

MINUTES OF THE FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING HELD
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2013 IN THE GREENBELT COMMUNITY CENTER

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Ruth Kastner called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

PRESENT were members Donna Hoffmeister, Valerie Elliott, Susan Gregersen, Franklin Noll, Damien Ossi, Robert Snyder, Joe Murray and Willis Witter.

ALSO PRESENT were City Council liaison Rodney Roberts, Mayor Judith Davis and Celia Craze, Director, Department of Planning and Community Development.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved without change.

HAMILTON PLACE CLEARING: The agenda item was a follow-up to the December, 2012 meeting about clearing that had occurred around the Hamilton Place gardens. The following points/concerns/questions were discussed:

- The circumstances and events surrounding the clearing of vegetation from around the Hamilton Place gardens, which occurred without proper review and authorization.
- Actions taken since the clearing took place.
- Questioned if archeological resources were damaged during the clearing.
- Actions being taken which would suppress revegetation of the cleared areas.
- Internal accountability and what internal city processes were in place to guard against future similar incidents.
- Suggested consultation with MNCPPC staff studying the Hamilton family cemetery.
- Concern re. consultation with the garden club which may have contributed to decisions to clear around the gardens.
- How the routine garden maintenance would continue in the aftermath of the mistaken clearing

It was moved and seconded that the FPAB prepare a report about the clearing and recommendations for new procedures to ensure similar events do not occur. The motion was approved by a vote of 8-0.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Celia W. Craze

Director

These minutes were approved by a vote of 9-0.

APPROVED