

MINUTES OF THE FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING HELD THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2014 in the GREENBELT COMMUNITY CENTER

Call to Order: Chair Robert Snyder called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

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

ALSO PRESENT were Jessica Bellah, Community Planner, and Melissa Ehrenreich, Jason Martin, Ed James, Bill Orleans.

The agenda was approved without change.

PUMPKIN WALK/FESTIVAL: Melissa Ehrenreich, coordinator for the pumpkin walk, presented the upcoming program for events Oct. 24 - 26, including conservation education programming and community engagement opportunities:

- \* Forest Preserve appreciation with the location of the pumpkin walk.
- \* FPAB involved in conservation education in conjunction with the walks.
- \* Concern with use of burning candles in the pumpkins. Safety precautions will be taken.
- \* Possible use of LED lights in future walks.
- \* Expected attendance of greater than 100 participants.
- \* Possible relocation of future pumpkin walks/festivals.

INVASIVES in the FOREST PRESERVE: A brief summary of previous months (August mtg.) discussion on the DNR report and invasives in the Forest Preserve was presented.

Mr. Ossi presented a motion (motion attached) which recommends that the City Council instruct staff to initiate an evaluation of the Forest Preserve and prepare a plan to address invasive species with a focus on Areas A, B & C (North & South Tracts) of the preserve. The motion was seconded by Mr. Murray.

It was stated that the board had discussed at a previous meeting being ready to move on recommending the Forest Preserve being assessed by Dr. Joan Maloof, Ph.D of Old-Growth Forest Network (OGFN), but this was postponed as Ms. Craze suggested the board review the DNR report first.

The chair called the question for the motion on the floor. The motion did not carry with a vote of 4-4. Members Hoffmeister, Murray, Ossi and Witter voting in the affirmative (Aye) and members opposed (Nay) were: Almquist, Elliot, Gregersen, Snyder.

Ms. Gregersen moved that the board study Mr. Ossi's motion and schedule discussion at the next FPAB meeting. Mr. Murray seconded and the motion passed 8-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Celia W. Craze for Jessica Bellah

These minutes were approved by a vote of 8-0-1.

