



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE Urban Forest Committee

May 13, 2019

Staff Liaison

Stephen Prée | 510-559-7685
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City Council Chambers
El Cerrito City Hall
10890 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530

This Meeting Place is Wheelchair Accessible

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- 7:00 CONVENE REGULAR MEETING** Chair Price called the meeting to order at 7:03
1. **ROLL CALL – Present:** Chair Steve Price; Vice-Chair Mary Torrusio; Members Cathy Bleier, Robert Hrubes, Yan Linhart, Steve Price, Michael Srago.
 2. **COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CHANGES TO THE AGENDA-** Cathy Bleier reported that the UFC City tree list is now posted on the City website. Chair Price thanked Mark Mendell for his work to help residents understand the street tree acquisition process.
 3. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS -** none
 4. **COUNCIL / STAFF LIAISONS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS -**
Prée reported that he and member Bleier participated on the annual “Sudden Oak Death Blitz” survey and sampling on May 11 & 12 in the Hillside Natural Area.
 5. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – Moved / Second:** Member Hrubes / Srago; unanimous.
 6. **CITY TREE AND SHRUB ORDINANCE REVISION-**
Staff member Will Provost presented an outline of revisions made to the Public Tree Ordinance. Committee members (Hrubes) asked questions regarding the Ordinance qualifying for Tree City USA designation and they (Bleier) provided comment that confirmed the Ordinance meets the UFC approved goals for revision. Chair Price thanked the public for their comments and participation in the Ordinance revision process.
The Committee and Staff heard and answered Public comments and questions regarding public tree root and sidewalk issues; encroachment of private plants into the PROW; general concerns regarding fire and trees, pruning responsibility for plants, other than public trees, in the PROW; the limited City resources for pruning; how the public can obtain a Permit and the necessity for outreach efforts by the City in order to educate and inform the residents regarding the Public Tree Ordinance issuance.

Moved / Second: Members Bleier / Srago; Action: Passed a motion to recommend to City Council the adoption of the Public Tree Ordinance Administrative Draft with changes as discussed to Section 13.38.070.C.

Ayes: 6: Members Bleier, Hrubes, Linhart, Price, Srago, Turrusio. Noes: 0

7. ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS-

Moved / Second: Members Bleier / Linhart; Action: Passed a motion to elect Mary Turrusio Chair and Robert Hrubes Vice Chair. Ayes: 6: Members Bleier, Hrubes, Linhart, Price, Srago, Turrusio. Noes: 0

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS


- 2019/2021 Work Plan- discussion of modifications to Work Plan template
- Ann Thrupp, A History of The Friends of El Cerrito Trees
- Community Outreach – combine Srago’s Strategies with discussion of July 4 event for single agenda item
- Mark Mendell’s City tree acquisition made simple project
- Community Tree Planting

9. ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.



Mary Turrusio, Chair

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular Urban Forest Committee meeting of May 13, 2019 as approved by the Urban Forest Committee.



Stephen Prée, Staff Liaison