



**URBAN FORESTRY BOARD  
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
20, January, 2010**

**The Urban Forestry Board convened in a regular meeting on 20, January, 2010, 200 S. Lamar Blvd. in Austin, Texas.**

**Chair Babberney called the Board Meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.**

**Board Members in Attendance:** Keith Babberney – Chair, Shannon Halley – Vice Chair, Peggy Maceo, Jessica Wilson, Nevic Donnelly, Ryan Fleming

**Staff in Attendance:** PARD: Walter Passmore, Urban Forestry Program Manager; Anthony Cardenas, Administrative Assistant, Austin Energy: Ray Henning, Line Clearance Superintendent, PDRD: Michael Embesi, City Arborist

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the meeting of 12/16/2009 approved on Board Member Donnelly's motion, Board Member Wilson seconded and motion passed with a 4-0-2 vote.

**3. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

- a. No citizen communication

**4. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**5. STAFF BRIEFINGS**

- a. The presentation was made by Walter Passmore, Urban Forestry Manager, PARD regarding Forestry's numbers for December as well as plantings and pruning taking place at Barton Springs.
- b. The presentation was made by Ray Henning, Line Clearance Superintendent, AE regarding Austin Energy's numbers for December. Continuing work in oak wilt and bird habitat.
- c. The presentation was made by Michael Embesi, City Arborist, PDRD regarding Planning and Development's numbers as well as Heritage Tree ordinance update.

**6. OLD BUSINESS – DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

- a. Briefing on Urban Forestry Management Plan – Walter Passmore, PARD
  - 1) Interdepartmental body of City of Austin employees called Tree Oversight Committee took on Urban Forest Management Plan as a priority item for the year
  - 2) Board Member Halley stated someone from Urban Forestry Board should be on Tree Oversight Committee
- b. Strategic Work Plan – no discussion
- c. Oak wilt education and outreach – Board Members Donnelly and Halley
  - 1) Board Member Halley will try to acquire funds and get in touch with neighborhood contacts
- d. Professional licensing of tree care professionals – Board Members Donnelly and Fleming

- 1) Board Member Donnelly has performed research
- 2) Board Member Wilson will work with Board Member Donnelly to refine presentation
- e. Urban Forest Open Source Map Status – Board Members Halley and Babberney
  - 1) With 75 people collecting data including collaboration with City of Austin, over 20,000 points have already been contributed.
- f. Education sign about why we leave snags – Board Members Fleming and Halley
  - 1) Board Member Wilson suggested meeting with Alice Nance and Margaret Russell, PARD
- g. Review/refinement of letter to City Council that will propose the creation of a Cemetery Oversight Working Group – Board Members Classen and Wilson
  - 1) Group has met with Walter Passmore and Joe Washington, PARD and Board Member Classen will make revisions.
  - 2) Next meeting will take place February 26<sup>th</sup>.

**7. NEW BUSINESS – DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

- a. Discussion of possible acquisition of maintenance funds for Gateway Oaks – Board Members Halley and Maceo
  - 1) Board Member Maceo attempting to get grant money to have fencing placed around those trees as well as others that are not being maintained well.
- b. Request for new agenda items
  - 1) Board Member Halley would like to discuss the state of the Urban Forest Summit

**8. ADJOURN: Chair Babberney adjourned the meeting at 8:16 p.m. without objection**