

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

MEETING MINUTES

April 13, 2016

City Administration Building, Committee Room

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

2) **Attendees.**

Members – Jake Sibley, Rachele Melious, Robin Rivet, Steve Lamprides, Troy Murphree, Anne Fege

Guests –Guy Preuss (Skyline/Paradise Hills), Corey Bassett, Charlene Pulsonetti, Ron Matranga (Atlas Tree Service), Melanie Conomikes, and Brad Brown, Mike Palat (Tree San Diego & West Coast Arborist)

City Staff –Lesley Henegar, Jeremy Barrick, and Sergio Arias

3) **Approval of Minutes.** Minutes of the March 9, 2016 meeting were approved (moved by Troy Murphree, seconded by Rachele Melious).

4) **Action Items.** None.

5) **City Staff Reports.**

- a) The FY 2017 budget hearings will be held on May 4, 5, 9 and 10. Some CFAB members are willing to attend the hearings to support the City's investments in urban forestry.
- b) The Tree Planting contract is currently open for bid, and a bidders' conference was held. City staff are currently identifying tree planting locations, in the general area from I-5 to I-15, Market to Imperial Avenues.
- c) Requirements for the Tree Inventory contract are being finalized. Data will be collected on mobile phones, and will be the first data entered for trees in the Enterprise Asset Management Project.
- d) Sixty-five attended the Tree Canopy Assessment Workshop on April 5. The worksheets and surveys will be compiled, and resources and links provided on a website (likely at the SD Regional Urban Forests Council, with link from City of SD).
- e) A meeting for educational outreach relating to tree planting in southeastern San Diego was held on April 8, both for the care of 500 planted trees, and to encourage property owners to care for and plant trees on their property. Many approaches and materials were identified during the meeting. Further discussion is needed on a strategic approach, considering an "inform, engage, educate, empower model, and a branded education/marketing campaign.

6) **Discussion.**

- a) The Public Tree Protection, Council Policy 900-19 was discussed. Some needed revisions were identified, including deleting the requirement that all tree removal

requests be brought to CFAB and the community planning boards (not currently done and unreasonable). Criteria for tree removal could be defined in the policy, including condition, ownership, and safety. Street tree removal provisions need to be in the code, not Council policy.

7) Other Reports

- a) Mike Palat, Board member of Tree San Diego, reported that they planted trees at St. Ritas, together with the Green Building Council. Tree SD has received a small grant to begin a “tree steward” training program. They have provided some training to Urban Corps enrollees.
- b) Robin Rivet reported that street and parking lot trees at the Joan Kroc center had been topped again. The unauthorized and/or improper pruning of trees could and should be part of the tree maintenance and oversight program, when City urban forestry resources increase.

8) Public Comment

None.

9) Next Regular Meeting – Second Wednesday of the month, June 8, 2016.

Agenda items include update on the CalFire grant, code revision process, and code compliance.

10) Adjourned at 1:15p.m.