



URBAN FORESTRY BOARD MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, May 16, 2012**

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Brewer called the Board Meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Board Chair Patrick Brewer, Peggy Maceo, Nick Classen, Ryan Fleming, Christopher Kite,

Staff in Attendance:

Parks and Recreation Department: Angela Hanson, Acting Urban Forestry Program

Manager

Charles Vaclavik, Division Manager

Gwendowlyn McGee, Administrative Specialist

Mitzi Cotton, Attorney Senior, City of Austin Law Dept.

Angela Means, Division Manager, PARD Financial

Ray Henning-Austin Energy, Line Clearance Superintendent

Michael Embesi, City Arborist, Planning and Development Review Department

1. Approve the minutes of the Urban Forestry Board's regular meeting of April 18, 2012.

Minutes for the Urban Forestry Board's April 18, 2012 regular meeting, were approved on a motion by Board Member Ryan, 2nd by Board Member Kite, and approved a 5-0 vote. Board Members Rose and Vice Chair Hayes were not in attendance

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

Tom Kidd

Ziola Vega

Michael Fossum (donated his time to Ziola Vega)

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The City Council will discuss the sale and redevelopment of the Green Water Treatment Plant and the heritage trees on the property and Board Member Maceo would like for as many people that can to attend the meeting on May 24th.

Angela Hanson, Acting Urban Forest Program Manager, announced there will be a tree climbing competition at Zilker Park on Friday, May 18th.

4. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- a.** Angela Means – Division Manager – PARD Financial briefed the board regarding the upcoming items concerning the FY 2012-13 budget and the board's participation
- b.** Jadell Hines, Conservation Program Coordinator – Austin Water Utility briefed the board concerning the proposed revisions of the Austin City Code, Chapter 6-4 Water Conservation.
- c.** Michael Embesi, City Arborist, Planning and Development Review Department presented his monthly update.

- d. Ray Henning, Line Clearance Superintendent, Austin Energy, presented his monthly report.

5. EXECUTIVE LIAISON'S REPORT

Angela Hanson Acting, Urban Forestry Program Manager, presented briefings on the following items:

- a. Updated the Board on the Urban Forest Opinion Poll, they are still diligently working on summarizing the results so that they will be able to capture all the opinions they received. They do have results on the survey takers; there were 880 people that participated in the survey, and the majority that responded live in Travis County.
- b. Forestry is working on the planting planning for FY 2012-13 and are focusing heavily on water conservation
- c. Angela stated the Urban Forest program would like some direction on the progress of the Urban Forest Comprehensive Program, and recommend setting up another working group meeting to keep the momentum going.
- d. Per the Board's request Angela provided a briefing and list of the Urban Forest Program Park Tree Premits.

6. NEW BUSINESS - DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

- a. Discuss and take possible action concerning the Urban Forestry Board's purview regarding the entire Urban Forest, on both public and private parcels. No action was taken in regarding this item. Mitzi Cotton with the Law Department explained to the Board the extent of their purview on private parcels.
- b. Board Chair Brewer reviewed the Strategic Goals Progress with the Board Members. Board Chair Brewer was to report on item 1G on the list, (Work with staff to establish a clear Barton Springs tree management process as well as to streamline the public communication effort.) He did not have a presentation ready but wanted to create a working group to help develop this process.
Board Member Classen was responsible for reporting on item 2C on the list (Review current plans for public tree watering) but will make his report next month.
Board Member Maceo reported on item 2B (Promote and recommend tree overlays for zoning applications)
- c. Discuss and make a recommendation regarding City Council resolution directing the Urban Forest Board to develop a pilot program using the Urban Forest Replenishment Fund to identify, maintain and preserve prominent trees along corridors and in the urban core.
No action was taken on this item, but a working group was approved by Board Chair Brewer.

7. FUTURE ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

- a. Briefing by Nathan Wilkes and Chad Crager on the multi-use at BartonSpring Road (entering parkland by the Palmer Events Center to Lou Neff Road.)
- b. Briefing on Brush Square
- c. Briefing on Airport Blvd (moving of sidewalk and planting of trees under power lines)

ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Brewer adjourned the meeting without objection at 9:00 p.m.

DRAFT