



6400 El Verde Road, Leon Valley, TX 78238

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LEON VALLEY TREE ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting of the Leon Valley Tree Advisory Board (TAB) at 6:00 PM, on Monday, April 20, 2015, at Leon Valley City Hall, at 6400 El Verde Road, Leon Valley, Texas.

### I. Poll for Attendance and Determination of a Quorum.

- Staff Liaison: Elizabeth Carol (Present)
- TAB Forester: Mark Kroeze, Alamo Region Urban Forester (Absent)
- Members Present: Thomas Benavides, Melinda Dawson, Mary Key, and Rich Sarfin
- Members Absent: Denise Berger, Irene Baldrige, Lyn Joseph, and Diana Sarfin
- Guests: Roger Christianson and Dorothy Humphrey (Both from the Leon Valley Park Commission)

### II. Approval of Minutes - March 18, 2015.

- Minutes approved as written.

### III. Discussion of Annual Report to City Council on April 13, 2015.

- Elizabeth provided a hard copy of the annual report and reviewed the report via power point slides.
- One of the items required to maintain the "Tree City USA" designation is for the community forestry program to have an annual budget of at least \$2.00 per capita. This includes money used by the Fire Department to maintain fire lanes in the wooded areas, the Park Commission, the TAB, etc.

### IV. Commission discussion on the TAB participation in the NeighborWoods program.

- Elizabeth provided a hard copy of tools for the NeighborWoods program from the founders, Alliance for Community Trees. The tools provide ideas and samples that can be used to promote the program.
- Elizabeth will look into budget and grant options for this program. She will also see if she can locate a GPS map provided to the city showing areas that are need of trees.
- Areas to restart the program include neighborhoods hit by oak wilt as well as the North Side Independent School District (NSISD).
  - Seneca Estates and Monte Robles are the hardest hit areas by oak wilt.
  - Melinda had been working with the NSISD when the program was first started for possible tree planting at Driggers Elementary.
    - The idea was for the students to make a project of the "tree planting" and we would supply the trees with some oversight. However, NSISD rules stated that any tree planted would have to be a large caliber tree ruling out safe participation by the students. Also, at the time, it was cost prohibitive for the TAB.
    - Melinda will try to re-establish a point of contact with the NSISD in order to take a re-look at planting trees at Driggers.
    - Elizabeth will contact CPS Energy to see if the City of Leon Valley is eligible to receive credit from their "tree rebate program". If the NSISD still requires the larger caliber trees, this rebate could then help offset expenses.
- Rich will look into who provided the "grant" for the trees planted at the Mission del Lago Golf Course located in the South Side of San Antonio.
- Mary will put together a fact sheet listing the "benefits of trees" for our document package.
- Tom will work with Denise to put together a "pitch letter" for the program that can be used door-to-door, mailed-out, and/or placed on the TAB webpage.
- Roger Christianson (Leon Valley Park Commission) addressed the TAB.
  - Came to initiate possible future partnership projects with the TAB.
  - Had an interest with the repurposing of the trees from the LC-17 project.
  - Will try to get us a copy of the Master Plan.
  - Staff Liaisons will set up a future meeting for the TAB and Park Commission to exchange ideas.

**V. Executive Session in Accordance with the Texas Local Government Code.**  
- Not required.

**VI. Adjourn**

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM.
- The next meeting of the TAB is tentatively set for Thursday, May 21, 2015, at 6:00 PM, at the Leon Valley City Hall. Elizabeth will contact TAB members should this date change.

  
Chairperson