MINUTES OF THE FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING HELD THURSDAY, March 22, 2018 IN THE GREENBELT MUNICIPAL BUILDING

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m.

PRESENT were members Chair Valerie Elliott, Vice-Chair Susan Gregersen, Dr. Donna Hoffmeister, Mr. Damien Ossi, Mr. Joseph Murray, Dr. Owen Kelley and Dr. John Paul Schmit.

ALSO PRESENT was Mr. Jason Martin, Environmental Coordinator, Greenbelt resident Leeann Irwin, and Greenbelt local Bryan Bruns.

OPENING ROUND: Chair Valerie Elliott invited all present to check in and update the group with any items of interest.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved with changes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Meeting minutes of February 22, 2018 were approved by consent.

LARGE TRASH REMOVAL: The Board approved the removal of large trash items from the Sunrise Tract of the Forest Preserve.

MOSQUITO CONTROL OPINION: The Board formed a neutral opinion on the City opting in to the Maryland Department of Agriculture adult mosquito monitoring program. This opinion is contingent on there being no mosquito trapping or spraying within the Forest Preserve.

MEMORIAL ITEMS IN FOREST PRESERVE: The Board decided to leave the items in place and monitor the area over time.

ILLEGAL TRAIL MAINTENANCE: Dr. Owen Kelley reported encountering two men in the North Preserve that appeared to be clearing a blocked trail with a chainsaw. The Board agreed that such actions are not permitted and should be discouraged.

FINALIZATION OF SECTION 5 INVASIVE SPECIES: Section 5 Invasive Species was approved by consent.

ORDERING OF CHAPTERS: The Board agreed on the order of sections for the Stewardship Guidelines. Any unwritten sections were assigned authorship by a Board member.

TRAIL DESIGNATION AND MAINTENANCE: Each Board member stated their opinion on whether there should be maintained designated trails in the Forest Preserve. No formal opinion was adopted and discussion will continue at the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for April 26, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the Greenbelt Municipal Building.

CLOSING REMARKS: Final comments by the Board members were shared.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:13 pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Jason Martin, Environmental Coordinator

These minutes were approved by consent