince. He has also been updating the SDRUFC web site/face book – check it out by visiting www.caufc.org .
- Danielle Campbell, RCDGSDC has been working on a project in Decanso cutting down Gold Spotted Oak Borer infested oak trees, a total of 1100 dead trees.
- Drew Potocki, City of SD has planted 8600 new trees within the last year.
- Annette Saul, City of Santee has planted 400 new trees in parkways and medians. The Town Center Community Park recently opened and consists of a multi-sport center. She is presently working with Cal Trans on the 52 Freeway planting.
- Delia Juncal, City of O’side announced that her new position as a Landscape Development Coordinator has allowed her to condition new developments to install more quality trees and require ANSI standards for proper tree pruning and care.
- Amie Dohl has been hired by WCA as a new field supervisor in the SD area. Marisa Dunn has been assisting Mike in the SD territory.
- Bill H. reported that the South Bay Green Scene will be held on Sept. 11, 2010 between 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Next Meeting and Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m. A special meeting may be scheduled for sometime in early September to discuss the progress of the UVHC2 Tree Planting Day. Next general meeting date and place to be announced.

End of Minutes
