

*DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ENCINITAS URBAN FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
JULY 27, 2023, 5:30 P.M., 505 SOUTH VULCAN AVENUE*

CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS

Committee Chair Mark Jenne called the meeting to order at 5:34 P.M.

Present: Committee Chair Mark Jenne; Committee members Brian Bishop, Carol Parker, Tony Gurnoe, City Arborist Chris Kallstrand

Absent: Christina Simokat

Also Present: Katrina Burritt, Dudek; Phillip Horn, City of Encinitas; Brian Sandland, City of Encinitas; Mark Wisniewski, Encinitas Resident; Melissa Lane, City of Encinitas; John Ugrob, City of Encinitas

There being a quorum present, the meeting was in order.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS / NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Committee Chair Mark Jenne moved to push agenda item #6 Arbor Day 2024 to the first topic discussed.

AGENDA

1. REVIEW AND APPROVE DRAFT MEETING MINUTES FROM MAY 25, 2023

SPEAKERS: None.

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Chair Mark Jenne moved to approve the meeting minutes from May 25, 2023. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Nays: 0; Absent: 0, Abstain: 0

2. ARBOR DAY 2024 - UFAC TEAM SUPPORT SELECTION

SPEAKERS: City Arborist Chris Kallstrand looking to gather volunteers to assist in planning Arbor Day 2024. Looking for at least two UFAC members to assist

Committee member Carol Parker in planning. Mainly needs assistance in communicating and organization. Melissa Lane volunteering to assist, John Ugrob is also working on getting Donna Trotter to volunteer as well.

Typically every year Public Works and Parks and Recreation rotate in planning Arbor Day. This year is Public Works, looking to potentially utilize the remaining Streetscape Phases for Arbor Day. Another option may be the San Dieguito Academy.

Encinitas resident Mark Wisniewski had some observations from a previous Arbor Day. There were some trees removed and there were large spots left in the ground about 8ft. Suggested that the 8ft areas around the trees be reestablished. He also mentioned that there was another previous Arbor Day where a tree was dedicated but not well maintained. Need to have more organization for future arbor days to ensure trees are being maintained.

COMMENT:

Mark Wisniewski spoke in support of agenda item #6

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Subcommittee to be formed including Committee member Carol Parker, City Arborist Chris Kallstrand, City of Encinitas employee Melissa Lane, and former Admin Support Coordinator Donna Trotter.

3. **REVISED CANARY ISLAND DATE PALM LETTER**

SPEAKERS: UFAC reviewed and revised the draft letter created by Committee Chair Mark Jenne expressing UFAC's concern that there is not enough funding for tree maintenance in the City's budget. Once the letter is further revised, Mark will send to John Ugrob or Sylvester Mabry.

City Arborist Chris Kallstrand mentioned that Dudek is gathering costs from West Coast Arborists and well as some other agencies and putting together presentations regarding some groupings of trees that have been identified that could have a high impact fiscally. Dudek has identified some groupings in certain neighborhoods that if one tree fell then more can be impacted, this could lead to a ton of removals at once. Will approach City Council within the next two months on some different options. Chris also explained that this letter does not apply to

private property trees, and only applies to City owned trees. The main goal of this letter is to ensure there is enough funds for tree maintenance.

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Chair Mark Jenne to create and send draft Date Palm letter, then coordinate with John Ugrob.

4. **LITTLE OAKS PROTECTION DISCUSSION**

SPEAKERS: UFAC would like to create a protection standard for little oaks in the community. Committee member Tony Gurnoe mentioned that there needs to be definition on what the City defines as a tree and what it defines as a shrub. Tony suggests the committee create a protection ordinance with guidelines as the committee sees fit. Little oaks do not help with the climate action plan but are important from an ecological perspective. Committee to begin developing a framework for a policy. Public Works Superintendent John Ugrob recommended inviting Environmental Project Manager Eric Steenblock to the next meeting since he has experience in creating policies. Committee member Tony Gunroe to write a proposal to bring to the next meeting. Once the committee has a framework for the policy, they can go to the Environmental Commission to present. Encinitas resident Mark Wisniewski suggested when creating the policy to be more specific and identify trees by species as opposed to general approach. Committee member Tony Gurnoe mentioned it may not be that simple since the taxonomic treatment is not the same for all species.

COMMENT:

Mark Wisniewski spoke in support of agenda item #3

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Committee to begin developing a framework for a Little Oaks Protection policy.

5. **TREE MAINTENANCE IN RESIDENTIAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM DISCUSSION**

SPEAKERS: Table agenda item until committee member Christina Simokat comes back.

COMMITTEE ACTION: No action required.

6. TORREY PINES ON GARDEN VIEW RD DISCUSSION

SPEAKERS: City Arborist Chris Kallstrand spoke on the Torrey Pine trees that are located between Via Cantabria and Leucadia Blvd. There are approximately 38 trees that are different sizes. Katrina Burritt from Dudek conducted a level 1 immediate evaluation for hazards, roadway impediments, and potential failure. There were about seven Torrey Pines that were identified that are being recommended for removal based on their lean and risk for failure. The recommendation is to remove and replace the trees with a more proper species. The new species of trees will be determined by Parks and Recreation. Resident Mark Wisniewski suggested that there needs to be a 14ft clearance over the entire width of the roadway in the event of a wildfire event or for emergency response vehicles. Additionally, Mark mentioned that he would be willing to create a presentation for a future meeting to see if these standards could be incorporated in the City's specs and maintenance for tree pruning.

COMMENT:

Mark Wisniewski spoke in support of agenda item #5

COMMITTEE ACTION:

No action required.

7. IDEAS FOR 2024

SPEAKERS: None, was left over for the Arbor Day Items, part of agenda item #6.

COMMENT: None

COMMITTEE ACTION: No action required.

7. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS- NEXT MEETING AUGUST 24,2023

- Ficus Tree Results Presentation
- Review Revised Canary Island Date Palm Letter
- Tree Maintenance in Residential Rehabilitation Program Discussion
- Mature Tree Ordinance
- Arbor Day 2024

- Final Findings for Garden View
- Little Oaks Discussion

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 6:56 P.M.

DRAFT