



City of San Diego

Community Forest Advisory Board Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, August 9th, 2023

Meeting held at Valencia Park Malcom X Library from 10 am to 11.30 am

Roll Call – Butch Everett, Chuck Morgan, Morgan Justice-Black, Jim Smith, Ami Young, Chris Tiffany, Rachele Melious, Wes Janssen, Vince Mikulanis

City Staff – Sustainability and Mobility: Phil Trom, **Transportation:** John Ide, Alandon Joe, Noelle Burke, Chaz Wilson, Ynez Nevarez, **Planning:** Leslie Henegar

Guests – Anne Fege

Non-Agenda Public Comment – None

Announcements and Updates –

- Jim introduced as Chairperson
 - o Prior board experience
 - o Former President of San Dieguito River Conservancy
 - o Developed CalScape.org

Actions and Votes –

- Edit to be added
 - o “Target for shade tree maintenance is 7 years, actual cycle is 14 years”.
- Minutes Approved on condition of mentioned edit.
- Conserve-A-Tree presentation pushed to September meeting.

City Staff Reports

- Complete Streets Council Policy presented by Phil Trom
 - o Phil to provide link to policy
- What projects are currently utilizing this policy?
 - o Florida roundabout
 - o Community concern on where trees are being planned.
 - When does the community advocate for trees?
 - o Concern for space to maintain trees
 - Parking spaces allow trucks to work without blocking lanes
 - How will you access and maintain the trees?
 - Road closures
 - Closed off parking

- Questions and issues presenting by Board members:
 - Equity in communities with little to no community representation.
 - o How does the city determine city needs in these communities?
 - Who within the department advocates?
 - Could streets with outdoor dining be closed for pedestrians?
 - o Currently being utilized in Gaslamp
 - o Federal grant available for traffic calming measures
 - Coordinate with streetlights?
 - Tree installation within outdoor dining areas?
 - Provisions in policy to preserve or plant trees?
 - o Working with City Forester to implement more tree focused policy.
 - Implementation letter K
- Board member list with current members and vacancies presented to the board.
 - o Request to add a column to show recruitment progress on member list.
 - o How can members be more proactive in recruiting members?

Discussion

- How is the tree inventory and canopy measurements being implemented and reported?
- Bioswale in CD4 Library overtaken by Acacia, existing Toyons were severely pruned.
 - o Libraries have their own maintenance crew and oversight.
 - Ground maintenance manager
 - o Oversight Policy is outdated.
- Need for tree warden for oversight.
- Propose quarterly outreach to council.
 - o Elevator pitch for a Tree Warden
- Urban wood reclamation
 - o Utilizing city assets (trees) that have been removed to produce lumber
- Involving Council in Heritage tree nominations
- Look at making recommendations for CU soils under sidewalks for healthier trees.
 - o Possible suggestion for Complete Streets
 - o Chris Tiffany to lead proposal.
- Recommendation for “Water your tree reminders” in quarterly memo to council.
- Community outreach to encourage community tree care.
- Tree info tags on new tree plantings

Adjournment – 11:35 AM