

**MINUTES**  
**City of Dallas**  
**Urban Forest Advisory Committee**

**Tuesday, August 1, 2006, 4:00pm**  
**Park and Recreation Department Conference Room**  
**Dallas City Hall**

**Attending Committee Members:**

*Steve Houser, Bill Seaman,*

**Attending Guests:**

*Fred Burrell, Texas Agricultural Extension Service; Dick Coupe, North Texas Master Naturalists; Beverly Guthrie, North Texas Master Naturalists; Kurt Kretsinger, Team Leader; David Marquis*

**Absent Committee Members:**

*Michael Anderson, Councilmember Leo Chaney, Jr., Chip Clint, Matt Grubisich, Wesley Harder, Michael Hellmann, Frank Libro, Mayor's Chief of Staff; Cassandra McLaughlin, Councilmember Ed Oakley, Councilmember Pauline Medrano, Gary Olp, Jeff Quinters, Luis Salcedo, Norm Strang, Michael Sultan, Keith Thomas*

Chairman, Steve Houser, called the August 2006 meeting of the Urban Forest Advisory Committee to order at 4:10pm. The Chair circulated the Sign-In Sheet, asking each attendee to record their attendance. He then distributed copies of the meeting agenda.

Mr. Houser asked if there were any additions, revisions, or corrections to the minutes of the July meeting minutes, which were distributed for review by email. Being none, the Chair stated that the July minutes would stand as written.

The Chair informed the committee that he had received numerous telephone calls from committee members informing him that they would not be able to attend the August meeting due to scheduling conflicts.

Mr. Houser stated that the committee would soon be briefing the Park and Recreation Board, and that it was hoped that briefing would take place in August. Efforts were also being made to schedule a briefing for the Environmental Health Commission in the near future.

The Chair informed the committee that he would be meeting with Allen Houston, a reporter for the *Dallas Morning News*, on the committee's purpose and activities, and for all committee members to be prepared to be interviewed by Mr Houston, should he contact them. Mr. Houser added that *Dallas Morning News* Staff Writer, Emily Ramshaw, had other editor assignments and Mr. Houston will be taking her place.

It was announced that the candidates for the Urban Forester position had been narrowed to two applicants, and a final decision would be made within the next few days. It was the Park and Recreation Department's hope that the Urban Forester would join the staff in September.

There was no update on the status of the Park and Recreation Department's negotiations with the Dallas Parks Foundation.

Mr. Houser noted that the Texas Forest Service has posted a new "Tree Planting Guide" on their website. It is located at <http://texastreeplanting.tamu.edu/>.

The Chair noted that DFW International Airport has a management plan that he would like to have the committee briefed on, but he chose to hold the item over for a future UFAC meeting.

The Chair also noted that the briefing on the Trinity River Forest would also be held over for a future UFAC meeting.

Dick Coupe reported that the Tree Planting and Transplanting Team was meeting and planning to have a report for the Committee within 30 to 60 days.

Bill Seaman reported that the Land Planning, Development, and City Codes Team would soon be receiving information via email for review and discussion.

The Survey, Inventory, and Tracking Team and the Tree/Forest Maintenance and Management Team had no reports.

Mr. Houser asked the committee members to review two websites. The first was regarding the EPA Urban Heat Island Mitigation Impact Screening Tool or "MIST" at <http://epa.gov/heatisland/resources/tool.html>, and the second was <http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/stateandlocal/guidetoaction.html>.

The Chair introduced Mr. David Marquis to the committee and asked that he address the committee with pertinent information that he had recently brought to the attention of the Chair. Mr. Marquis stated that he was aware that the Oak Cliff Chamber of Commerce had concerns that the current Landscape and Tree Preservation Regulation (or Article X) was an obstacle to development in the southern sector of the City of Dallas, and the Chamber was communicating its concerns to Councilmember Blaydes. Mr. Marquis was aware of UFAC and thought it would be appropriate for the committee to review the Chamber's concerns and make appropriate recommendations to revise Article X. There was general discussion regarding the issue and it was the general recommendation of the committee to ask Mr. Marquis to suggest to Councilmember Blaydes that he formally ask UFAC to review the Chamber's concerns and make recommendations to Councilmember Blaydes preceding any formal Council or City Planning Committee action is taken. Mr. Marquis agreed to take UFAC's request back to Councilmember Blaydes.

With no further items to address, the Chair adjourned the meeting a 5:28pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted,  
Bill Seaman, Committee Member