

MINUTES OF THE FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING HELD  
THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2015 IN THE GREENBELT COMMUNITY CENTER

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Valerie Elliott called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

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

ALSO PRESENT was Celia Craze, Director, Department of Planning and Community Development and John Buck of the Dynamic Governance Group.

DISCUSSION OF MEETING PROCEDURES: Chair Elliott introduced to the board a process called "circle meeting" which she proposed as a different way to conduct the board meeting. Points of discussion included:

- Circle meetings seek consent in decision making;
- Whether circle meetings reflect a departure from meeting procedures as specified in Roberts Rules of Order;
- Do Roberts Rules of Order allow for less structured procedures in small group meetings;
- FPAB by-laws have adopted Roberts Rules of Order;
- Is it necessary to formally adopt the circle meeting procedures?

Ms. Almquist made a motion that the FPAB take a vote to decide if the board should vote whether to use the circle meeting/dynamic governance as a new decision making tool for the March, April and May meetings. Mr. Murray seconded and the motion passed 9-0.

Mr. Murray moved that the FPAB use the circle meeting/dynamic governance model for the current and following two meetings. Mr. Ossi seconded, and the motion passed 6-3.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved with the addition of item #8 – No Cost Spay/Neuter Program.

REVIEW OF FEBRUARY 26, 2015 MINUTES: Several minor corrections were made with approval to be made at a later meeting.

REVIEW OF RFP FOR FOREST HEALTH ASSESSMENT: The Board made several suggestions to clarify the language in the draft RFP. Several members submitted written recommendations in advance of the meeting to Staff.

DISCUSSION OF FPAB WOODS CLEAN UP: It was agreed to coordinate clean-up activities through the Department of Public Works. Ms. Hoffmeister offered to speak to representatives of CHEARS to determine if there are opportunities to coordinate with them.

ASSIGNMENTS FOR REVIEW OF MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE

GUIDELINES: Chair Elliott distributed chapter assignments for board members to

summarize and brief the board at upcoming meetings. There was a brief discussion on the priorities for the upcoming briefings.

REVIEW OF PUMPKIN WALK REPORTS: Present was Melissa Ehrenreich. Initial discussion focused on the permitting of the 2014 event, for which the FPAB was not consulted or notified. It was determined that the permit should have been referred by city staff to the FPAB, and this did not occur. Ms. Craze is to draft a communication from the FPAB addressing this matter.

Additional discussion involved planning for future pumpkin walks, and the possibility of relocating it to Area D of the forest preserve, as well as the merits of using Area B versus Area A.

It was decided that the draft report titled "FPAB Pumpkin Walk Report for 2015" be held for future review.

OCTOBER 24, 2014 MINUTES: It was decided that a subcommittee consisting of members Almquist, Snyder and Witter would attempt to draft a final version of the minutes.

NO COST SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAM: Ms. Craze briefed the FPAB on the grant funded program to fund spay/neuter of dogs and cats for at need households.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, April 23, 2015 at 7 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Celia W. Craze

Director

These minutes were approved by consent.