



City of San Diego

Community Forest Advisory Board Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 8, 2019

Central Library, 330 Park Blvd., 9th Floor, San Diego, CA, 92101

1. Call to Order Anne Fege, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:10.

2. Attendees

Members – Chris Drayer, Rachele Melious, Troy Murphree, Butch Everett, Puja Batra, Tomas Herrera-Mishler, Muriel King, and Anne Fege

City Staff – Brian Widener and Christine Stontz, Transportation & Stormwater; Lesley Henegar

Guests – Guy Preuss

3. Announcements and Updates

- a. Brian Widener and staff are focusing on getting trees planted. Widener emphasized the importance of Board attendance and asked for notification of planned absence at least 48 hours before each meeting.

4. Actions

- a. Bylaws were discussed, and unanimously approved as amended. They will now be forwarded to the Mayor's office and City Attorney for review.

5. City Staff Reports

- a. Widener gave a brief update on Phase I and II progress, from the Five-year Plan.
- b. Widener gave an update on tree planting, with 789 trees planted in FY 2019 for the \$100,000 budget. Now only jacarandas are available until July 1, using the Figg Fund. Widener mentioned challenges with contractors and internal reporting. Tags are in production. There are more than 100 requests for "free trees" each month, now a 9- to 12-month backlog.

6. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Arbor Day was a big success, with 140 volunteers and about 20 Tree Stewards planting about 100 trees. Four councilmembers and department heads of Parks and Transportation & Stormwater spoke.

7. Discussion

- a. Four protected trees will be removed on Rolando Boulevard, and replacement trees planted.
- b. Fege, Widener, and other Board members gave public comments at the Environment Committee meetings on March 18 and April 16.
- c. Members need to be recruited for the Board, as most terms expire by December 31, 2019.

7. Public Comment

- a. Guy Preuss commented on tree grates and the damage they can cause to trees. They are installed by contractors, and are not the City's responsibility to maintain.

8. Next Meeting –Wednesday, June 12, 2019, 10:00 to 11:30 am at San Diego Central Library.