

MINUTES OF THE FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING HELD
THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2014 IN THE GREENBELT COMMUNITY CENTER

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Robert Snyder called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT were members Donna Almquist, Susan Gregersen, Donna Hoffmeister, Robert Snyder, Valerie Elliott, Yoni Siegel and Joseph Murray. Willis Witter arrived at 7:20. Damien Ossi was absent.

ALSO PRESENT was Rodney Roberts, Greenbelt City Council and Bill Orleans, Bill Rich and Judi Maul (GCGC).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved without change.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: By a vote of 7-0, the minutes of the meeting of May 22, 2014 were approved with changes.

COMMUNICATION to COUNCIL: Area D report/memo: The Board agreed to changes that shortened and simplified the Chair's text.

DISCUSSION OF GREENBRIAR PARK (FOREST AND STREAM): After some discussion, the Board voted 5 to 3 that the Forest Preserve Advisory Board recommend to City Council that Greenbriar Park be included in the Forest Preserve. Council Member Rodney Roberts told the Board that Council would forward our recommendation to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.

FPAB By-Law changes: the Chair suggested revising the by-laws with regard to contact information about Advisory Board Members. Donna Almquist suggested that we ask City Council to devise a policy similar to that which applies to city employees and that the city provide Board members with a city email address. Willis Witter said that we do not need to provide contact information at public meetings. Donna Almquist suggested that such information have a heading: For Internal Use Only. The Board did not reach a decision on how to proceed.

Chair Snyder distributed the recent statement from City Solicitor R. Manzi expressing his opinion and recommendations on the confidentiality and the ethics of board members' personal contact information being shared with the public by other board members without permission.

Willis Witter stated the Board violated the Maryland Public Meetings Act, when ~~we the Board~~ neglected to publicize that ~~we the Board was were~~ conducting surveys of ~~the Garden Club areas~~; the proposed 8 foot buffer areas around the community gardens. People with a tangible interest in these surveys were not informed. Further discussion on this item was deferred to the August 28, 2014 meeting.

NEXT MEETING: The next FPAB meeting was set for Thursday, August 28, 2014 at 7 p.m.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Valerie Elliot/Donna Hoffmeister
Board Members in the absence of Celia Craze

These minutes were approved by a vote of 7-0-1

On November 20, 2014 these minutes were amended and approved with amendments by a vote of 8-0-1.

All additions are indicated by red type, with deletions indicated by red type with ~~overstrike~~.