



**URBAN FORESTRY BOARD
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2010**

The Urban Forestry Board convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, December 15, 2010 at 200 S. Lamar Blvd. in Austin, Texas.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Maceo called the Board Meeting to order at 6:35p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Peggy Maceo, Patrick Brewer, Nick Classen, Nevic Donnelly, Ryan Fleming, Jessica Wilson

Staff in Attendance:

Parks and Recreation Department: Walter Passmore, Urban Forestry Program Manager

Emily King, Environmental Program Coordinator

Austin Energy: Ray Henning, Line Clearance Superintendent

Planning and Development Review Department: Michael Embesi, City Arborist

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 20, 2010

The minutes for the regular meeting of 10/20/2010 were approved with the following amendments on Board Member Wilson motion, Board Member Fleming second on a 6-0 vote.

The amendments were:

- a) Item 6.i.1)c): strike entire sentence
- b) Item 6.i.2): Third sentence changed to: The diagrams illustrated tree mortality ratings and the probability of the presence of beetles in central Texas being greatest during February to June to demonstrate the greater risk to oak trees if pruned during these months.
- c) Item 6.i.3): Fourth word in first sentence changed to: moved
- d) Item 7.d.1): Second word changed to: Rankin

3. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL - None

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board Member Maceo announced that Chair Halley submitted her resignation. Council Member Morrison's office requested that she stay on 3 more months until the vacancy is filled and Chair Halley agreed.

5. PRESENTATIONS

- a) Don Gardner regarding Treaty Oak – Board Member Maceo
Don Gardner, Consulting Arborist, requested permission to organize pruning for Treaty Oak. Board Members requested a scope of work for the proposed pruning. Mr. Gardner and Walter Passmore agreed to submit the requested scope at January meeting.
- b) Carol Haywood regarding the Comprehensive Plan

Carol Haywood, Planning and Development Review Department: presented information regarding the comprehensive plan, "Imagine Austin". She requested participation of one member of the board in phase three of the Comprehensive Plan. Board Members Fleming and Wilson volunteered to split this duty.

- c) Shirley Gentry regarding the Boards and Commissions ordinance
Shirley Gentry, City Clerks Office: gave a presentation regarding the recent revisions to the boards and commissions ordinance.

The motion to move 8.c. on the agenda before staff briefings was approved on Board Member Donnelly's motion, Board Member Fleming's second on a 6-0 count.

8. NEW BUSINESS – DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

- c. Signing of recommended oak wilt language to City of Austin by Urban Forestry Board Citizens Communications occurred regarding this item.
The motion to defer discussion on the oak wilt item until next meeting and the signing of the statement that was proposed for Board signature; and that the email to Board members dated December 15, 2010 be placed on the Boards and Commissions website as backup material failed on Board Member Classen's motion, Board Member Fleming's second on a 2-4 count. Those members voting aye were: Acting Chair Maceo, and Board Member Classen. Those voting nay were: Board Members Brewer, Donnelly, Fleming, and Wilson.
The Policy Recommendation on oak wilt was signed by Acting Chair Maceo with no objection.

Deleted:

Without objection, 8.d. on the agenda was moved before staff briefings.

8. NEW BUSINESS – DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

- d. Roy Guerrero Park and Disc Golf – Board Members Maceo and Wilson
Citizens Communications occurred regarding this item.
Board Member Maceo requested a presentation from PARD about Roy Guerrero Park Master Plan and disk golf course for the January meeting.
The motion that the Planning Commission be asked to postpone the zoning change until the Urban Forestry Board has reviewed development plans for disc golf course and heard from both PARD and concerned citizens and further that conceptual plans for the golf course incorporate a vegetative site analysis and tree survey was approved on Board Member Wilson's motion, Board Member Brewer's second on a 6-0 vote.

Without objection, Board Member Wilson requested to move 7.f. on the agenda before staff briefings.

7. OLD BUSINESS – DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

- f. State of the Urban Forest Summit – Board Member Halley
Board Member Wilson gave an update on State of the Urban Forest Summit

Without objection, no discussion was held on the following agenda items.

6. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- a. Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) Forestry and Invasive Species Initiative update
- b. Austin Energy
- c. Planning and Development Review Department

7. OLD BUSINESS – DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

- a. Briefing on Urban Forest Management Plan–Walter Passmore, PARD

- b. Strategic Work Plan
- c. Professional licensing of tree care professionals – Board Members Donnelly and Wilson
- d. Education sign about why we leave snags – Board Members Fleming and Wilson
- e. Heritage Tree Ordinance – Board Member Halley
- g. Heritage trees species list update – Board Member Fleming
- h. Discussion of Tree Overlay Subcommittee – Board Member Maceo
- i. Organizing a workday schedule for Urban Forest Steward graduates – Board Member Halley

8. NEW BUSINESS – DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

- a. Urban forest grant fund contract issues – Board Member Fleming
- b. Discuss Invasive Tree of the Year – Board Member Wilson
- e. Request for new agenda items

9. ADJOURNMENT

The motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m., due to the late hour, was approved on Board Member Donnelly's motion, Board Member Fleming's second on a 6-0 vote.