



**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, November 17, 2021
VIA TELECONFERENCE**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kathy McGill called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners and Staff Present

Chair Kathy McGill
Vice Chair Nichol Clark
Commissioner Evelyn Feck
Commissioner Jacob Lesner-Buxton
Commissioner Beebe Longstreet
Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Jazmin LeBlanc
Urban Forest Superintendent Nathan Slack
Administrative Assistant Rose Nevarez

GENERAL BUSINESS

- A. Changes to the Agenda – None
- B. Written Communications – None
- C. Public Comment – None
- D. Youth Council Report – None
- E. Commissioner Committee Assignment Reports

Commissioner Lesner-Buxton attended and reported on the Youth Council meeting.

Commissioner Longstreet attended and reported on the De la Guerra Plaza Revitalization Design Advisory Committee meeting.

Vice Chair Clark attended the Street Tree Advisory Committee meeting and will attend the upcoming Integrated Pest Management Advisory Committee meeting on November 30th.

- F. Commission And Staff Communications – None

CEREMONIAL ITEMS

CONSENT ITEMS:

1. Subject: Minutes – For Action (Attachment)

Recommendation: That the Commission waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 27, 2021.

Motion:

Commissioner Lesner-Buxton / Longstreet to waive the readings and approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 27, 2021.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (5)

STREET TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ITEMS

Any action of the Parks and Recreation Commission made pursuant to Municipal Code Chapter 15.20, Tree Planting and Maintenance or 15.24, Preservation of Trees, may be appealed to the City Council within ten days, pursuant to provisions of Section 1.30.050 of the Municipal Code.

2. Subject: Street Tree Advisory Committee Recommendations – For Action (Attachments)

Documents:

- Staff Report dated November 17, 2021
- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

- Urban Forest Superintendent Nathan Slack
- Dean Noble, Elings Park (Item 2A.1.)
- Bruce Giffin, Elings Park Board of Directors (Item 2A.1.)
- Bob Cunningham, Arcadia Studio (Item 2A.1.)
- Clara Bell (Item 2B.1)

Recommendation: That the Commission:

A. Approve the following street tree removal request:

1. Elings Park – 1298 Las Positas Rd. – (39) *Schinus molle*, Pepper Tree, (1) *Washingtonia robusta*, Mexican Fan Palm, and (1) *Chamaerops humilis*, Mediterranean Fan Palm – Bob Cunningham

The Commission received the report, listened to testimony, their questions were answered, and the following action was taken:

Motion:

Commissioner Clark / Longstreet to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and approve the removals on the condition that replacement trees be planted as proposed, and with the stipulation that no trees be removed until ready to proceed with replanting.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (5/0)

B. Conditionally approve the following street tree removal request:

1. 121 E. Mason St. – (22) Various trees – Nicole Horn

The Commission received the report, listened to testimony, their questions were answered, and the following action was taken:

Motion:

Commissioner McGill / Feck to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and approve the removals as proposed, on the condition that the 2 Fan Palms not addressed be relocated to the public right of way on Mason Street, and with the stipulation that no removals occur prior to obtaining permits and performing appropriate bird surveys, as pursuant to SBMC 15.24.090, a reasonable and practical development of the property requires removal of the trees.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (5/0)

C. Deny the following street tree removal requests:

1. 624 E. De La Guerra Plaza / 726 State St. – *Washingtonia robusta*, Mexican Fan Palm – John Chaffee

The Commission received the report, their questions were answered, and the following action was taken:

Motion:

Commissioner Longstreet / Feck to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and deny the removal without prejudice.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (5/0)

2. 1308 San Rafael Ave. – *Eucalyptus polyanthemos*, Silver Dollar Gum – Michael Purdy

The Commission received the report, their questions were answered, and the following action was taken:

Motion:

Commissioner Clark / McGill to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and deny the removal.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (5/0)

- D. Conditionally approve the following setback tree removal request:

1. 419 N. Soledad St. – *Acacia melanoxyton*, Black Acacia – Jan Lofvander

The Commission received the report and the following action was taken:

Motion:

Commissioner Longstreet / Feck to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and approve the removal on the condition that it be replaced with a tree that can achieve a minimum height of 25-30 feet, as pursuant to SBMC 15.24.090, principles of good forest management will be best served by its removal.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (5/0)

- E. Deny the following setback tree removal requests:

1. 405 Canon Dr. – *Pinus canariensis*, Canary Island Pine – Paul Leonardi

The Commission received the report, their questions were answered, and the following action was taken:

Motion:

Commissioner Clark / Longstreet to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and deny the removal without prejudice.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (5/0)

2. 1204 Chino St. – *Syagrus romanzoffiana*, Queen Palm – Jyl Aker

The Commission received the report and the following action was taken:

Motion:

Commissioner McGill / Clark to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and deny the removal, as no findings for its removal pursuant to SBMC 15.24.090 were identified.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (5/0)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND STAFF REPORTS

3. Subject: Director’s Report – For Information (Attachment)

Documents:

-Staff Report dated November 17, 2021

Speakers:

-Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Jazmin LeBlanc

Recommendation: That the Commission receive a presentation on the status of the various Parks and Recreation Department initiatives and activities.

Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Jazmin LeBlanc reported on the Annual Adapted Programs Thanksgiving Luncheon to be held on November 24 at Oak Park and the City offices holiday closure.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

4. Subject: Street Tree Master Plan – Street Tree Designation Listing Update – For Discussion (Attachment)

Documents:

-Staff Report dated November 17, 2021

-Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

-Urban Forest Superintendent Nathan Slack

Recommendation: That the Commission receive a presentation on the Street Tree Master Plan – Street Tree Designation Listing.

Urban Forest Superintendent Nathan Slack gave background of the Street Tree Master Plan – Street Tree Designation Listing and the Urban Forest Management Plan. He then reported on the current procedural review of Street Tree Designations, need and rationale for updating designations, and recommendation for continued review and modification of the listing. The listing is now available as an online resource at: SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Trees.

The Commission received the report and their questions were answered.

5. Subject: Appointment of Parks and Recreation Commission Representative to the De la Guerra Plaza Revitalization Design Advisory Committee – For Action

Recommendation: That the Commission appoint a representative to replace former Commissioner Perry.

Chair McGill was appointed to the De la Guerra Plaza Revitalization Design Advisory Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:56 pm, with no further business to be addressed by the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jazmin LeBlanc
Assistant Parks and Recreation Director