

**PARKS & GENERAL SERVICES**

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**Tree Commission Minutes  
Davis Police Department  
2600 Fifth Street  
Thursday February 19, 2009  
6:00 p.m.**

Commissioners Present: Dan Nagle-Vice Chair, David Robinson, George Rooks, Hila Rooks, Mike Ozonoff

Commissioners Absent: Westrup-Chair, Osborn-both excused

Assigned Staff: Rob Cain, Urban Forest Manager

**Opening Statement**

The Commission Vice-Chair read the following opening statement regarding the charge of the Tree Commission.

**Opening Statement**

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. 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.

### **Swearing in of Alternate Tree Commissioner**

Rainbow Vogt was sworn in as the Alternate Tree Commissioner.

### **Approval of Agenda**

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

Approved: 6-0

### **Approval of Minutes: Meeting of January 15, 2009**

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Ozonoff, seconded by G. Rooks with the correction to the sworn in to change the "they" to she.

Approved: 6-0

### **Commissioner and Staff Comments**

Staff gave the Commission an overview of the recent Emergency Management Institute training in Emmetsburg, Maryland at the FEMA training center. The training was attended by several agencies from Yolo County to help coordinate emergency services in the event of a large scale disaster within the county. The training focused on the Emergency Operations Center and its operations during a large scale disaster event. An exercise was conducted with all the attendees participating.

Staff asked the Commission to help with Arbor Day activities which will be in conjunction with UC Davis this year. It will be the first joint Arbor Day with the Campus and the City due to UC Davis obtaining the Tree Campus USA designation this year.

Staff informed the Commission of the bare root tree delivery and the species selected to be planted bare root this season. The species are: Autumn Purple Ash, English Oak, Forest Green Oak, Ginkgo 'Autumn Gold', and Prospector Elm.

G. Rooks mentioned that tree pruning has been occurring at the apartment complex at Alvarado and Anderson and asked staff to look into whether permits were needed and obtained.

### **Public Comments**

No public comments were made at the meeting.

**New Business:**

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

**Location**

**Tree Species**

**1. 720 PEACH PLACE**

**Moraine Ash**

Moved by: Robinson

Seconded by: Rooks, H

Motion: Remove due to the mistletoe and declining health and replace.

Motion Passed: 6-0

**2. 3327 BISCAYNE BAY PLACE**

**Shamel Ash**

Moved by: Rooks, G

Seconded by: Robinson

Motion: Retain the tree and root prune in areas of root problems.

Motion Passed: 6-0

**3. 682 EQUADOR PLACE**

**Shademaster Honey Locust**

Moved by: Robinson

Seconded by: Rooks, H

Motion: Remove the tree due to the mistletoe and declining health and replace.

Motion Passed: 6-0

**4. 228 BAJA AVENUE**

**Texas Umbrella Tree**

Moved by: Robinson

Seconded by: Rooks, G

Motion: Retain the tree due to a mitigatable hazard of cleaning up the fruit.

Motion Passed: 6-0

**5. 5211 GLIDE DRIVE**

**Aristocrat Pear**

Moved by: Robinson

Seconded by: Rooks, G

Motion: Remove due to the mistletoe and declining health and replace.

Motion Passed: 6-0

**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>
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No trees were removed due to hazardous or unsafe conditions

**C. Tree Modification Permit Appeal**

The Commission heard an appeal to a Tree Modification Permit issued for 529 9<sup>th</sup> Street. The permit was issued to structurally prune the two Elm trees that were requested for removal in the permit application. The two Elm trees are located on the west side of the property.

The applicant provided the Tree Commission with new and more detailed reports than were previously submitted with the Permit application. The new reports were submitted at the Tree Commission meeting. The Commission reviewed the reports and discussed the new evaluation of the trees by Tree Associates.

A motion to approve the removal of the trees due to the new information about the tree's structure and damage discussed in the engineering report and replacing the two trees was made by Robinson. No second was made and the motion was not voted on.

A second motion was made by Ozonoff to approve the removal and replacement of the trees due to the new information of the submitted reports and upon agreement from staff that the new evaluation of the trees was correct and acceptable. The motion was seconded by Robinson, but failed to pass on a 3-3 vote.

The Commission continued to debate the trees but no other motion was made and therefore no action was taken on the item.

**D. Tree Commission city tour**

The Commission discussed possible sites to tour and will schedule the sites at the next meeting. The sites that were discussed were as follows:

- 1) Mace Ranch Neighborwoods tree plantings
- 2) Russell Blvd. Walnuts
- 3) Lake Blvd. bike paths
- 4) 5th Street corridor

**Agenda Topics for next Meeting**

- 1) Tree Commission city tree tour
- 2) Arbor Day

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at

**Next meeting:** March 19, 2009

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