

Parks and Community Services Department

23 Russell Boulevard – Davis, California 95616
530/757-5656 - FAX: 530/297-5410 – TDD: 530/757-5666



**Tree Commission Minutes
Parks and Community Services Department, Building A
1818 Fifth Street
January 18, 2018
5:30 p.m.**

Commissioners Present: Zarah Wyly-Chair, Stacey Parker, Kyle Gayman, David Robinson, Jim Newman, Michael Maulhardt

Commissioners Absent: Dave Fujino-excused

Assigned Staff: Rob Cain, Urban Forest Manager

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 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 Maulhardt

Approved: 6-0

Approval of Minutes: December 21, 2017

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Maulhardt, seconded by Newman

Approved: 6-0

Commissioner and Staff Comments:

Robinson informed the Commission that Tree Davis will be holding small tree care events through April. The events will be held in Woodland, Davis and West Sacramento. One of the Davis events will be held on Saturday January 20, 2018.

Wyly informed the Commission that the Sacramento Tree Foundation Urban Wood program has free urban wood recycled from the Sacramento area.

Staff informed the Commission that two tree appeals, one for 230 Guaymas Place and one for 910 Pamplona Avenue, to City Council are scheduled for the January 23 council meeting.

Public Comments:

No public comment was given at this meeting.

Regular Items:

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

Location

1. 103 HUERTA PLACE

Tree

Aristocrat Pear

Moved by: Robinson

Seconded by: Parker

Motion: Due to the poor structure, follow staff recommendation to remove and replace the tree.

Motion Passed: 6-0

2. 1219 HARVARD DRIVE Japanese Zelkova

Moved by: Newman
Seconded by: Maulhardt
Motion: Due to the lean and the obstruction of the sidewalk, follow staff recommendation to remove and replace the tree.

Motion Passed: 6-0

3. 631 ESTRELLA PLACE Moraine Ash

Moved by: Robinson
Seconded by: Maulhardt
Motion: Remove the tree due to the pool damage and replace with 3-4 trees in the greenbelt area near the residence.

Motion Passed: 5-1; Wyly nay

B. Informational Street Tree Removals:

The following trees were removed due to being in an imminently hazardous condition:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Tree Species</u>	<u>Reason</u>
637 Benbow Court	Aristocrat Pear (2)	Continuing limb failures

C. Tree Commission Work Plan for 2018

The Commission discussed the 2018 work plan and decided to add researching a possible mitigation bank system to help with mitigating tree removal approved by the Commission.

Public Comment

Alan Hirsch commented that the Commission should create lawn signs for publicizing the tree plantings are as a result of tax dollars.

Advised the Commission to help with the parcel tax discussion as it could be a large infusion of funding for the Urban Forestry program and the effort could be part of the education piece of the work plan.

Dan Carson resident and member of the Budget and Finance Commission informed the Commission that the Budget and Finance Commission is urging the Council to be explicit as to what the parcel tax funds would be spent on and suggested the Council involve the appropriate Commissions to gather input for the use of the parcel tax.

The Commission approved the 2018 work plan on a motion by Robinson and second by Parker. Vote was 6-0. The work plan is attached to the minutes and is available from the Urban Forest Division.

D. Chapter 37 Tree Protection, Preservation and Planting Ordinance Update

No updates were given at the meeting as the Ordinance subcommittee was unable to meet.

E. Arbor Day 2018

Staff briefed the Commission on the Arbor Day planning. To date, 12 vendors have confirmed they will be attending the celebration. The Tree Circus has been booked to give a presentation on the benefits of trees. The first Arbor Day Art contest is underway with entries due January 31.

A tree-planting event will be held on Miller Drive on March 3 to start Arbor week in California.

The Arbor Day event is Saturday March 17, 2018 from 9-12 and being held at Central Park.

Public Comment

Alan Hirsch commented that a tree height-guessing contest could be held and that a tree quiz should be made for the public to take. He also suggested a zip line to attract participants.

Commission and Staff Communications:

A. Topics for next meeting

- 1) Tree Ordinance updates

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm moved by Parker and seconded by Maulhardt

Next meeting: February 15, 2018

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.