

## CPPC Monthly Meeting Notes (5/24/22)

Attendees: Judy Hallisey, Keegan Fengler, Tristyn Duerr, Pam Hawk, Darcy Batura, Mitch Long, Gary Berndt, Larry Leach, Peter Dykstra, Martha Wyckoff, Vince Pruis, Nicky Pasi, Tonya Morrey, Katie Pofahl, Melissa Speeg

### Welcome

Recap of the last meeting:

- KCT and DNR are working together to figure out a partnership for DNR to own the community forest
- Worked on the letter of support for Taneum to receive full funding to be transferred into permanent protection
- Agreed to draft some outreach policies for signing letters of support
- Justin is working on setting up a tour with DNR commissioner of public lands, Hilary Franz, on Cle Elum Ridge
- Identified the need to support the county so they can support this project
- Resource inventory and economic analysis on Ridge with Toni Sipic's graduate students

### Updates

Community Forest Forum

- [Video](#) (Welcome to Pine Street Woods)
- First forest we visited is owned by the Kalispell Tribe (Indian Creek Community Forest)
  - They've set up units of different forest restoration prescriptions and plan to make an interpretive trail through the units so that landowners can visualize different ways they might care for their lands
- Second forest we visited is owned by the Kaniksu Land Trust (Pine Street Woods)
  - This forest has a lot of community engagement to educate youth and adults and provide opportunities for all skill levels including mountain biking, XC skiing, and 'folk school'
- We also had a forum day with robust conversations about tribal community forest partnerships, silviculture and wildlife, funding opportunities, and community engagement and outreach
- Recommended that you all attend next time

### Community Forest Discussion

KCT - Mitch

- Suncadia Fund for Community Enhancement Fund
  - KCT applied for \$200,000 to meet matching requirements for RCO
  - Use as an example when approaching other private funders to show community support
- Other grants available (i.e. Seattle Audobon Society). Acres for America has a large match requirement (1:1). This will be good to apply within next year with other funding we have already received.
- Remaining match if we get Suncadia grant is \$200,250. Working to develop a strategy to meet rest of match. Currently we have a little over \$6,000 from small donations. We hope to get to \$20,000 from small donations. Will be looking for \$30,000 in large donor gifts.
- Suncadia fund as leverage to get more donations? We will wait for Suncadia fund before we reach out to other donors.

- Are KCT operating needs included in these donation and grant requests? KCT is able to use RCO funding to cover operational costs now. This will need to be built into the future endowment and requisitions. Open to learning from others about fundraising and philanthropy
- Working on understanding the role of KCT. KCT will work with everyone to acquire the rest of the ridge but want to know what additional roles CPPC sees KCT filling?
- When will we know whether we received the Suncadia grant? One of the board members could not make the the last meeting so next meeting (June 10<sup>th</sup>) they will decide and pledge money.

#### DNR - Larry

- Developing legislative decision packages for next session biannual budget session
- Working hard on writing a concept paper around community forests that sums up budgetary asks and how it ties into DNR's strategic goals and other priorities legislature outlined for DNR including environmental justice, fire resiliency, forest health, salmon, climate adaptation.
- The ask includes a little over \$3 million in operating funds, \$250,000 from the capital fund, and \$10 million Teanaway loan.
  - Made the cut for repayment piece, earlier than July 1, 2025 date
  - Submitted to executive management and in the approval process
  - Next update on the status will be on June 7<sup>th</sup>
  - May get combined with other similar asks. The fewer asks there are the less confusing it is for the legislature
  - It is a challenge to make sure people supportive of community forests can see their piece in the package and talk with elected officials about that
  - Do you have access to other asks?
    - Might get access after the 6<sup>th</sup>. It is unusual for regional people to be doing this work. Regions deal with day to day while divisions support regions by dealing w policy/legislature and acquiring budget
    - Because community forests are a small program and in the same region, Larry is doing programmatic and operational pieces
    - Developing a list of stakeholders. Larry is impressed at the long list of people that are plugged in community forests
    - Lines up with the future of community forest management. Big things must be done in collaboration.
  - Will the loan repayment and O&M come from the capital or operating budget?
    - Was never clear what funding would repay the loan
    - Looking for O&M in addition to current operation budget. About \$1 mill per biennium for Teanaway. Found that we need additional funding to support what the community wants from the lands and to grow into the future.
    - How do we scale? Scaling via KCT and Teanaway CF Goal 5 group. Take state funding and make it larger, and what we can get done on the ground.

- Peter worried that loan repayment is a higher priority than O&M. Good job of linking those things and informing DNR and legislature of the relationship.
- Does the \$3 million in operations cover WDFW and DNR needs for Teanaway?
  - Portion gets contracted to WDFW every biennium. Enhancement to what they are currently contracted to do in addition to DNR operating budget.

YBIP – Peter Dykstra

- YBIP has had lands subcommittee, executive, and implementation meetings
- Next workgroup meeting is on June 1 in Yakima
- Lands subcommittee
  - Talked about KCT and DNR partnership and RCO grant
  - Commissioner Wright confirmed the County is support of Phase 1
  - Happy to see progress on 3 requests in the letter (O&M, community support, TCF milestones)
  - Focusing on Phase 1 for now, but happy to participate in future phases later on
  - Budget line items to executive and implementation committees. Focusing on funding going through the Department of Ecology, which is where money came from for TCF. Went back and got \$30 million or more from the Department of Ecology. Requested \$42 million last time. Included TCF O&M and floodplain restoration in previous asks. Queued up for O&M and loan, bedded in advocacy progress.
  - Continuing advocacy group and partnership with Goal 5, CPPC, DNR, and TNC
    - Talked with Justin and Nicky about developing an advocacy plan
    - Roll out over next couple of meetings as the campaign is developed
  - About to lose one of the biggest champions for the TCF. Senator Honeyford not running again. He was a champion for budget issues. Need to educate new representatives to bring them up to speed. This will add work for the advocacy group, but they can handle it. Senator David Frocht also retiring. There are some others still around that are supportive of community forests.
  - How can this group advocate?
    - Nicky and Peter have brought many people to Olympia
      - Continue with diverse partners
    - Develop tours
      - Dialogue between legislatures between stops is most helpful
      - Advocates at stops
    - Oct/Nov when the governor's budget is put together
      - Letters during this time are helpful
    - CPPC and G5 together?
      - Sit down and parse out responsibilities
      - Then go to Peter to find who the best people are to go to

- Martha suggests parties have a solid grounding in the management plan of TCF and CPPC
- Next session virtual
  - Unknown
- New Senator is Nikki Torres
- Appreciation letters to Honeyford?
  - Talking about it next week

#### Next steps

- Sending out Suncadia grant app
- Will hear from Peter on thanking Honeyford for his commitment to TCF
- Next meeting, do a TCF background overview for CPPC
- YBIP meeting on June 1<sup>st</sup>. CPPC members attending will track conversation to help CPPC understand what's happening in the basin.

#### Letters of support

- Process
  - Initially in the process all member's names were included on a letter unless asked to remove it. On the following letter govt employees/electeds not on letter unless they ask to be included on it. This process left some in vulnerable positions. On the most recent letter we tried a sign-on process. CPPC members were only added if they filled out the form. Had 14 people sign on to the letter. Only had 1 week to sign.
  - Group conversation
    - Mitch and Larry agree that this last round worked well.
    - More time is better for people to get permission from their agency/organization if they need it.
    - Possibility to share with the community in appropriate situations
      - Could we open ourselves up to criticism? Opposition letters?
      - Would not put out as CPPC letter, more as a community letter
      - Can't be afraid of opposition. Good to open up dialogue and learn about the opposing views and how to make things more inclusive.
      - Gary suggests 2 letters - one for CPPC and one for community
    - Desire for default people always on letter?
      - Possible to reach out to members, understand what they support, and have their names automatically put on related letters
      - Gary suggests presenting letters of support in person
- Going to cities to give updates of where we are at
  - Mitch: good idea to re-engage
  - Could be perceived that it might be putting pressure on the county or DNR
  - Start presentation and share it out with group before booking presentations

- Within the next 2-4 months, start the cycle of hitting councils
- Wait until we hear from the county after the next lands sub-committee meeting so we understand their concerns and understand the potential solutions for addressing them.

## **Task Force Report Out**

### Future funding

- Refer to KCT update above
- Priority of finding match
- Understanding more about how things are formed and shaped, what are capacity needs, how will we fulfill that into perpetuity
- Endowment and other fundraising efforts?
- Working with G5 is a good path to take
- If DNR is successful, the O&M will be covered. Funding is needed for KCT and G5 to link forests to communities, admin costs, build partnerships, etc.
- Could start a membership program

### Outreach and engagement

- Discussed in various other sections

### Advocacy Task Group?

- Outreach can develop materials/messaging and scheduling, but is not equipped to know who to contact in Olympia
- Look at how sub-committees are structured and split up the work better
- The outreach group can identify what they need help with. Better idea after June and July CPPC meetings after things develop with YBIP and new legislatures.
- Deputize people on specific projects to avoid overlap in asks (i.e. between G5 and CPPC)
- Outreach and advocacy timeline clothesline exercise at next meeting
- Gantt chart of projects and timelines

### Governance (tabled for now)

## **Other discussion**

### Action items

- Setting up meeting with G5 and CPPC outreach (Vince)
  - Sit in on next meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at Noon
- Update letter of support process (Katie)
- Next meeting
  - Outreach advocacy timeline clothesline
  - Send out TCF management plan and discuss (Nicky/Vince/Martha?)
- Send out Suncadia fund app
- Future outreach to cities and keeping out an eye on capacity needs for advocacy

### Next meeting

- 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of June, hybrid