



UPPER WILLAMETTE
SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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Program and Grant Development Committee Meeting Minutes – Draft

Tuesday, September 14th, 2023, 9:30 am

This meeting was held virtually via zoom.

Members Present: Al Hrynyshyn, Mary Durfee, Meridith McClure, Karl Morgenstern, Jared Pruch (5/7; quorum reached)

Staff Present: Leslie Owens

Others Present: Sydney Nilan, Andy Burke, Craig Marcus

1. Call meeting to order: Meeting was called to order at 10:00am by Karl Morgenstern.
 - a. Review agenda: Agenda was reviewed and nothing new was added.
2. Review last meeting minutes: Director Durfee asked if there were any amendments to the last meetings minutes (July 17th, 2023) hearing none, the minutes were reviewed and approved as presented.
3. Discussions:
 - a. Jared Pruch gave an overview of his meetings with other districts in regards to Grant Management Systems and lessons learned. Stating that he met with Tualatin SWCD and East Multnomah SWCD to get a sense of how they've structured their programs, lessons they've learned, mistakes they've made, advice they have for newer districts. Using these terms of competitive grant processes, non-competitive grant processes and direct landowner assistance, he shared a portfolio of the other districts programs, and how they are structured. He also noted how the grants are managed. Staff members essentially manage the competitive and non-competitive grants and then their conservation staff manage the direct landowner assistance program.
 - b. Sydney Nilan updated the committee on funding requests from Friends of Buford Park (native plant nursery) and Huerto de la Familia (community gardens). These funds have already been approved by the board, but the proposals are now in development.
 - i. The board. So, we're kind of in the due diligence stage of reviewing these and the first one is a \$30,000 request from Puerto de la Familia. Puerto de la Familia is now part of a merged organization with central Latino Americano and Downtown languages. Which means the funding will go to Central Latino Americano. They have six community garden programs in Eugene and Springfield and one in development down in Cottage Grove. They serve about 250 households and are doing organic instruction, or organic produce instruction. Which means that households could grow culturally relevant food items that they might not be able to buy in the grocery store.
 - ii. Sydney went on with a quick update about Friend of Buford Park, noting how they rely so much on volunteers to operate the nursery. Their nursery grows over 130 plant species, a lot of them aren't available from any other source. It's locally sourced material that is used both for restoration projects

within the park as well as in the network of some of the other conservation partners locally. The grant funding would be supporting the operations of the nursery to provide plant materials to offer surplus materials to partner restoration organization to support the staffing. Discussions followed and Sydney answered questions from the committee.

- iii. PGD Committee Charter: It was decided that the committee would look into the charter at the next meeting.
4. No public present for comments.
5. Next meeting decision: The committee decided to keep the meetings quarterly until further notice.
6. Meeting Adjourned: Meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

All supporting documents mentioned in the minutes are a part of the official record and are available upon request. Please contact the office at admin@uwsxcd.org to request copies.

Committee voting members:

Al Hrynyshyn – Chair

Lily Leitermann

Mary Durfee

Meridith McClure

Victoria Fischella

Karl Morgenstern

Jared Pruch