

SAN DIEGO REGIONAL URBAN FORESTS COUNCIL MINTUES
October 7, 2009

Welcome and Introductions:

President Mike Palat welcomed all and introductions took place.

Presentation:

Len Burkhard- PhD, Davey Tree Resources, spoke on various insects, mites and diseases that are infesting our ornamental and native trees and plants. Cultural practices, intergraded pest management and pesticide spraying were suggested for certain types of pests. Most importantly Len emphasized the importance of:

- *knowing your plants and the different types of pests that are susceptible for any given plant*
- *keep an open mind to trying different types of control*
- *avoid easy answers without investigating and researching when diagnosing plant and tree problems*
- *know the plant biology*

Top five trees to avoid planting:

- *Prunus c. - Purple Leaf Plum*
- *Myoporum – (excluding Myoporum parvifolium, M. ‘Debile’ and M. ‘Putah Creek’)*
- *Liquidambar*
- *Phoenix canariensis – Canary Island Palm*
- *Washingtonia californica and robusta*

Business Meeting:

United Voices Tree Planting Day – Mike and Danielle Campbell spoke on the history of the grant that allowed four different counties to plant 30,000 trees in one day. Through a new stimulus grant package of \$200,000 has been allocated to the CaUFC for various counties to plant trees. San Diego is given favor to apply for this grant. All stipulations are not known at this time. Several cities inquired if funds will also be included for tree maintenance. A vote was taken and more than a half of members voted to go forth with applying for the Stimulus grant.

Action: The Executive Board will be working on the pre-proposal.

Cal Fire Grants – Lynnette Short spoke about the grants that were frozen and released mid year this year. Prop 12 grants were allowed to go forward. Some of the IOUs have been allocated funding. No new grants have been signed but may be before the new

calendar year. In December 2009 will send out new Requests for Proposals for 2010 – 2011. \$1.5 million dollars are allocated into the six categories of grants with a 25% to 75% matching fund requirement. Lynnette stressed that a 25% matching fund is not hard to come up with keeping in mind that the matching fund does not have to be a dollar value. Cities that currently have a grant can still apply for new grants.

CCFAC – Delia Juncal had nothing to report. No future meetings have been scheduled for this year.

CaUFC – Danielle Campbell reported on the CaUFC Conference that was held in Ventura. There were some good speakers and topics as well as advocacies representatives speaking for urban forestry support in Sacramento. Visit the Web site at: www.caufc.org

SDRUFC Executive Board – Mike spoke about the Executive Board that meets prior to the general meeting. The Board meets to determine policy, strategic planning and goals.

Society of Municipal Arborists – “Trees of Merit” Article in the City Trees magazine – Mike and Delia spoke about the opportunity to write six articles on favorable trees to plant in the San Diego area. A vote was taken to include the following six trees in the articles:

- *Avocado tree*
- *Quercus agrifolia*
- *Koelreuteria bipinnata*
- *Jacaranda mimosifolia*
- *Cercis occidentalis*
- *Pinus torreyana*

The following people have volunteered to write the articles: Mike Palat, Vince Mikulanis, Robin Rivet, Delia Juncal and Drew Potocki.

Regional Updates:

- *Mike spoke about the upcoming Mira Mesa job fair to advocate jobs in urban forestry.*
- *Andre representing CCSE, is handling Educational Outreach.*
- *Kathy Copley, The Lightfoot Planning Group, spoke about the State Water Conservation Model and the impact that it will have on future landscape projects.*
- *Drew commented on the importance of municipalities having a sound landscape technical manual to support the planting and protection of trees.*

- *Bill Bliss, City of Carlsbad, spoke about the Hosp Grove Eucalyptus Tree Program. Over several years the Eucalyptus have been infested with Lerp Psyllids. Removal and replacement trees are being planted.*
- *Kyle Lancaster, City of Carlsbad, spoke about being proactive in planting trees within their parks, trails and other facilities. Presently, the city is in the process of awarding new bids for tree work. The Heritage Tree Report was recently submitted to City Council.*
- *Pat Nolan, County of San Diego, spoke about the reporting of various locations contracting Xyllela and the quarantine Asian Citrus Psyllid.*
- *Chuck A. Crist, City of Vista, spoke about the PWNSA contracting with young people to focus on urban forestry careers.*
- *Vince Mikulanis, Davey Tree, recently worked on the City of Portland maintenance guidelines to shift maintenance from homeowners to the city to care for trees in the right-of-way.*
- *Delia Juncal, City of Oceanside, encouraged others to apply for the Society of Municipal Arborist - Foreign Arborist Exchange Program. Her experience at Kelowna, BC will be featured in the City Trees magazine article in the Jan.-Feb. 2010 issue.*
- *Dave Shaw, Environmentalist for the UC Cooperative Ext., informed members that the Tipu Psyllid was found in Rancho Bernardo. Presently Dave is looking for other sites to investigate damages to the Tipu tree caused by the Psyllid.*
- *Mark Wisniewski, worked on the revisions to the San Diego Regional Urban Forests Council – Clearance Standards for Trees and will be presenting the revisions to the Executive Board.*
- *Annette Saul, City of Santee, reported through the Green Tree Grant the city has 400 more trees to plant.*
- *Danielle Campbell, Resource Conservation District, has been surveying the dead and dying Coast Live Oak trees infested by the Gold Spotted Oak Borer.*
- *Ty Sterns, Urban Corp of San Diego, reported on the various projects Urban Corp is working on within San Diego County.*
- *Roger Boddaert, Calif. Oak Foundation, has been involved with growing trees, fire-wise education and tree planting projects.*
- *Sam Oludunfe, UCSD, will be performing brush management on campus.*

- *Drew Potocki, City of San Diego, announced that the large Oak tree near the 805 & 5 freeway merge in Sorrento Valley is a Big Tree Registered tree (thanks to Larry Fagot). This particular tree will become the maintenance responsibility of the City of San Diego.*
- *Jimmie Webb, SDG&E, Tree USA Utility status has been working with Arbor Day Foundation and Cal Fire and is establishing a tree root protection plan.*

Open Discussions:

- *Darla O'Leary, Dri-Water, has been working with Calif. Parks Tech and is involved in planting one million trees due to the recent wild fires.*
- *Brian Bishop, President of PTCA, is visiting us today.*
- *Arbor Love has raised the bar in the industry with the tree workers.*
- *Bill Blass, City of Carlsbad, inquired where one might be able to buy the Pysllid wasp parasites. Dave Shaw mentioned that more parasites would be released.*
- *Some members mentioned that clients have problems with breathing around high populations of Lerps (could it be a case of delusional parasitosis?).*
- *Drew Potocki questioned if other cities are experiencing dead and dying White Alders. Dave mentioned that Deb Matthews and Mike Coffee have been collecting samples but have not found any positive cultures of *Phytophthora siskiyouensis*, a quarantine pathogen relatively new to CA.*

Next Meeting and Adjournment:

Next meeting is scheduled for December 2, 2009 at the Mission Trails Regional Park Conference Room. More details to follow.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.