

**MINUTES OF THE FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING HELD
THURSDAY, April 26, 2018 IN THE GREENBELT MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m.

PRESENT were members Chair Valerie Elliott, Vice-Chair Susan Gregersen, Dr. Donna Hoffmeister, Mr. Damien Ossi, Mr. Joseph Murray, Dr. Owen Kelley and Dr. John Paul Schmit.

ALSO PRESENT was Mr. Jason Martin, Environmental Coordinator, City Council member Rodney Roberts, and Greenbelt local Bryan Bruns.

OPENING ROUND: Chair Valerie Elliott invited all present to check in and update the group with any items of interest.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved with changes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Meeting minutes of March 22, 2018 were approved by consent.

VOTING FOR NEW CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR: The current Chair and Vice-Chair of the Forest Preserve Advisory Board expressed their desire to hold elections for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair. The Board reviewed the mechanisms for elections under the Dynamic Governance procedure and discussed what qualities of leadership each member would like to have in those positions. Voting will occur during the next meeting.

STATUS OF AMT FINAL REPORT: The Board requested an update on the status of the AMT final report and outstanding meetings. The final report is still pending and a meeting with AMT will be scheduled with staff to discuss outstanding meetings and deliverables.

PUBLIC WORKS OPEN HOUSE: The Board was briefed by staff on what the Public Works open house is and asked if the Board would like to have a table at the event. The Board agreed to have a table at the event with educational items and literature about the Forest Preserve for the public to enjoy.

FUND FOR SCIENCE AND CAUTIONARY PARAGRAPH: Dr. Owen Kelley submitted two paragraphs for the Board to review. The first paragraph asks for funding from the City to conduct scientific monitoring of the Forest Preserve. The Board agreed that this funding was needed and further discussion on the topic will occur at the next meeting. The second paragraph was to be added to the Invasive Plant section of the Stewardship Guidelines. This paragraph mentioned the progression of scientific research and the need to implement the most up to date invasive plant management techniques. This paragraph will go under further revision and further discussion will occur at the next meeting.

TRAIL DESIGNATION AND MAINTENANCE: Each Board member stated their opinion on whether there should be maintained designated trails in the Forest Preserve. The Board agreed to have designated trails within the Forest Preserve that were mapped but not marked or blazed, and the Board agreed that those trails should be maintained as required to limit ecological impact.

Further discussion on the definition and implementation of trail designation and maintenance will be discussed at a future meeting.

SECTIONS 8, 9, AND 10 OF THE STEWARDSHIP GUIDELINES: Time did not permit discussion on this agenda item. These sections will be reviewed at a future meeting.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for May 24, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the Greenbelt Municipal Building.

CLOSING REMARKS: Final comments by the Board members were shared.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:08 pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Jason Martin, Environmental Coordinator

These minutes were approved by consent