

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

MEETING MINUTES
February 14, 2007
City Administration Building

1) **Convene:** Vicki Estrada, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

2) **Present:**

Members – Vicki Estrada, Marty Poirier, Tershia d’Elgin, Craig Jones, Mary Johnson,

Guests – Guy Pruess (Skyline/Paradise Hills CPG), S. Hickey.

City Staff – Drew Potocki, Michael Marika, Jeff Harkness, Tony Gangitano, Alissa Gabriel

3) **Approval of Minutes:** none provided.

4) **Chair’s Announcements:**

Brief recap of KPBS “These Days” interview with V. Estrada

5) **Action Item(s):**

A. McColl Street Tree Issue. Final result is that 4 of 5 trees are to be replaced with 48” box podocarpus gracilior + a combination of ground cover and decomposed granite + root and wall barriers. Property owner and Streets Division are in agreement.

ACTION: Poireir moved to accept the recommendation of the subcommittee, advise the owner to properly maintain trees, and provide functional irrigation system per current City regulations. Johnson seconded. 6 ayes / 0 nays / 0 abstain.

Continued discussion raised the question of how to inform property owners of tree ownership responsibilities and City’s ability to implement tree protection policy.

6) **Discussion Item(s):**

A. Board Development. Considering that 85% of the board seats are either vacant or inactive, board promotion needs to take a high priority. Possible solutions include asking retiring members to nominate viable replacements before they leave, reminding Mayor/Council that their seats are empty, and getting other board members on KPBS again to recruit new board members.

ACTION: Jones moved to send a specifically worded letter to Mayor and Council offices encouraging vacant and inactive seats to be filled and sworn in on Arbor Day. Poireir seconded. 6 ayes / 0 nays / 0 abstain.

B. Outreach Issues. CFAB not listed on the City website. Staff to research establishing proper links. Questions about old grant money specifically for creating brochures: how much was there, how much is left, and what became of the Creative Fusions and Lyons Associates contracts? Staff to research and report.

C. After board is full, a thoughtful needs assessment should be completed.



7) **Quick Business:**

Request by d'Elgin to add to the working list of CFAB tasks a discussion or policy development that answers the question Why does the City allow "trip & fall" to become a default method for removing trees?

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

- a. Education & Outreach Committee –
- b. Planning Committee –
- c. Implementation Committee –
- d. Finance Committee –
- e. Staff Reports – Staff Reports Provided
 - Drew Potocki, Street Division Urban Forester
 - i. SDRUFC Workshop recap: many great speakers and good attendance, interesting grant from Air Quality Mgmt District to plant 1000's of trees on one day. Board requested a 15 minute presentation at future meeting.
 - ii. Arbor Day – April 28th from 10:00 – 2:00. Mayor will attend, press release is in the works, site selection still open. Board members asked to recommend possible sites and participate in the event itself.
 - iii. Mayor's support - Subcommittee of Estrada, Potocki, and d'Elgin met with Abby Jarl of the Mayor's Office to ensure support and discuss how to recruit future board members.
 - Michael Marika, Park & Recreation Dept. Arborist - Planted 11 trees in Scripps Ranch this month.
 - Velmo Watson, Code Compliance Officer
 - Tony Gangitano, Development Services Dept. Senior Planner – Reported a new issue where homeowners' associations/CCRs dictate tree trimming and/or removal that conflicts with tree protection goals of the CFAB. Recommended that the board discuss ways to develop more comprehensive tree protection policy.

9) **Referrals to Committees:** none.

10) **Public Comment:** none.

11) **Next Meeting:** date, 2007, 11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m., CAB12A

12) **Adjourned** at 1:15pm