

City of San Diego
Community Forest Advisory Board

MEETING MINUTES

December 14, 2016

City Administration Building, 202 C Street, Committee Room, 12th Floor

DRAFT Anne Fege 12/27/16

1) **Convene.** Anne Fege, Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:45 a.m.

2) **Attendees.**

Members – Chris Drayer, Steve Lamprides, Troy Murphree, Vince Mikulanic, Anne Fege

Guests – Virginia Wilson (District 2), Guy Preuss (District 4), Corey Bassett (District 6), and Mike Palat (SD Regional Urban Forests Council)

City Staff – Jeremy Barrick and Lesley Henegar, Planning; Sergio Arias, Transportation/Streets

3) **Approval of Minutes.** Minutes were approved for the November 9 meeting.

4) **Action Items.** None

5) **City Staff Reports.**

- a. Jeremy Barrick announced that he has accepted a position with Minneapolis Parks Department, an unexpected opportunity to return to his home state and be closer to family. Several Board members expressed their appreciation for Barrick’s vision, accomplishments, and the momentum for urban forestry that now needs to be sustained. He will leave a transition action plan, and work with Human Resources on the job announcement to fill his position.
- b. Barrick reported that the Urban Forestry Program Five-year Plan was presented to and approved by the Council’s Environment Committee on Thursday, December 8, and is docketed for Council approval on January 24.
- c. Lesley Henegar gave a brief update on the tree planting efforts, funded by the grant from California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire). The last 100 trees will be planted in January. A tree planting event was held on December 1 on Island Street, attended by the Mayor and covered by TV Channel 7, KPBS, San Diego Union-Tribune and other news media.
- d. Barrick reported that the street tree inventory will soon be released for bid. A cooperative agreement will be signed with the USDA Forest Service, for the Urban Forest Inventory Analysis, to complement the inventory. The Urban Tree Canopy Assessment final report is expected in early 2017, with data layers publicly available and a webinar scheduled to summarize the results. Additional work is needed to determine where trees can and will be planted, to increase tree canopy and meet Climate Action Goals.
- e. Sergio Arias described the “storm mode” in the Transportation and Stormwater department, in preparation for the predicted storms. Data on the tree damage and

removal is expected to be recorded, following procedures that were discussed and identified after last winter's storm that damaged more than 500 trees.

- f. Arias reported that about 200 trees will be planted this year by Atlas Tree Corporation (city-wide tree care contractor) and Urban Corps, from property owners who request a tree on the City's easement (and who are willing to sign a watering agreement).
- g. Barrick gave a presentation on the City's urban forestry program, at the American Planning Association local meeting on December 2, attended by more than 100.
- h. Jeremy will submit renewal application for the TreeCityUSA designation.
- i. CalFire has extended the deadline for CalFire urban forestry grant applications to December 30, and Barrick, Henegar, and Fege have been working on an application for "Building Community Through Canopy." This features tree planting at three schools, streets, parks and residences, and support for environmental education, Tree Steward program and Urban Corps job training.

6) Discussion.

- a. Toward the goal of increasing local advocacy for trees, Anne Fege is working with citizens from Ocean Beach to identify what to include in a Tree Advocacy Handbook, and what to offer in a series of workshops for professionals.
- b. Henegar is developing an outreach presentation on urban forestry activities for community planning groups, that City planning staff and/or CFAB members could present.
- c. Fege reported that the applications and background checks have been completed for four nominees to the Board, and the Mayor's office is processing four more applicants.

7) Other Reports

- a. Mike Palat described the awards program that the San Diego Regional Urban Forests Council meeting is Friday, December 16 and will include presentation of awards in five categories.
- b. Pershing Street is being redesigned, narrowing to two lanes, adding boulevard trees, bicycle lanes, and roundabout.

8) Public Comment

None.

9) Next Regular Meeting

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month, at City Administration Bldg. 202 C Street - 12th Floor, Conference Room A. The next meeting will be January 11, 2017, from 11:45 to 1:15 pm.

10) Adjourned at 1:20 p.m.