

PARKS & GENERAL SERVICES

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**Tree Commission Minutes
Davis Police Department
2600 Fifth Street
Thursday January 21, 2010
6:00 p.m.**

Commissioners Present: Laura Westrup-Chair, David Robinson, Marijane Osborn, Mike Ozonoff, G. Rooks, H. Rooks, Rainbow Vogt

Assigned Staff: Rob Cain, Urban Forest Manager

Opening Statement

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Welcome to the monthly meeting of the City of Davis' Tree Commission.

Members of the Tree Commission are all volunteers and appointed by the Davis City Council.

The Tree Commission provides leadership and guidance to the Urban Forest Manager and to the City Council regarding tree removal and replacement requests.

The Tree Commission provides for the protection, preservation, and enhancement of Davis' urban forest. The Tree Commission is charged to recommend the removal of a City tree on a case by case basis for the following reasons:

- Poor health, identifiable diseases, exceedingly slow growth, large scale limb failure and decay;
- Potential for hazardous conditions that are caused by the street tree and cannot be mitigated without the removal of the tree.

The Tree Commission does not have the authority to recommend the removal of a City Tree for its debris, such as leaves, fruit, nuts, pollen, pine cones, needles, etc., nor does it have the authority to recommend the removal of a tree for its potential as an allergen. or for solar collector installation per Municipal Code Section 40.38.00. The Tree Commission does not have the authority to remove a tree if it is healthy.

All Tree Commission decisions can be appealed to the City Council for their consideration.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Robinson, seconded by H. Rooks

Approved: 7-0

Approval of Minutes: Meeting of November 19, 2009. December had no minutes as the meeting was cancelled due to a lack of a quorum.

Motion to approve the minutes was made by H. Rooks, seconded by Osborn

Approved: 7-0

Commissioner and Staff Comments

Staff informed the Commission of two trees that were removed due to hazardous conditions. One tree located at 1919 Wahl Way and one at 817 Anderson Road.

Staff informed the Commission of a pending appeal to the City Council for the tree at 1624 Tamarack Lane. The tree is tentatively scheduled for the February 16th City Council meeting.

Staff gave a brief update on the storms this week of January 15. Minimal tree damage had occurred and no property damage from fallen limbs or trees had occurred during the week of rain and wind.

Public Comments

No public comments were made.

Election of Tree Commission Officers

Laura Westrup was nominated and voted in by a 6-0 vote as the Commission Chair. Mike Ozonoff was nominated and voted in by a 6-0 as the Commission Vice-Chair.

New Business:

A. Street Tree Removal Requests were discussed with the following actions taken:

Location

1. 1301 BROWN DRIVE

Tree Species

Holly Oak

Moved by: Vogt

Seconded by: Osborn

Motion: The Tree Commission Staff is to contact Public Works and inquire to the possibility of moving the street light to save the tree. Staff is to report back to the Commission in February.

Motion Passed: 6-0; Robinson abstained

2. 440 FIESTA AVENUE

Bradford Pear

Moved by: Osborn
Seconded by: Robinson
Motion: Remove the tree due to structural defects and plant a replacement tree.

Motion Passed: 6-0; Vogt abstained

3. 914 OAK AVENUE

Modesto Ash

Moved by: Robinson
Seconded by: Ozonoff
Motion: Remove the tree due to the structural defects and replant a replacement tree.

Motion Passed: 7-0

4. 1836 TAHOE PLACE

Aristocrat Pear

Moved by: Robinson
Seconded by: Vogt
Motion: Based on the assessment of the tree, retain the tree and evaluate the surface roots for pruning.

Motion Passed: 7-0

5. 202 INCA PLACE

Chinese Tallow Tree

Moved by: Rooks, G
Seconded by: Rooks, H
Motion: Remove the tree due to the infrastructure damage and assess the replacement tree location and species for the right tree in the right place due to the limited planting space on the residential lot.

Motion Passed: 6-0; Vogt abstained

B. Informational Only-

Trees removed prior to the Commission meeting due to hazardous or unsafe conditions:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Tree</u>	<u>Reason</u>
817 Anderson Road	Modesto Ash	Storm failure
1919 Wahl Way	Modesto Ash	Split main trunk

C. Landmark Tree Designation and Protection

Saylor explained the decision regarding the orange trees that the environmental review for the project at the site had been findings that the trees had the status of being Landmark trees and the EIR for the project took that under consideration. The Council approved the findings of the EIR and acted in their authority to designate the trees Landmark with the removal of the trees already approved in the project review and approval process.

Saylor further explained the Council does weigh the trees in each individual project seriously and in the light of the community's interest and the possibility of the removal versus retention of significant trees on each project site.

Economic considerations for the area around Hunt Boyer was made to have the best benefit to the City's revenues and best use of the neighboring venues and the new project.

The Commission was interested in the process of how the Landmark Designation for the Hunt Boyer orange trees was determined and processed.

Saylor would like to know what trees are Landmark and where they are and future trees which may be significant and candidates for Landmark Tree status.

Public comment was made about mitigation for the potential loss of a Landmark Tree, if in fact it is required to be removed.

D. Neighborwoods Tree Planting Program update

Staff gave a final update on the tree planting program for 2009. Neighborwoods volunteers planted 122 trees in three different neighborhoods. The Wildhorse subdivision had the most trees planted, with 85 trees being planted throughout the neighborhood.

Agenda Topics for next Meeting

- 1) Mitigation language for Landmark Tree Status
- 2) Root and sewer conflict literature
- 3) 2nd Street trees on the north side of the street from L to Mace.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:25pm

Next meeting: February 18, 2010

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