



## CITY OF EL PASO TREE BOARD

MONDAY, MAY 11, 2009 @ 3:30 P.M.

2 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, 4TH FLOOR

CONFERENCE ROOM

### MINUTES

#### Members Present

Oscar Mestas, Chair  
Raymond Bader  
Lewis Wright  
Mark Benitez  
Lois Balin  
John White  
Vern E. Autrey

#### Members Absent

Wynn Anderson

#### Vacant

1 Vacancy

#### Staff Present

Sam Calhoun, Superintendent  
Parks & Recreation Department  
Brent Pearson, Street Department  
Lucy Calderon, Recording Secretary

**Late Arrivals/Early Departures:** Raymond Bader arrived at 3:40 p.m.

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman, Oscar Mestas at 3:32 p.m.
2. **Motion to approve the Minutes of March 9, 2009 with a correction to #8 made by John White; seconded by Lois Balin; all in favor; motion carried.**
3. **Discussion and Information on Date and Location of Fall Arbor Day Celebration:** Fall Arbor Day Celebration will be held Friday, October 23, 2009 at Mission Hills Park, 3800 O'Keefe Drive at 10:00 a.m.
4. **Discussion and Information on Filling Vacant Seat on Tree Board:** Vern E. Autrey, new member appointed by Beto O'Rourke, District 8 welcomed. Only one vacancy left, Mayor Appointee, any suggestions will be forwarded to the Mayor's office by Chair, Oscar Mestas.
5. **Discussion on Street Tree tour taken April 13, 2009:** Brent Pearson stated that 50 miles were covered with 80.5 miles maintained by the Street Department. Not included are private association medians, which are inspected by Street Department. Pruning of the Texas Sage was most contentious subject discussed. Recommendations made by Tree Board members were taken to Daryl Cole, Street Director.
6. **Discussion and Information on Modification to Tree and Plant List:** David Kania, Landscape Plans Examiner discussed plant list verbiage and the approval of the Chitalpa Tree for amendment to the Tree and Plant List. Oscar Mestas, Chairman stated that the Tree Board Subcommittee would have to meet and conduct research to present recommendation to the full Tree Board. (Application for modification of Tree and Plant list was handed out)
7. **Open Comment Period:** Jennifer Barr with Desert Elements would like to push to change ordinance regarding caliper of trees planted and change code to include other variety of trees.
8. **Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.**