



**URBAN FORESTRY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, June 18, 2014, 2014 - 5:30 p.m.
Northwest Recreation Center
2913 Northland
Austin, Texas**

**URBAN FORESTRY BOARD MEMBERS
MEETING MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2014**

Board Members in Attendance:

Board Chair Chris Kite, Board Members Patrick Brewer, Keith Brown, Nick Classen, Ryan Fleming, Lew Newsom. Board Vice-Chair Maceo absent.

Staff in Attendance:

Parks and Recreation Department:

Pat Fuller, Division Manager, Nature Based Programs, UFB Ex-Officio Member
Emily King, Environmental Program Coordinator, Forestry Unit
Robert Clawson, Nature Based Programs, UFB Staff Liaison

Planning and Development Review Department:

Michael Embesi, City Arborist
Keith Mars, Environmental Program Coordinator

Austin Energy Department:

Ray Henning, Line Clearance Supervisor

Watershed Protection Department:

John Clement, Environmental Program Coordinator

Public Works Department:

Rob Grotty, Urban Forestry Program Manager

MEETING MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Kite called the meeting to order at 5:35 P.M.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the Urban Forestry Board meeting of May 21, 2014.
Motion made by Board Member Newsom, Seconded by Board Member Brewer to approve the meeting minutes of the UFB meeting of May 21, 2014. Approved by six Board members present. Board Vice-Chair Maceo absent. Motion carries.

C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

The first 4 (four) speakers signed up prior to the calling of the meeting to order are allowed a three-minute allotment each to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.

There were no citizen communications.

D. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Urban Forestry Board recommendations on the Urban Trail Master Plan to the Environmental Board approved.

Public Works – Hired 4 Forestry Tech to fill vacant positions. One to repost.

E. URBAN FORESTER EXECUTIVE LIAISON REPORT – Emily King reporting for Angela Hanson, Urban Forester, including:

- Austin Urban Forest Plan Implementation Monthly Update. Presentation given.
- Preliminary Cemetery Inventory Data. Presentation given.
- Update -- Public Works Department. Presentation given.
- Monthly Notification: Removal of protected size trees on parkland that constitute an imminent public safety risk. Monthly presentation given.
- Austin Independent School District Memorandum of Understanding for tree planting on June 26 City Council agenda. Presentation given.
- Tree Preservation Trainings held by Forestry Unit staff. 200+ PARD employees have attended.

F. ACTION ITEM BRIEFINGS

1. PARD FY15 Budget. Presenter: Angela Means, Division Manager, Financial Services, Parks and Recreation Department. Presentation given.
2. Update on CodeNext. Presenter: George Zapalac, Division Manager, Planning and Development Review Department. Presentation given.
3. Boards and Commissions Transition Taskforce Report. Presenter: Presentation given by Deena Estrada, Boards and Commission Coordinator. Presentation given by new Boards and Commission coordinator Deena Estrada.

G. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

1. Discussion and possible action on PARD FY15 Budget. Motion made by Board Member Brewer, Seconded by Board Member Classen, that the Urban Forestry Board will send a memo to City Council stating due to the critical importance of staff support to the implementation of Austin's Urban Forest Plan For Public Trees, we recommend that Council support the full \$500,000 increase in funding recommended for PARD Forestry in order to provide staff resources to effectively support implementation of the plan. Motion made by Board Chair Brewer, Seconded by Board Member Classen to amend the above motion to include "support the full \$500,000". All members in favor. Motion carried.
2. Discussion and possible action regarding CodeNext. No action taken. UFB working group formed of Board Members Brewer, Fleming and Brown.

3. Review and Possible Recommendations on Boards and Commissions Transition Taskforce Report. To be discussed with possible action at UFB meeting on July 16, 2014.

H. BRIEFINGS – 10 Minute Limit For Each Briefing

1. American Society of Landscape Architect (ASLA) position regarding CodeNext. Presenter: Roberto Garcia, ASLA. Presentation given.
2. Barton Springs Pool Tree Court Arborist Update. Presenter: Patrick Brewer, UFB Board Member. No update.
3. Austin Energy Line Clearance Monthly Update – May 2014. Ray Henning, Line Clearance Superintendent, Austin Energy. Presentation given.
4. City Arborist Program Tree Preservation and Replenishment Monthly Update May 2014. Michael Embesi, City Arborist, Planning and Development Review Department. Presentation given.
5. City Arborist Program Heritage Tree 2013 Annual Report. Michael Embesi, City Arborist, Planning and Development Review Department. Keith Mars gave the presentation.
6. Update from Treaty Oak Task Force Working Group. Presenter: Patrick Brewer. No change to report.

I. FUTURE ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Possible formation of UFB working group to monitor the implementation of Austin's Urban Forest Plan.
Boards and Commission Transition Taskforce Report.

Review and Possible Recommendations on Boards and Commissions Transition Taskforce Report.

Update from Treaty Oak Task Force Working Group. Presenter: Patrick Brewer. No change to report.

J. ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Kite adjourned the meeting at 8:55 P.M.

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For more information on the Urban Forestry Board, please contact Angela Hanson at angela.hanson@austintexas.gov or by phone at 974-9551.