

# Community Forestry Advisory Board Quarterly Meeting Minutes

Location: Parks & Recreation Administration Office, 3131 O Street, Third Floor

Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Attendees: Members Present: Lachel Bradley-Williams, Erin Chambers, Jessica Gieseke, Brian Munk, Pete Smith, Mark Wilson,  
Members Absent: None  
Staff Members Present: Sara Hartzell, Michael Fallon, Kaylyn Nerverve, J.J. Yost, Chris Myers, Mike Comstock, Pam Hoffman  
Members of the public present: Kendall Weyers, Molly Phemister – Southern Heights Food Forest.

## Agenda items

1. **Call to Order:** Erin Chambers called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and recognized the Open Meetings Act posted on the wall.
2. **Roll Call:** Roll Call was taken. Quorum was present.
3. **Minutes from the March 14, 2023 meeting were approved.** Motion made by Pete Smith and seconded by Brian Munk.
4. **Public Comments:** Molly Phemister from Southern Heights Food Forest attended. They are in their 8<sup>th</sup> growing season. There are two acres that have been converted to forest dominated by edible plants and an outdoor classroom.
5. **Committee Reports**
  - a. **Outreach/Education/Events**
    - i. **Arbor Day Celebration Event:** Update provided by Lachel Bradley-Williams. The Arbor Day Lincoln event had over 1,000 attendees. Food trucks sold out. There were many booths/vendors in attendance, fitness classes, yoga, and a band. It was a great collaboration between Arbor Day, Community Forestry Advisory Board, and Parks and Recreation.
    - ii. **Review of CFAB Information document and CFAB Elevator Speech:** Document about what CFAB does. Created from other documents and City Ordinances. Intended for these documents to be put on the website.
      - **Information Document** – final line changed to say “quarterly board meetings” instead of “full board meetings.” Board reviewed document and approved document to forward to Kat Scholl to use on the website. Motion to approve CFAB Information document made by Pete Smith and seconded by Jessica Gieseke.
      - **CFAB Elevator Speech Document** - it was recommended to add “Parks and Recreation Director” to the first line of the document (after City Council). It was suggested by Pete Smith that the last sentence be moved and make it the first sentence. Board reviewed

document and approved document to forward to Kat Scholl to use on the website. Motion to approve the CFAB Elevator Speech document was made by Erin Chambers and seconded by Brian Munk.

**b. Policy/Regulation Board Development**

- i. **Review of Draft “Job Description” document** – purpose was to have a document that would peak interest of the public to participate in the board. Board reviewed document and approved document to forward to Kat Scholl to use on the website. Motion to approve was made by Jessica Gieseke and seconded by Mark Wilson.
- ii. **Review of Tree Ordinance, Codes, and Standards** – Pete Smith: A gap analysis on what is missing. One key element was an idea of authority or enforcement. It is difficult to tell if a violation is occurring or if it is a contractor doing work for the city. It was suggested to maybe meet with Forestry staff at a future policy sub-committee meeting, as well as maybe someone from the Law Department.

**6. Staff Reports**

- a. **Voluntary Water Restrictions** – Should not impact tree watering and golf courses have their own water sources.
- b. **EAB Response & Recovery** – Mike Comstock – 9 park sites received 259 EAB replacement trees that were planted with the assistance of volunteers. 400 trees will be planted in the fall, combination of volunteer and in-house installation on up to 25 sites. 750 street median trees have been removed and 800 ash trees have been removed in all areas (parks, golf, trails, street, median). 5,100 ash trees have been treated over a 2-year period.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m. Motion made by Erin Chambers and seconded by Pete Smith.

Minutes prepared by Pam Hoffman, Office Specialist.

Next Quarterly Board meeting will be on September 12, 2023.