



**URBAN FORESTRY BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, March 18, 2015, - 5:30 p.m.  
Northwest Recreation Center  
2913 Northland  
Austin, Texas**

**Board Members in Attendance:**

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

**Staff in Attendance:**

**Parks and Recreation Department**

Pat Fuller, Division Manager, Director Designee  
Robert Clawson, Nature Based Programs Division  
Manuel Flores, Parks Grounds Supervisor

**Planning and Development Review**

Keith Mars, Environmental Program Coordinator, City Arborist Office  
Lynn Tozser, Program Specialist, UFB Liaison

**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 5:40 pm.

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approve the minutes of the Urban Forestry Board meeting of February 18, 2015.

Motion made by Board Member Brewer, Seconded by Board Vice-Chair Maceo to approve the meeting minutes of February 18, 2015. Approved by Board Chair Kite, Board Vice-Chair Maceo, and Board Members Brewer, Classen and Newsom. Board Member Fleming abstained. Board Member Brown absent.

**C. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

None

#### **D. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- The Planning and Development Review Department will be splitting functions into two individual departments: The Planning and Zoning Department and the Development Review Department. This change will allow for a more efficient distribution of workload and an enhanced focus on necessary process improvements.
- Changes to Landscape Ordinance - City staff held a Green Infrastructure Working Group public meeting on March 13, 2015 at Twin Oaks Library. Staff is exploring best practices and opportunities to improve the City landscape ordinance.

#### **E. URBAN FORESTER EXECUTIVE LIAISON REPORT – Keith Mars, Environmental Program Coordinator, City Arborist Office, including:**

- Austin Urban Forest Plan Implementation Monthly Update. No questions on the information posted. Will be reviewed at the April 15, 2015 meeting.

#### **F. ACTION ITEM BRIEFINGS**

None

#### **G. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

None

#### **H. BRIEFINGS – 10 Minute Limit For Each Briefing**

1. Austin Energy Line Clearance Monthly Update – February, 2015. Presenter: Ray Henning, Line Clearance Superintendent, Austin Energy. Presentation Given.
2. City Arborist Program Tree Preservation and Replenishment Monthly Update February 2015. Presenter: Keith Mars, Environmental Program Coordinator, Planning and Development Review Department. Presentation given.
3. City Arborist Program Annual Heritage Tree Report – 2014. Presenter: Keith Mars, Environmental Program Coordinator, Planning and Development Review Department. Presentation given.
4. Update from Treaty Oak Task Force Working Group. Presenter: Patrick Brewer, UFB Board Member. Presentation given.
5. Public Works Department Urban Forestry Program Monthly Update. Presenter: Rob Grotty, Urban Forestry Program Manager. Presentation given.
6. Parks and Recreation Department Urban Forestry Program Monthly Update. Presenter: Manuel Flores, Parks Grounds Supervisor, Parks and Recreation Department.
  - A. Removal of Protected Size Trees on Parkland. Presentation given.
7. Denial of Administrative Heritage Tree Removal at 507 West 23<sup>rd</sup> Street. Presenter: Keith Mars, Environmental Program Coordinator, Planning and Development Review Department. Presentation given.

#### **I. FUTURE ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Action Item Briefing on Draft Cemetery Master Plan: Presenter: Kim McKnight, Project Coordinator, Park Planning and Design Unit, Parks and Recreation Department. April 2015.

Briefing on removal of Heritage Tree on Upper Bull Creek Greenbelt. Presenter: Lara Schuman, Acting Program Manager, Forestry Unit, Parks and Recreation Department. April 2015.

Briefing on Tree Folks/Grow Green List from Matt Hollon, Environmental Conservation Program Manager, Watershed Protection Department.

Action Item Briefing of planting appropriate tree species on city land. Presenter: Rob Grotty, Urban Forestry Program Manager, Public Works.

Action Item Briefing on grant applicant request from Pease Park Conservancy. Presenter: Mr. Richard Craig. TBD.

## **J. ADJOURNMENT**

Board Chair Kite adjourned the meeting at 7:30 pm.

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For more information on the Urban Forestry Board, please contact Emily King at [emily.king@austintexas.gov](mailto:emily.king@austintexas.gov) or by phone at 974-9548.