

PARKS & GENERAL SERVICES

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**Tree Commission Minutes
Davis Police Department
2600 Fifth Street
Thursday March 18, 2010
6:00 p.m.**

Commissioners Present: Laura Westrup-Chair, Mike Ozonoff-Vice Chair, David Robinson, Marijane Osborn, George Rooks, Hila 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 H. Rooks, seconded by Osborn

Approved: 6-0

Approval of Minutes: Meeting of February 18, 2010

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

Approved: 6-0

Commissioner and Staff Comments

Staff updated the Commission on the City reorganization recommendations.

Public Comments

Ruth Williams from TREE Davis commented that the grant work for the City has been completed for the year including an extra tree planting in the Redwood Lane neighborhood. TREE Davis will be partially closing for the summer months.

Ruth announced that she is resigning as Executive Director of TREE Davis as of March 31, 2010.

New Business:

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

Location

1. 644 MILLER DRIVE

Tree Species

Modesto Ash

Moved by: Robinson

Seconded by: Rooks, H

Motion: Remove the tree due to structural decay in the main stem. No replacement tree is required as a tree has been planted to replace.

Motion Passed: 6-0

2. 723 A STREET

Modesto Ash

Moved by: Rooks, H
Seconded by: Osborn
Motion: Remove the tree due to the decay in the main stem and scaffold branches.
Plant a replacement tree.

Motion Passed: 6-0

3. 612 MILLER DRIVE

Modesto Ash

Moved by: Osborn
Seconded by: Ozonoff
Motion: Remove the tree due to structural decay in the main stem. No replacement tree is required as a tree has been planted to 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> |
|-------------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| 840 B Street | Modesto Ash | Storm failure, trunk decay |
| 1527 Tulane Drive | Zelkova | Root rot |

C. Sewer and root conflict research literature review

Staff gave an overview of the research for tree root and sewer conflicts and the underlying reasons that tree roots infiltrate sewer lines in urban settings. The Commission would like to see a one page informational sheet prepared and available at the commission meetings about the topic.

D. Landmark Tree Mitigation

The Tree Commission discussed the current mitigation for removal of Landmark Trees. The Commission also discussed the possibility of enhanced mitigation for Landmark Tree removal to give the trees a higher level of protection.

The development of a special enhanced multiplier above the appraised value for Landmark Tree mitigation was one option discussed. It was then proposed that the additional mitigation funds be put into a Landmark Tree management fund to help manage and maintain the City of Davis Landmark trees.

The idea of a minimum dollar amount for mitigation of a Landmark Tree removal was discussed.

Another proposal was to have a public vote on whether Landmark trees could be removed.

The Commission wanted further discussion of these options after some research on the feasibility of each option was researched. The item will be brought back to the Tree Commission for further discussion.

E. Tree Commission spring tour

The Commissioners will visit the following sites on a community forest tour for the April 15, 2010 Tree Commission meeting:

- Oeste Manor neighborhood-Japanese Pagoda replacement project
- Mace Ranch neighborhood areas-new street tree plantings
- North Pond garden area
- Arroyo Park neighborhood area-possible Pear replacement project

Agenda Topics for next Meeting

- 1) Spring Tour of the City's community forest

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm

Next meeting: April 15, 2010

Meeting facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. Requests for alternative agenda document formats, meeting assisted listening devices or other considerations should be made through Rob Cain by calling (530) 757-5656 extension 7326 (voice) or 757-5666 (TDD). Davis, CA 95616 as soon as possible, and preferably at least 24 hours prior to the meeting