

URBAN FORESTRY BOARD REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, September 17, 2014, - 5:30 p.m.

Northwest Recreation Center 2913 Northland Austin, Texas

URBAN FORESTRY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2014

Board Members in Attendance:

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

Staff in Attendance:

Parks and Recreation Department:

Angela Hanson, Forestry Program Manager, Urban Forester, UFB Executive Liaison Pat Fuller, Division Manager, Nature Based Programs, Ex-Officio Member Designee Robert Clawson, Nature Based Programs Admin, UFB Staff Liaison

Planning and Development Review Department:

Michael Embesi, City Arborist, Ex-Officio Member

Austin Energy Department:

Ray Henning, Line Clearance Supervisor

Public Works Department:

Rob Grotty, Urban Forestry Program Manager

MEETING MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Kite called the meeting to order at 5:41PM.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the Urban Forestry Board meeting of August 20, 2014.

Motion made by Board Member Newsom, Seconded by Board Member Brewer to approve the meeting minutes of the UFB meeting of August 20, 2014. Board Members Kite, Maceo, Brewer, Brown, Classen, and Newsom in favor. Board Member Fleming abstained. 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. All six speakers commented on items F1 and G1 Agenda items.

Gary Marotz – Disc Golf at Pease Park.

Jim Baumann – Disc Golf at Pease Park.

Andy Liebler - Recommend adoption of Pease Park Master Plan.

Andrew Gill – Approve recommendation of passage of Pease Park Master Plan.

Richard Craig – Recommend passage of Pease Park Master Plan to City Council.

Jim Christianson – Disapprove Pease Park Master Plan.

D. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Former ex-officio Board Member Jessica Wilson had a baby, Senna Wilson Boyer.

Emily King, PARD Forestry Unit, had a baby boy.

Austin Arbor Day is October 18, 2014, Boggy Creek Park. TreeFolks will be planting their one millionth tree. Proclamation for Arbor Day will be going before City Council October 16, 2014.

First of four Urban Forest Steward classes held.

Working with UT Civil Engineering class in conjunction with pavement staff in Parks Department, on project involving pavement shading.

Barton Springs Pool Tree Court project receiving Arboricultural Project of the Year Award at the International Society of Arboriculture Texas Chapter Annual Conference

National Public Land Day is September 27th.

Austin Community Trees planting event (near North Lamar and Rundberg) – November 15th Texas Arbor Day celebration at the South Lawn of the Capitol, Friday, November 7, 2014, 10AM to Noon. ISA Texas Annual Tree Conference – October 1-3.

E. URBAN FORESTER EXECUTIVE LIAISON REPORT – Angela Hanson, Urban Forester, including:

- Austin Urban Forest Plan Implementation Monthly Update. Presentation given.
- Monthly Notification: Removal of protected size trees on parkland that constitute an imminent public safety risk. Presentation given.
- Update -- Public Works Department. Rob Grotty presented the information.

F. ACTION ITEM BRIEFINGS

- 1. Consider approval of Draft Pease Park Master Plan. Presenter: Kim McKnight, Preservation Planner and Cultural Resources Specialist, PARD. Presentation given.
- 2. Review draft resolution for City Council to consider requesting that the City Manager direct fourteen departments to implement Austin's Urban Forest Plan in consultation with the Urban Forester. Presenter: Chris Kite, UFB Board Chair. Presentation given.
- 3. Review process for the Prominent Tree Care resolution where private entities nominate trees to receive City-funded care. Presenter: Peggy Maceo, UFB Board Vice-Chair. Presentation given.

G. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

- 1. Approval of Draft Pease Park Master Plan.
 - Motion made by Board Member Fleming, Seconded by Board Member Brown to approve the Draft Pease Park Master Plan with conditions that adhere to the Austin Urban Forest Plan in spirit and in letter. Board Chair Kite, Board Vice-Chair Maceo and Board Member Fleming, Brown and Brewer in favor. Board Members Classen and Newsom abstained. Motion carries.
- Approve draft resolution for City Council to consider requesting that the City Manager direct fourteen departments to implement Austin's Urban Forest Plan in consultation with the Urban Forester. Presenter: Chris Kite, UFB Board Chair. Motion made by Board Member Brewer, Seconded by Board Member Fleming to send draft resolution
- 3. Approve process for the Prominent Tree Care resolution where private entities nominate trees to receive City-funded care. Presenter: Peggy Maceo, UFB Board Vice-Chair.

 Motion made by Board Member Brewer, Seconded by Board Member Fleming to approve the process as presented and a letter to be sent to mayor and council with addition of attachment of the process. All

H. BRIEFINGS – 10 Minute Limit For Each Briefing

members in favor. Motion carries.

to City Council. All members in favor. Motion carries.

- 1. Austin Energy Line Clearance Monthly Update August 2014. Ray Henning, Line Clearance Superintendent, Austin Energy. Presentation given.
- 3. City Arborist Program Tree Preservation and Replenishment Monthly Update August 2014. Michael Embesi, City Arborist, Planning and Development Review Department. Presentation given.
- 4. City Arborist Program Heritage Tree Report August 2014. Presenter: Michael Embesi, City Arborist, Planning and Development Review Department. Presentation given.
- 5. Update from Treaty Oak Task Force Working Group. Presenter: Patrick Brewer. Update presented.

I. FUTURE ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Election of Officers – October 15, 2014 Meeting.

J. ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair Kite adjourned the meeting at 8:32PM.

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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.