



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 Thursday, September 10, 2015, in the Leon Valley Fire Department Training Room, 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 (Present)
- Members Present: Irene Baldrige, Thomas Benavides, Denise Berger, Mary Key, and Diana Sarfin
- Members Absent: Melinda Dawson and Rich Sarfin
- Note: New TAB name tags were provided to members after roll call.

### **II. Approval of Minutes - August 20, 2015.**

- Minutes were approved as written.

### **III. Discussion and update for upcoming 2015 Arbor Date - November 7, 2015.**

- The date of the Leon Valley Arbor Day was changed to October 31, 2015 (9:00AM to 12:00PM).

### **IV. Discussion on Tree City USA and Tree City Growth Award Application.**

- Ms. Carol is currently working on the Tree City USA application.
- Ms. Carol provided members with copies of the Tree City Growth Award criteria with application and resource documentation to help in evaluating the growth award criteria. Members are to evaluate the 4 categories for next meeting.

### **V. Discussion on the creation of a web page focusing on trees.**

- Mr. Kroeze provided a presentation of the Alamo Forest Partnership webpage which is a comprehensive guide on trees. It provides information on planting trees, resources regarding trees, benefits of trees, programs available (e.g. workshops), events, etc. The webpage is located at "<http://www.alamoforestpartnership.org/>".
- Ms. Carol is still working on the TAB webpage. She plans to add a link to the Alamo Forest Partnership webpage ("<http://www.alamoforestpartnership.org/>").
- Ms. Berger provided the following input regarding the webpage section under Education, Resources, Texas Oak Wilt, Pruning Guidelines, First Paragraph, 2nd bullet.
  - The oak wilt fungus may be present on one, many, or all trees on a particular site regardless of the tree species. Someone pruning a tree (oak or other species) with the fungus will contaminate the cutting tool which in turn will contaminate the next tree to be pruned.
  - The statement "Clean all pruning tools with 10% bleach solution or Lysol™ between sites and/or trees" should be changed to "Clean all pruning tools with 10% bleach solution or Lysol™ between trees".
- Mr. Kroeze recommended that the TAB provide a representative to sit on the board of the Alamo Forest Partnership.
  - The TAB is recommending that Ms. Elizabeth Carol be the official representative of the Leon Valley TAB. This will require approval by City Council and City Management.

### **VI. Discussion on the tree component of the Leon Valley Master Plan.**

- Ms. Carol provided members with a copy of the Leon Valley 2009 Comprehensive Master Plan and resource documentation to help develop a new section for trees (Section 7).
- The new section will require defining goals, objectives, and recommended strategies supporting El Verde by 2020, the vision of the Park Commission Master Plan that is applicable to trees as well as the TAB's vision.
- The TAB is tentatively scheduled to meet in a special workshop on September 28, 2015 (6:00PM) to develop the new section. Place of meeting is still to be determined.

**VII. Future Agenda Items.**

- **How to improve tree focus.** Tree section of Master Plan to be discussed during 28 Sep workshop,
- **Website updates.**
  - To be discussed after Arbor Day.
- **Neighborwood program.** The TAB postponed discussions of this topic to the next fiscal year.
- **Strategic Tree planting goals** Tree section of Master Plan to be discussed during 28 Sep workshop.
- **Other Topics.** TAB review of the Community Wildfire Plan shall be discussed at a future meeting. Ms. Elizabeth Carol shall be consulted with the Fire Chief to determine his timeframe requirement for the review.

**VIII. Adjourn.**

- Meeting adjourned at 7:35PM.
- The next meeting of the TAB is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, October 8, 2015, at 6:00 PM, at the Leon Valley Fire Department Training Room.

  
Chairperson