

**PARKS & GENERAL SERVICES**

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



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

Commissioners Present: Laura Westrup-Chair, David Robinson, George Rooks, Hila Rooks, Mike Ozonoff

Commissioners Absent: Dan Nagle-Vice-Chair, Marijane Osborn-both excused

Assigned Staff: Rob Cain, Urban Forest Manager

**Opening Statement**

The Commission 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.

### **Approval of Agenda**

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

Approved: 5-0

### **Approval of Minutes: Meeting of February 19, 2009**

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Robinson, seconded by H. Rooks with the corrections submitted by Westrup.

Approved: 5-0

### **Commissioner and Staff Comments**

G. Rooks reported to the Commission regarding a possible tree planting opportunity for the community in regards to the Israel/Gaza issue brought before City Council. The City Council referred the issue to the Human Relations Commission. G. Rooks submitted the idea to the Human Relations Commission to have a tree planting as a way to bring the two parties together on common ground. The Tree Commission supported the idea in concept.

Staff updated the Commission on the Mace Ranch Park Memorial Tree Grove. The proposal to put a memorial tree grove at Mace Ranch Park was on the agenda for the Recreation and Park Commission for approval at their March 19, 2009 meeting.

### **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**

**1. 325 9TH STREET**

##### **Tree Species**

**Chinese Hackberry**

Moved by: Rooks, G

Seconded by: Robinson

Motion: Remove the tree due to decay in stem and branches. Replant.

Motion Passed: 6-0

**2. 1500 Union Drive**

**Shademaster Honey Locust**

Moved by: Ozonoff

Seconded by: Rooks, H

Motion: Remove the tree due to poor health and mistletoe. Replant with another tree.

Motion Passed: 6-0

**3. 1115 AUBURN DRIVE**

**White Alder**

Moved by: Robinson

Seconded by: Ozonoff

Motion: Remove due to borers and replant with another tree.

Motion Passed: 6-0

**4. 630 MILLER DRIVE**

**Modesto Ash**

Moved by: Rooks, H

Seconded by: Ozonoff

Motion: Remove due to split trunk and replace as discussed with resident.

Motion Passed: 6-0

**5. 960 ZARAGOZA STREET**

**Bradford Pear**

Moved by: Robinson

Seconded by: Rooks, G

Motion: Retain the tree as it is in good health and condition.

Motion Passed: 6-0

**6. 960 ZARAGOZA STREET**

**Bradford Pear**

Moved by: Robinson

Seconded by: Rooks, G

Motion: Remove the tree due to structural defects and replant with another tree.

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>
426 Balboa Avenue	Almond	Tree uprooted
1339 Duke	Chinese Hackberry	Dead tree
1812 Pole Line Road	Modesto Ash	Power line clearance
Playfields Park greenbelt	Aleppo Pine	Tree uprooting

**C. Tree Commission Spring tour of the City**

The Commission will visit the following areas at the April Commission meeting

- Lake Blvd. bike path areas
- 5<sup>th</sup> Street corridor area
- Neighborwoods 08 planting areas
- Proposed Neighborwoods 09 planting areas
- Russell Blvd. Walnut trees

**D. Arbor Day planning**

Ruth Williams from TREE Davis updated the Commission on the Arbor Day events scheduled for Wednesday April 22, 2009. There will be kids activities and tree related informational booths. The City of Davis will be receiving its 31<sup>st</sup> consecutive Tree City USA award and its third consecutive Tree City USA Growth Award. Also this year UCD will be involved for the first time and UCD will be receiving its initial Tree Campus USA award. The Tree Campus award is a new award from the National Arbor Day Foundation that recognizes college campuses with an exemplary tree program.

**E. Davis Food Forest**

Vogt made a presentation on using swales in yards to capture rain water and runoff to irrigate possible food crop gardens in residential yards. The swales catch the water and direct it around the plants. The idea of planting food crop trees as street trees was put forth to the Commission.

Robinson stated that the idea had been proposed before with little success and expressed concerns over surplus crop being a problem with rodents and mess. Staff expressed the some concerns and the liability of planting food crops for the community to harvest on private residential property.

An alternative of using part of the Putah Creek parkway near San Marino to plant additional fruit trees was proposed. Staff will look into the area and future use of the land to see if this alternative is feasible.

**Agenda Topics for next Meeting**

- 1) Tree tour for the Tree Commission

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm

**Next meeting:** April 16, 2009

*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.*