



City of San Diego
Community Forest Advisory Board

MEETING MINUTES
December 13, 2017
Recital Hall, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

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

2) **Attendees.**

Members – Chris Drayer, Rachele Melious, Troy Murphree, Virginia Wilson, Vince Mikulanis, Muriel King, and Anne Fege

City Staff – Brian Widener, Christina Fernandez, and Donna Trask, Transportation and Stormwater; Lesley Henegar, Planning; Sheri Carr, staff for Councilmember Gomez; Ibrahim Ahmed and Luis Natividad, staff for Council President Cole.

Guests –Guy Preuss (Paradise Hills); Robin Rivet, arborist and former CFAB member; Mike Palat and Corey Bassett, West Coast Arborists; Evelyn Smith (Emerald Hills), Jackie Higgins, Balboa Park Conservancy

3) **Approval of Minutes.** Minutes were deferred for the November 8 meeting.

4) **Chair’s Announcements.** Great publicity to communities.

5) **Actions**

- a. Subcommittees formed: 1) Municipal code review and Council policy review – Vince, Rachelle, Troy, and Chris; 2) SD Forestry Website Review – Robin and Rachelle
- b. Christina Fernandez, Street Division, to aid in future meeting minutes.

6) **City Staff Reports**

- a. City resources: Get It Done app. – acknowledgement of receiving requests is not sent back to requestors; Communications Dept. is working on improvements
- b. Community newsletters have announced free tree initiative
- c. Only a small percent of watering agreement forms are being returned by property owners, an online fillable agreement would be preferable, B. Widener suggested a Communication Dept. rep. attend next meeting,
- d. Other city resources for outreach were discussed, including tracking of street tree inspections and tree maintenance by Streets Division.
- e. Final draft review of street tree selection guide to be completed by end of month
- f. Tree planting process explained: contractors make site visits, map out trees, determine when plants will get planted;
- g. New Horticulturist position for Streets Division in process, A. Fege believes staff needs to increase by seven and has been pushing this idea with local city reps;
- h. Tree canopy assessment report final draft review to be completed by January meeting

- i. Observations from the field: very helpful meeting in Emerald Hills Community on November 16 with City Forester, report and notes of the meeting to be sent to CFAB and council; future ride-a-longs discussed such as ½ day visits in each district
- j. Citywide Tree Canopy Coverage – L. Henegar provided map and presentation

7) Discussion

- a. Additional communication strategies discussed
- b. Status of Phase I action, 5-Yr Urban Forestry Plan – Matrix presented by B. Widener
- c. Agenda items for January 10 meeting discussed.

8) Public Comment

Evelyn Smith, 44 year resident of Emerald Hills, spoke of looking for tree spaces, tree/sidewalk conflicts, dead/poor trees, utility lines, trees planted 6-7 years of not being maintained.

9) Next Regular Meeting The Board meets on the second Wednesday of the month, and the next meeting will be Wednesday, January 10, 2018, 11:45 am – 1:15pm. Location TBD

Adjourned