

MINUTES OF THE FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING HELD  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2015 IN THE GREENBELT COMMUNITY CENTER

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Robert Snyder called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

PRESENT were members Donna Almquist, Valerie Elliott, Susan Gregersen, Donna Hoffmeister, Damien Ossi, Robert Snyder, Yoni Siegel and Willis Witter. Mr. Murray had been excused.

ALSO PRESENT was Celia Craze, Director, Department of Planning and Community Development, J Davis, member of Council, and Rodney Roberts, member of Council. Sgt. Gordon Pracht made a brief visit as the meeting was starting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved without change.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Ms. Almquist made the following motion "I move that a professional evaluation of the actions of the board at the September and October 2014 meetings be done by a Professional Registered Parliamentarian and a written opinion be provided to the board." The motion was seconded by Mr. Snyder. The motion failed by a vote of 3-4-1.

By a vote of 7-0-1, the minutes of the meeting of October 23, 2014 were deferred.

By a vote of 7-1, the minutes of the meeting of November 20, 2014 were approved with changes.

REVIEW OF CODE OF CONDUCT FOR CITY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES: Ms. Craze distributed copies of the code of conduct and advised the Board that each member needed to sign and return the document policy. Councilmember Davis stated that the document policy had been approved by Council. There was short discussion about the content of the document policy and suggestions for possible changes. Chairman Snyder and Ms. Almquist each stated that they would not sign the code of conduct because of concerns they had. Several other The remaining members signed and returned the code of conduct.

FP ASSESSMENT/RFP PROCESS: Ms. Craze distributed copies of the draft RFP for a forest health assessment of the forest preserve. She stated she hoped to have the RFP distributed by the end of February. There was discussion about the content of the RFP, how respondents would be selected, advertisement, and final drafting of the RFP.

BOARD ELECTIONS: Chair Snyder noted that board elections for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair would be held at the February meeting.

MARYLAND OPEN MEETINGS ACT: There was a short discussion about the act, its provisions, and exceptions. Of note was the requirement that all public meetings must be advertised, and any gathering of a quorum of individuals when board meeting is discussed is considered a meeting and is subject to all the provisions of the act.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, February 26, 2015 at 7 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Celia W. Craze

Director

These minutes were approved by a vote of 6-3..