



Public Works Department

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE URBAN FOREST COMMITTEE

Monday April 9, 2018 7:00 p.m.
El Cerrito City Hall
Hillside Conference Room
10890 San Pablo Avenue

1. Roll Call :

Present: Members, Cathy Bleier, Yan Linhart, Mike Srago, Mary Torrusio.
Also present; Staff Liaison, Stephen Prée.

Absent: Chair Steve Price, Vice Chair Robert Hrubes.
Also absent: Council Liaison Rochelle Pardue-Okimoto

2. Committee Member Announcements and changes to the agenda: Because Chair Price and Vice Chair Hrubes were not present, Cathy Bleier and Yan Linhart agreed to chair the meeting. Motion to delay election of officers due to limited attendance: Mike Srago, 2nd Cathy Bleier, unanimous.

3. Comments from the Public on non-agenda items: none

4. Report from the City Council Liaison: Ms. Pardue-Okimoto was not in attendance.

5. Report from the City Arborist: Prée updated the committee on A.) the current costs to residents for City street tree planting, consistent with the City's 2017 annual Master Fee Schedule: replacement tree: \$89; new street tree \$210 ; concrete removal \$160/16 square feet (minimum fee). B.) Progress on new residential street tree planting – 16 planted to date. C.) The next Parks and Facilities Master Plan public meetings: April 26, May 23. D.) Published article regarding City street trees in recent El Cerrito News and Views newsletter. E.) Upcoming Sudden Oak Death Blitz on April 28, volunteers welcome, orientation 10:00 a.m. in Morgan Hall UC Berkeley campus. F.) Prée took a certification course on March 26-28: Tree Risk Assessment Qualification- course sponsored by Western Chapter International Society of Arboriculture and was held at the El Cerrito Community Center. G.) Terms of City committee officers are one year, and no one shall serve more than two consecutive years.

6. Tree Committee Activities, Calendar and Work Plan Update :

A. Update from Tree Planting Grants ad-hoc subcommittee – Prée informed the committee of the recent Environmental Enhancement and Mitigations Program (EEMP) announcement and will forward the email to interested UFC members. The UFC considers that Richmond Street planting is a priority planting site.

B. El Cerrito Earth Day Work Party Planning- Mike Srago volunteered to man the sign in table, greet attendees, and distribute information. Cathy Bleier and Mary Torrusio

volunteered to work on removing the ivy from the oak trees. Yan Linhart would not be able to attend due to a family commitment.

- C. Urban Forest Content on the City Website- Mary Torrusio sent the webpage edit mark-ups to the subcommittee- Prée was not on the recipient list; need good mark-up page. Cathy Bleier and Yan Linhart have been editing the tree care fact sheets. Subcommittee recommends the PROW illustration be added to the Tree content pages. Cathy will develop brief description of City's Urban Forestry program. Include Approved Tree List, street tree planting information and application with link to City's Master Fee Schedule.

7. Action Items

- A. Motion to adopt the minutes from the March 12, 2018 meeting Mike Srago, 2nd Mary Torrusio, unanimous.
- B. Annual Election of Officers- deferred to next meeting due to low attendance.

8. Old/New Business – none

9. Future agenda items

- Annual Election of Officers
- City Street Tree Planting Opportunities - Grants ad-hoc subcommittee
- Outreach- Website
- Tree Ordinance Revision

Adjournment- 8:57