

Parks and Community Services Department

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**Tree Commission Minutes
Parks and Community Services Department, Building A
1818 Fifth Street
December 20, 2018
5:30 p.m.**

Commissioners Present: Zarah Wyly-Chair, Jim Newman-Vice Chair, Kyle Gayman, Stacey Parker, David Fujino, David Robinson, Altenate-Vacant

Assigned Staff: Rob Cain, Urban Forest Manager
Julia Jones, Urban Forest Supervisor

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 Parker.

Approved: 6-0

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Robinson, seconded by Gayman with the edits of taking Jim Newman off the attended list as he was absent.

Approved: 6-0

Commissioner and Staff Comments:

Staff informed the Commission that the Tree Davis planting events are completed for the year. In addition, the young tree maintenance events will be starting with the team leader training event scheduled for Saturday, January 12, 2019.

Staff updated the Commission on the Arbor Day event planning. Arbor Day will be held on Saturday, March 9, 2019 in Central Park and an Arbor Day tree planting event the following Saturday, March 16th in the neighborhood of Chestnut Drive and East 8th Street.

Staff informed the Commission on the Tree Davis 2018 accomplishments in Davis and the surrounding region.

Dale Summersille mentioned the upcoming Davis Downtown Specific Plan workshops for Commissions to review the administrative draft after its release.

Staff informed the Commission about the Storm Water Workshop held December 5, 2018 and hosted by the City of Davis Urban Forestry Division. The workshop focused on how the urban forest can be part of the storm water infrastructure for a municipality.

Staff informed the Commission that the Urban Forestry Division applied for a CalFire Proposition 68 grant for tree planting and updating the Community Forest Management Plan. The grant would involve planting 1,000 trees in conjunction with Tree Davis. In addition, an Urban Forest Master Plan would be prepared using the grant funding.

Staff informed the Commission that City Council appointed two new commissioners to fill the two vacancies on the Tree Commission.

Public Comments:

No public comments were given at the meeting.

Regular Items:

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

- | | <u>Location</u> | <u>Tree</u> |
|-----------|---|-------------------------|
| 1. | 818 Burr Street | Moraine Ash |
| | Moved by: Robinson | |
| | Seconded by: Parker | |
| | Motion: Due to the extensive mistletoe, remove the tree and plant a replacement tree. | |
| | Motion Passed: 6-0 | |
| 2. | 1310 L Street | Beefwood |
| | Moved by: Newman | |
| | Seconded by: Fujino | |
| | Motion: Table the request review until the January Tree Commission meeting so that staff can perform a Tree Risk Assessment on the tree, gather sewer conflict information and research any root pruning performed on the tree during the L Street improvement project. | |
| | Motion Passed: 6-0 | |
| 3. | 2338 Lassen Street | Aleppo Pine (2) |
| | Moved by: Robinson | |
| | Seconded by: Newman | |
| | Motion: Due to the their habitat value, retain the trees and perform safety pruning on the two trees to remove dead branches and improve the structure. | |
| | Motion Passed: 6-0 | |
| 4. | 502 Dresbach Way | Japanese Zelkova |
| | Moved by: Robinson | |
| | Seconded by: Newman | |
| | Motion: As the tree is healthy, retain the tree and staff is to meet with the property owner to evaluate the root intrusion and root pruning options. | |
| | Motion Passed: 6-0 | |

- 5. 1808 Denison Drive Deodar Cedar**
- Moved by: Parker
Seconded by: Robinson
Motion: Remove the tree due to the poor structure and being an improper species planted under the high voltage lines. Plant a replacement tree species more appropriate for growing under the high voltage lines.

Motion Passed: 6-0

- 6. 1812 Denison Drive**
- Moved by: Parker
Seconded by: Robinson
Motion: Remove the tree due to the poor structure and being an improper species planted under the high voltage lines. Plant a replacement tree species more appropriate for growing under the high voltage lines.

Motion Passed: 6-0

- 7. 1715 Palm Place American Sweetgum**
- Moved by: Robinson
Seconded by: Newman
Motion: Due to the continued limb failures even with corrective pruning, remove the tree and plant a replacement tree.

Motion Passed 6-0

- 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>
No trees were removed this month for being in an imminently hazardous condition.		

- C. 2019 Commission Work Plan and Goals**
The Commission began to formulate the goals and work plans for 2019. The Commission incorporated some of the ideas discussed with the City Council at the joint meeting with the Commission. The ideas to include in the draft work plan are develop more educational materials for residents, especially those who purchase a home in Davis and need information about their city street tree, increase the frequency of educational articles to publish, and complete the Landmark Tree mapping project. The Commission will continue the discussion and finalize the 2019 work plan at the January 17, 2019 meeting.

Informational Items:

No informational items were heard at the meeting.

Commission and Staff Communications:

A. Education Subcommittee

No meetings of the subcommittee were held, so the Commission heard no report.

B. Topics for Next Meeting

- 1) 2019 Work plan and goals

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. moved by Parker and seconded by Robinson.

Next Meeting: January 17, 2019

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