

**Urban Forest Advisory Committee**  
**City of Dallas**  
**Tuesday, April 3, 2007 4:00pm**  
**Park and Recreation Department Conference Room**  
**Dallas City Hall**

**Attendees:**

*Stan Aten, Peter Blanchette, Ronald Briggs, Ph.D.; Dick Coupe, Philip Erwin, Michael FitzGerald, Matt Grubisich, Eric Lerner, Fang Oiu, Ph.D.; Gary Olp, Walter Passmore, Jeff Quinters, Bill Seaman, Pete Smith, Tina Standeford, Norm Strang, Meghna Tare, Bryan White*

Acting Chair, Bill Seaman, called the meeting to order at 4:02pm. Mr. Seaman noted that committee chair, Steve Houser, has asked Mr. Seaman to chair the meeting so Mr. Houser would be available to meet commitments to train participants in the Mayor's Tree Climbing Competition and make necessary preparations for the upcoming UFAC sponsored events. Mr. Seaman also noted that Luis Salcedo was called away at the last minute and regrets he could not join the committee.

The Chair welcomed Meghna Tare from the Office of Environmental Quality. He also welcomed Drs. Ronald Briggs and Fang Oiu, guest speakers, from the University of Texas at Dallas.

The Chair asked the committee members if there were corrections or additions to the March minutes. With none noted, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes as written. Jeff Quinters made a motion and it was seconded by Phil Erwin. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Seaman introduced Dr. Briggs and Dr. Qiu and asked them to please proceed with their presentation. The presentation included the latest technology regarding urban tree inventories. At the conclusion of the presentation and after a brief question and answer period, Dr. Briggs offered to make copies of the presentation available to committee members. The committee members expressed their interest in the presentation. The Chair thanked the speakers for the presentation and noted that the information would be very helpful to the committee as it makes plans for inventorying the Dallas urban forest.

Mr. Seaman distributed copies of the "Arbor Day and Mayor's Tree Challenge Invitation" and the "2007 Mayor's Challenge Support Pledge".

The Chair asked City of Dallas Urban Forester, Walter Passmore for his report to the committee. Mr. Passmore stated that consideration was being given to offering appointed members, and other appropriate committee members, an e-mail account via the committee's website, [www.dallastrees.org](http://www.dallastrees.org). Mr. Passmore added that doing so would avoid confusing committee business with personal business, and also avoid the appearances of conflicts of interest. A brief discussion followed with committee members reaching a consensus the idea was well founded. The Chair asked Mr. Passmore to proceed by addressing the issue with Mr. Doug Pierson, the committee's webmaster, with e-mail accounts to be established for appointed members and team leaders.

Mr. Passmore reported that there had been a few complaints regarding the tree removals along KATY Trail, but the number of complaints had been considerably fewer than what was expected.

Walter reviewed the details of the planned Arbor Day celebration and reminded all committee members that they were invited and encouraged to attend and to provide assistance in hosting the event.

Mr. Salcedo was unavailable for a report on his team's report; likewise was Mr. Kretsinger.

Mr. Seaman reported that he and City Arborist Philip Erwin were continuing to attend the Land and Subdivision Task force meetings chaired by Assistant City Manager, Jill Jordan. The goal of the task force was to make recommendations for a revised development code for the City of Dallas. Mr. Seaman stated that his participation, along with Mr. Erwin's, was to include changes to the Landscape and Tree Preservation Ordinance that would be an improvement to the existing ordinance. Mr. Seaman added that based on the task force's current timeline, actual changes will probably not occur for one year, possibly two years.

Mr. Fitzgerald reported that UFAC, and Chair, Steve Houser, were helping to organize a media event for Thursday, April 5, 2007, with Mayor Laura Miller, and several area mayors who are training for the tree climbing competition. The training is scheduled for 3:30pm at Reverchon Park.

The Chair shared copies of the UFAC logo designed for use at the tree-climbing event and for Earth Day Jam 2007.

Mr. Seaman reminded the committee that documents could be accessed at [www.dallastree.org/lisfiles.asp](http://www.dallastree.org/lisfiles.asp). This would be the posting site for committee members to access past and future committee documents.

The Chair asked for any additional reports from advisors or committee members. There was none.

The Chair called on Stan Aten to present information on Oak Cliff Earth Day 2007. Mr. Aten distributed an extensive outline of activities and participants for the event. Mr. Aten invited all committee members to help celebrate the event, which was to be held in Lake Cliff Park, at Zang and Colorado Blvd. on Sunday April 22, from 11:00am to 5:00pm. He also added that he hoped that next year UFAC would be a partner in this event.

Mr. Seaman noted that Earth Day Jam 2007 in Los Angeles had been changed to Saturday April 28, and Sunday, April 29, which was one week later than originally scheduled.

With no other business, Mr. Seaman announced the next UFAC meeting would be on Tuesday, May 1, 2007.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike FitzGerald and Bill Seaman,  
Committee Members