

**COMMUNITY FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CFAC)
MINUTES for THURSDAY, Nov. 3, 2022, 1pm – 3 pm PT (virtual)**

Members of the public are invited to participate. Under the Brown Act, the Committee is prevented from acting on a matter that is brought to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, issues raised by a member of the public may be added to the agenda for future meetings. Members of the public can also provide comments on an agenda item when it is being considered.

Guests/City reps. (partial list): Jonathan Weiss, Charles Miller, Dr. Tom Williams, Ron Bitzer, Ann Rubin, Kathy Schreiner, Rachel Malarich, Kat Superfisky, Jack Smith, Conni Tipton, Patrick Whalen, Sarah Burns, Kathy Schreiner, Marianne King, Jeremy Santos, Jonathan Friedman, and Diana Nicole

AGENDA:

1. Call to order at 1:02.
2. **Motion to adopt the following finding/determination: Teleconference Meetings Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361. Shelley Billik, Chair moves, and seconded by Member ID, that the Community Forest Advisory Committee and all subcommittees including ad hoc committees determine in accordance with Assembly Bill 361, Section 3(e)(3) that this advisory body has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person and/or state local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.** Passed unanimously. (Alternates and late arrivals not included in vote.)
3. Welcome by Chair SB and acknowledgement of the First Nations to open with an attitude of respect for community members from the First Nations and their traditional ecological knowledge. See: <https://www.redbudresourcegroup.org>
4. Roll Call and establishment of a quorum by Secretary LK

	P	A		P	A		P	A
Lynnette Kampe CD 1 (Secretary)	X					CD 13 - vacant		
Joanne D'Antonio CD2	X		Robin Gilliam CD 8 David McNeill, Alt.	X	X	CD 14 - vacant		
Jane Skeeter CD 3	X		CD 9 - Lila Higgins	X		CD 15 - vacant		
Katherine Pakradouni CD 4 Amber Hawkes CD4 Alt.		X	Brent Green CD 10 Theresa Maysonet CD10 Alt		X	Cyndi Hubach Mayor's Rep -	X	
Shelley Billik CD 5 (Chair)	X		Isabelle Duvivier CD 11 (Vice Chair) Carolyn LoBuglio, CD 11Alt.	X	X			
CD 6 vacant			Mary Montes CD12 Scott Harmon Alt.		X			

5. Adoption of October 6th Minutes. Approval of Minutes as amended. Moved by LK , seconded by SB. Passed unanimously.

6. Chair Report/Announcements - LA County Motion passed that all county facilities will be required to plant 75% native plants. A report back is pending. There will be a meeting on Nature Based Solutions & artificial turf this Sunday Nov. 6. Problems with human-forced solutions - often have unintended harms. MDRB review of a major project yesterday did not support PTO. SB indicated that her comments at the recent BPW hearing regarding oak tree median planting from oak mitigation fund were incorrectly represented in an email sent by Diana Nicole yesterday to CFAC members.

7. Public Comment On Non-Agenda Topics within Committee's Jurisdiction: each comment is limited to 2 minutes (unless waived by the Chair). Ascott Park had a Black Walnut Day attended by over 400 persons. GoogleEarthPro has historic tree data going back to 1990 that shows disappearing walnuts, possibly related to Brush Clearance. Hollywood Bowl will be having a stormwater tree & shrub planting program and it would be desirable to promote natives. Comment that Fire Dept. needs to be added to dept. reports. Westwood Greenway tour on November 12th, 2022 hosted by the NCSA.

8. Short presentation- California Native Plant Society state conference- Charles Miller presented at conference and reported that Jessica Rath, State Parks, is doing a study on understory plants for native trees in parkways. Also had discussion with Matt Ritter of SelectTree that it has very conservative guidelines that discourage planting natives in parkways under 10'. He is receptive to revisiting guidelines. Contact Charles if interested in participating. New website to link plants with butterflies. https://ctcosma.shinyapps.io/the_butterfly_net/ Study reported that shows native plant water needs mirror natural rainfall patterns.

9. Departmental Reports

Dept. of Recreation & Parks - no report

UFD - no report

City Forest Officer, Rachel Malarich - Tree Summit 2022 was held this morning.

CityPlants - no report

LASAN Biodiversity Group - via email from Michelle Barton: resolution pending to have LA join the Biophilic Cities

Other Government Representatives - none

10. New Business

a. Tree Guarantee Fee mapping - CFO Rachel Malarich - Guaranteed Tree Fee mapping identifying large parkways sizes in areas of low canopy and meeting other criteria will be ready in approx. one week and will identify areas for next few years. Tree species will be reviewed with CFAC and neighbors. LACMA tree removals will receive special attention. Urban trees equity mapping of which trees are better for air quality.

b. ACE citation program - postponed no UFD representatives present

c. UFD update on Brush Clearance Guidelines - postponed no UFD representatives present

d. Wildlife District Ordinance, new revisions - Conni Tipton & Patrick Whalen of City Planning presented with Kat Superfisky. CDC hearing Nov. 17th. Also, Planning will hold a public "office hours" meeting today at 6-7 pm where clarification can be given to help people prepare for the CPC (City Planning Commission). WDO requirements will be in addition to existing building requirements. Planning staff said they cannot make changes at this point. Were not able to limit it to 60% RFA due to state SB 330 but basements are included. SB commented that the spirit of SB 330 is not to constrain affordable housing - has nothing to do with mansions in the hillsides. DCP Said not able to include woodlands in natural resources at this time due to data limitations. Discretionary review is required within the buffer of a Resource Area. SB: Great that significant trees are protected and treatment of dead trees. Concern that the Fire Dept. is the body doing visual inspection for disease, pests - should have consultation with UFD. Q: Is there a maintenance requirement for replacement trees? 10 yrs. suggested. Problem with exempting R1 and R2 from lot coverage restrictions - they should have some review. Good grading limitations. Q: Who does site plan review? It is an existing discretionary review under the Planning Dept. for projects over 17,000 sq. ft.; the new trigger is 7,500 sq.ft. whether adding to existing projects or all new construction. Height limitation changed from 35' to 45'. This should have no exemptions. The reduced resource buffers should be reconsidered. Science supports the need for

environmental protections despite the interests of a few. The City needs to stand strong. Jamie Hall: BelAir Beverly Crest/Laurel Cyn. Land Trust - concern that the definition of open space has changed to exclude City-owned vacant parcels. Why? A: these properties do not currently fall under the same rules. Will parcels owned by Land Trusts be included and updated? A: When land trusts purchase properties Planning said they would be rezoned to open space. Overall height limit is great as calculated. Revised draft is an over-reaction to fencing complaints. Comment: Permeable fencing should come back for undeveloped lots. Habitat trigger is needed for site plan review: for undeveloped land in an SMMC habitat block/if building in a NPS woodland/removal of 3 or more trees/if impacting protected species. Q: What area is covered? A: Buffers stay in place; projects are covered if within buffer zones. See Map A-3. Q: Why were lighting restrictions reduced? A: to work within existing rules and enforcement mechanisms, such as fencing and lighting. DCP asked for a CFAC letter supporting the ordinance and protections for significant trees and removals triggering a "Project." **Motion: To write a letter in support of the current draft WDO in particular in support of the protection of significant trees but requesting more habitat triggers for site plan review for undeveloped lots such as inclusion of mapped native woodlands as resource areas, SMMC mapped habitat areas, if 3 or more protected trees would be removed, and/or habitat for protected species.** Moved by LK, seconded by ID. Passed unanimously.

e. Resolution supporting re-envisioning of the Sepulveda Basin - postponed but vote will be taken at next meeting.

10. Ongoing & Pending Business - Discussion, planning and possible motions

- a. CD8 Marqueece Harris-Dawson motion: CF 15-0499-S2 & Report back –
Rest of agenda postponed:
- b. Trees for biodiversity motion
- c. Tree Disclosure Statement & Tree Report Template for DCP & LADBS
- d. Environmental Assessment Form – DCP (Dept of City Planning)
- e. ROW tree protection during construction draft guidelines -
- f. Inventory of City Medians by StreetsLA
- g. Clean California Grants - UFD & RAP Medians
- h. Tree removal transmittals motion to BPW
- i. Proposed brush clearance guidelines
- j. ROW Species Master List
- k. SB 1425 - requires Open Space Elements to be updated by 2026
- l. CF 03-1459-S3 - Strengthening the Protected Tree Ordinance, 8" DBH

Meeting adjourned at 3:21.

Next CFAC Meeting: December 1, 2022

Minutes prepared by Lynnette Kampe.