

**MINUTES OF THE FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING HELD
THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2016 IN THE GREENBELT COMMUNITY CENTER**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.

PRESENT were members Valerie Elliott, Donna Hoffmeister, John Paul Schmit, Damien Ossi, Jason Martin, Annie Montes and Lauren Young. Mr. Murray and Ms. Gregersen were absent.

ALSO PRESENT was Celia Craze, Director, Department of Planning and Community Development, J Davis, Mayor Pro Tem, and Richard Fink, Public Works Department

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 the addition of a review of the Sustainable Land Care Policy.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the March 24, 2016, April 28, 2016 and June 16, 2016 meetings were approved by consent

PRESENTATION ON SUSTAINABLE LAND CARE POLICY: Present to discuss the draft policy was Richard Fink, Public Works Department. Points discussed included:

- Draft was originally prepared by Green ACES 10 years ago.
- The policy outlines sustainable practices.
- There were 3 versions of similar documents reduced to this policy draft.
- Applies to all city properties, including the forest preserve and the community gardens. Additional guidelines may be drafted for specific areas.
- Policies would apply to Public Works and to city contractors.
- There is a chemical free exception in the cases public health and public safety.
- Procedures and policies for invasives species were outlined, though it was noted that these do not necessarily apply to the forest preserve.
- Mr. Fink has met with PRAB, ACT and GreenACES and has gotten their comments.
- A section has been added on composting and mulching.
- Unsure if flaming would be considered hand removal. This needs to be checked.

- The document removed convenience as a fact in determining appropriate land care practices.

It was agreed that the Board would discuss this matter further at the October meeting.

UPDATE ON FOREST PRESERVE HEALTH ASSESSMENT: Ms. Craze noted that the report should be available by September 12. She outlined a general schedule for FPAB review, which would have FPAB meet with the consultant at the September and November meetings, and would have a field visit sometime in October.

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NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2016.

CLOSING REMARKS: Final comments by Board members were shared.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Celia Craze, Director

These minutes were approved by consent.