

**City of San Diego
Community Forest Advisory Board**

MEETING MINUTES
June 13, 2012
Civic Center Plaza Building

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

2) **Present:**

Members – Anne Fege, Fausto Palafox, Robin Rivet, Jon Becker, Jake Banfield-Weir, Victoria Heithaus, Mary Johnson, Joe Jones, Tershia d’Elgin.

[Not Present] – Stephen Lamprides, Craig Jones,

Guests – Guy Pruess (Skyline/Paradise Hills CPG), Lynette Short (CALFire)

City Staff – Drew Potocki, Alex Hempton, Andrea Demich

3) **Approval of Minutes:** none

4) **Chair’s Announcements:**

5) **Working Group Reports:**

- a. Outreach/Education. 1. Focus on community organizations. 2. Website/planning areas
- b. Funding/Partnerships, including status of FY2013 budget
- c. Policies/Programs. The group reviewed the General Plan, various community plans, Municipal Code, DSD submittals, etc and decided to focus on Tree Selection Guide for immediate and effective impact.

6) **Reports:** Items *not* already on agenda

- a. Board Member Reports
 - Palafox reported on tree plantings in Mission Hills
 - Rivet attended the City Council’s June 11 meeting, giving a 2-minute presentation focused on what other large American cities are doing, how San Diego compares to them, and the importance of funding the City’s urban forestry program. Councilmembers and City staff exchanged information, and the Council directed that FY2013 funds for the urban forestry program be included in the appropriated reserve, with direction to the Mayor to expend the funds for the City Forester (urban forester) position.
- b. City Staff Reports
 - Potocki reported a fruit tree donation to a volunteer group for 45th & Market Street project.
- c. Urban Corps Report

7) **Action Item(s):**

- a. Write letter to all Council to summarize advocacy points, offer recommendations for budget surplus, and thanks for support. [/] Approved
- b. Write thank you letter to Urban Corps. [Johnson / Rivet] Approved.

8) **Discussion Item(s):**

- a. Filling vacant CFAB positions

- b. Update from San Diego Regional Urban Forestry Council. Mission Statement has been updated and they are Co-hosting a leadership workshop for urban forest advocacy.
- c. Process and plans for submitting documents for TreeCityUSA Community. Lynnette Short reported on available assistance through CalFire to re-establish TreeCity USA status and other supportive grants and resources.

9) **Public Comment:** Urban Corps Report 1. District 8 tree planting at 1955 Julian Avenue – 54 trees. 2. Thanked Mary Johnson for her recent assistance. 3. Thanked City for quick planning permit turn around.

10) **Referrals to Committees:**

- a. To the Funding/Partnership group – assign a grant writing coordinator from CFAB to be the City point person.
- b. For future action items: 1. Develop an urban forest action plan. 2. Ask for assistance from CalFire managing grants. 3. Ask the City to fill the Urban Forester position.

11) **Adjourned** at 1:17 p.m.