*DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ENCINITAS URBAN FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING*

*February 29, 2024, 5:00 P.M., 505 SOUTH VULCAN AVENUE*

**CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS**

Committee Chair Mark Jenne called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

Present: Committee members Mark Jenne, Carol Parker, Brian Bishop, Brad Lefkowits, Linda Schneider

Absent: Christina Simokat, Stephanie Piccirelli

Also Present: Chris Kallstrand, Dudek; Melissa Lane, City of Encinitas

There being a quorum present, the meeting was in order.

**AGENDA**

1. REVIEW AND APPROVE SOUTH AMERICAN PALM WEEVIL LETTER

SPEAKERS: Mark Jenne gave the committee a brief history regarding the South American Palm Weevil letter. Almost a year ago the UFAC started to figure out how to address the palm weevil issue in the City of Encinitas. John Ugrob suggested that a new budget program be set up to address the costs of the palm weevil issues with the city, whether UFAC decided on the treatment and/or removal of the palm trees. The UFAC worked on a letter for several months and the letter did not make it in time for the budget request. That letter ended up getting tabled. Chris Kallstrand got asked to do a presentation for city council regarding the South American Palm Weevil and requested a letter from UFAC regarding it’s standing on the Palm Weevil issue. At the UFAC meeting back in October 2023 the committee approved of removing the palm trees as they became infested, however, saving iconic city trees such as the palm at Moonlight Beach or other trees the city deems to be important. Since the original letter is obsolete and was meant for the budget process, the committee reviewed the new letter to ensure it reflects the UFAC’s position regarding the Palm weevil issue before it goes to council. If it is approved, Mark Jenne will sign the letter and give it to Chris to present at council. If the letter is not approved then the committee can rewrite the letter. Chris Kallstrand then went over the three different options for any new committee members that may not have been at the original meeting, so they understand the history of the different options that were originally presented to UFAC. Linda Schneider commented on the date of the letter, that it dated 2/28/24. UFAC approved the letter as written with the only change of updating the date to 2/29/24, the official approval date.

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee member Brian Bishop moved to approve the letter as written with only one edit, update the date of the letter to 2/29/24 (approval date), Brad Lefkowits seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Nays: 0

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 5:15 P.M.