



City of San Diego
Community Forest Advisory Board Meeting
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, March 8, 2023
Meeting held at Allied Gardens/Benjamin Public Library

1. Call to Order and Introductions Anne Fege, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 am

2. Attendees

Members – Ami Young, Anne Fege, Chris Tiffany, Jim Smith, Morgan Justice-Black, Rachel Melious, Troy Murphree, Vince Mikulanis, Wes Janssen, Butch Everett

City Staff – Brian Widener, John Ide and Chaz Wilson, Transportation; Leslie Henegar, Planning; and Valerie Herrera, Sustainability

Guests – Mark Smith, Outdoor Outreach; Mike Palat, West Coast Arborists

3. Approval of Minutes (Minutes of February 8 were approved.)

1. Non-Agenda Public Comment

- a. Troy Murphree reported on 50 trees street and parking lot trees marked for tree removal at the Joan Kroc Community Center, 6747 University Avenue, as part of a project to install solar panels on a parking lot. Development Services staff confirmed that tree removals were not approved; the Kroc Center staff asked for a meeting with community members; and the trees may be “saved.”

2. Announcements and Updates

- a. CFAB Chair Anne Fege and City Forester Brian Widener welcomed newly-appointed Board members.

3. City Staff Reports

- a. Chaz Wilson outlined the tree planting projects that were done cooperatively with San Diego Gas & Electric, for 418 trees planted in City Heights (Cherokee Point area) and 271 trees in Allied Gardens.
- b. The five-year contract for street tree maintenance is expiring and will be re-competed. Widener is working with Procurement Staff to prepare the Request for Bids.
- c. Widener outlined the draft Implementation Plan for the Climate Action and Resilient SD plans, that includes planting 6,000 trees annually, proposed costs and schedule. Fege expressed concerns about young tree care and health, and both staffing and contractor support for an expanded program.

4. Discussions

- a. Topics for future CFAB meetings were identified:
 - i. Young tree care, survival and sustainability
 - ii. Plans to increase street and park tree planting, to implement Climate Action Plan
 - iii. Engagement and education of communities to care for trees, “you are part of this!”
 - iv. Partnership opportunities with commercial and institutional property owners
 - v. Tree watering information and incentives, from the Water Department
 - vi. Revision of tree protection code, so it “has teeth”

- vii. Enforcement of tree protection plans, that are written for most Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs) and require avoidance of damage during construction
- viii. Enforcement of development permit requirements, including avoidance of damage during construction, maintenance and replacement of trees, and parking lot shade

5. Actions (none)

6. Adjournment Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

7. Next Meeting – The next meeting will be 10:00-11:30 am on Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at Valencia Park/Malcolm X Library (still to be confirmed), 5148 Market Street, San Diego. There are no plans for providing access by videoconference. Agenda will be posted at <https://www.sandiego.gov/trees/cfab>.