



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

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, May 24, 2023
Council Chamber, 735 Anacapa Street**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kathy McGill called the meeting to order at 4:01 pm.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners and Staff Present

Chair Kathy McGill
Vice Chair Evelyn Feck
Commissioner Sebastian Aldana
Commissioner Nichol Clark
Commissioner Jacob Lesner-Buxton
Commissioner Robin Unander-La Berge
Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary
City Clerk Services Manager Sarah Gorman
Human Resources Manager Graciela Reynoso
Urban Forest Superintendent Nathan Slack
Associate Park Planner Monique O'Conner
Administrative Analyst Rose Nevarez

Commissioners Absent

Commissioner Jeffrey Chang

GENERAL BUSINESS

- A. Changes to the Agenda – None
- B. Written Public Comment – None
- C. Public Comment – None
- D. Commissioner Committee Assignment Reports

Commissioner Aldana attended a community meeting regarding sidewalk vending on May 23.

Chair McGill attended and reported on the Integrated Pest Management Advisory Committee meeting and the PARC Foundation Board meeting.

E. Commission and Staff Communications

Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary informed the Commission that the Parks and Recreation Department budget hearing is on May 25 at 9:00 am in Council Chamber.

CEREMONIAL ITEMS – None

CONSENT ITEMS

1. Subject: Summary of Council Actions – For Information (Attachment)

The Commissioners received the report.

2. Subject: Minutes – For Action (Attachment)

Recommendation: That the Commission waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 26, 2023.

Motion:

Commissioner Clark / Feck to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 26, 2023.

Vote:

Unanimous vote (6/0)

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.

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

Documents:

- Staff Report dated May 24, 2023
- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

- Urban Forest Superintendent Nathan Slack
- Public Speaker Andrew Bluhm (Item 3.A.1.)

Recommendation: That the Commission:

A. Conditionally approve the following street tree and setback removal requests:

1. 1527 Crestline Drive – (5) *Fraxinus uhdei*, Evergreen Ash – Andrew Bluhm

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

Motion:

Commissioner Feck / Aldana to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and approve the removals on the condition the applicant plant 3 new designated street trees and a new tree in the setback that can achieve 30 feet in height, as pursuant to SBMC 15.24.090, principles of good forest management will be best served by the removals.

Vote:

Majority vote (4/1/1) (Nay: Clark; Abstain: McGill)

B. Conditionally approve the following street tree removal requests:

1. 701 Westmont Road – (3) *Fraxinus uhdei*, Evergreen Ash – Catherine Dealy

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

Motion:

Commissioner Feck / McGill to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and approve the removals on the condition the applicant replace with 2 trees, either in the parkway or setback, that can achieve 25 feet in height.

Vote:

Unanimous vote (6/0)

2. 625 N. Alisos Street – (2) *Sequoia sempervirens*, Coast Redwood – Tyler Reynolds

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

Motion:

Commissioner Feck / Aldana to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and approve the removals on the

condition the applicant replace with a 15-gallon street tree and provide watering.

Vote:
Unanimous vote (6/0)

3. 3728 Torino Drive – *Schinus terebinthifolius*, Brazilian Pepper – Robert Richards

The Commission received the report, 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 removal on the condition the applicant replace with a new street tree as proposed.

Vote:
Majority vote (5/1) (Nay: Clark)

C. Approve the following setback tree removal request:

1. 18 Vista Del Mar – *Phoenix canariensis*, Canary Island Date Palm – Anna Gardner

Motion:
Commissioner Clark / Feck to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and approve the removal, as pursuant to SBMC 15.24.090, principles of good forest management will be best served by the removal.

Vote:
Majority vote (5/1) (Nay: Unander-La Berge)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND STAFF REPORTS

4. Subject: Director's Report – For Information (Attachment)

Documents:
-Staff Report dated May 24, 2023

Speakers:
-Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary

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

Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary reported on Arbor Day tree plantings held at local schools, the Department's receipt of the Growth Award from the Arbor Day Foundation, Water Safety Month programs, and future tentative Commission agenda items.

The Commissioners received the report and their questions were answered.

5. Subject: Parma Park Sustainable Trails Project – For Information (Attachment)

Documents:

- Staff Report dated May 24, 2023
- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

- Associate Park Planner Monique O'Conner

Recommendation: That the Commission receive a presentation on the Parma Park Sustainable Trails Project.

Associate Park Planner Monique O'Conner reported on the project, which will improve approximately 4.1 miles of existing trails and includes native habitat restoration to just under 5 acres of parkland. The project will be completed in 3 phases, with Phase 1 currently underway and Phase 3, restoration work, expected to be completed in early 2025.

The Commissioners received the report and their questions were answered.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

6. Subject: Advisory Board Purview and Communication Training – For Information

Documents:

- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

- City Clerk Services Manager Sarah Gorman
- Human Resources Manager Graciela Reynoso

Recommendation: That the Commission receive a training from Human Resources Manager Graciela Reynoso and City Clerk Services Manager Sarah Gorman regarding Advisory Group purview and communication issues.

The Commission received the training.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:36 pm, with no further business to be addressed by the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Zachary,
Parks and Recreation Director