

**City of San Diego
Community Forest Advisory Board**

MEETING MINUTES
June 10, 2009
Civic Center Plaza Building

1) **Convene:** Vicki Estrada, Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:50 a.m.

2) **Present:**

Members –Fausto Palafox, Gail Roberts, Jon Becker, Karen Davis, Stephen Lamprides, Mary Johnson, Joe Jones, Tershia d’Elgin.

[Not Present] – Patrick Caughey, Dan Simpson, Victoria Heithaus, Craig Jones,

Guests – Guy Pruess (Skyline/Paradise Hills CPG), Paul Contreras (Urban Corps)

City Staff – Drew Potocki, Ken Healy, Tony Gangitano, Alissa Gabriel

3) **Approval of May Minutes:** [D’Elgin/ Davis] Approved.

4) **Chair’s Announcements:**

- a. Presentation to Rancho Penasquitos CPG went well.
- b. Follow up on Paradise Hills tree removal issue discussed last month. Estrada will write a letter and Lamprides will research funding.
- c. Working groups to meet once before July 8th CFAB meeting.

5) **Discussion Item(s):**

- a. Revision to Street Tree Guidelines Publication. Issue handed off to Technical Working Group to work out details
- b. Budget Questions. Gangitano to contact Bob Bochi.

6) **Action Item(s):** none

7) **Reports:** Items *not* already on agenda

- a. Staff Reports. A.Gabriel, CPCI Project Manager. Reported \$38,184 still in Outreach fund and \$5,000 in Tree Planting fund.

8) **Working Group Breakout Session Summaries:**

- a. Projects. List of project areas reported by J.Jones: Beyer Blvd, Normal Street, Fairmount Ave, 54th Street/University Ave/Chollas Pkwy. Criteria for selecting future projects: visibility, maintenance, costs, feasibility, need, community desire, and alliance with community plan. Also discussed possible neighborhood assistance programs.
- b. Outreach. D’Elgin – Existing outreach efforts include text, but not graphics, for comprehensive brochures, website and powerpoints. New efforts could take the following forms:
 - o Crafting and producing brochures to support Vicki Estrada's powerpoint: which would include tree benefits, water-conservation tips and the Tree Benefits Calculator.



- o Other ideas include a free bumper-sticker that says "Trees Are the Answer" possibly applying it on Streets Division and possibly all City vehicles, and with sponsors or with existing money, we could print a run of T-shirts with the CFAB logo.
 - o Finally, Outreach group could investigate what might help realize Tony G's recommendation that a "Do-It-Yourself Community Tree Plan" be distributed to community planning groups.
 - c. **Policy. Becker – Five policy items were reviewed and discussed:**
 - o Community Plan Updates - Street tree plans should be incorporated into all updates to Community Plans
 - o Pursuing Reforesting within Maintenance Assessment Districts
 1. Utilize the existing assessment districts established throughout the City to assure the implementing and maintaining the existing urban forest.
 2. Utilize the existing assessment districts to expand and maintain the urban forest.
 3. Tree Removal List-through the maintenance assessment districts review and evaluate proposed tree to be removed and replace with similar species.
 - o Non-maintenance Assessment Districts
 1. Provide ongoing tree removal lists which could be reviewed by the Community Planning Groups.
 2. Consult with City arborist to replace trees with similar species.
 3. CFAB and the local community planning group must be notified of all removals and permission obtained before removal is entitled to proceed.
 - o City Council Approval-Process 5 Projects. Discretionary projects which need to be reviewed at the City Council level should be routed to the CFAB board and input and evaluation.
 - o State Policies-AB32 & Sb 375. Require all contracts for bus rapid transit guide ways to plant trees within 1/8 mile of each side of the guide way to mitigate CO2 levels.
 - o Implementation of Street Tree Planting Programs- Through coordination with the Dept. of Development Services, determine how to implement a Street Tree planting program.
 - o Nomination of Trees per CFAB policies.
 - d. **Technical. Potocki Reported for the Group, which focused on Street Tree Selection Guide (STSG) Revision.**
 - 1) Trees that currently have significant new pest or disease impacts that are contrary to Integrated Pest Management are proposed for removal from the STSG. Alternates will be provided for review and adoption by the CFAB to be added to the STSG. Example, the Purple Leaf Plum, *Prunus cerasifera* is now known to be seriously impacted by *Xylella fastidiosa*, a non-treatable fatal condition.
 - 2) Botanical nomenclature with respect to specific trees will be updated: Example, the current new nomenclature for *Tristania conferta* is *Lophostemon conferta*.
 - 3) New notes will be added to reference recommendation to Sunset Garden Book climate zones, and which trees are specifically recommended for parking lots.
- 9) **Public Comment:** Paul Contreras from Urban Corps talked a bit about working with Chollas Groundworks to determine additional planting areas.
- 10) **Next Meeting:** Second Wednesday of the month, 11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m., 1200 Third Avenue, Civic Center Plaza Building, 14th Floor
- 11) **Adjourned** at 1:15pm