



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

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, March 27, 2024
Council Chamber, 735 Anacapa Street**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Evelyn Feck called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners and Staff Present

Chair Evelyn Feck
Vice Chair Kathy McGill
Commissioner Sebastian Aldana
Commissioner Jeffrey Chang
Commissioner Nichol Clark
Commissioner Jacob Lesner-Buxton
Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary
Urban Forest Superintendent Nathan Slack
Public Works Principal Project Manager Brad Hess
Administrative Assistant Courtney Carlson

Commissioners Absent

Commissioner Robin Unander-LaBerge

GENERAL BUSINESS

- A. Changes to the Agenda – None
- B. Written Public Comment – None
- C. Public Comment – None
- D. Youth Council Report

Youth Council Cindy Zavala reported on the successful approval of Youth Council's Safe Firearm Storage Ordinance on March 5, 2024. Youth Council also received a Youth Making Change grant, which will be used to host the 2024 Youth Council Speak Out. This will be a question and answer style forum to help bridge the gap between youth and local government. Topics will include: environmental justice; safe public spaces and transportation; community health and public safety; and education equity and inclusion. Finally, she gave an update on Youth Council's recruitment plan.

E. Commissioner Committee Assignment Reports

Commissioner Clark attended and reported on the Street Tree Advisory Committee meeting. Vice Chair McGill attended and reported on the PARC Foundation meeting.

F. Commission and Staff Communications – None

CEREMONIAL ITEMS

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:

- A. Waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 28, 2024

Motion:

Commissioner McGill / Aldana to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 28, 2024.

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 March 27, 2024
- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff
- Public Works PowerPoint presented by Public Works Staff

Speakers:

- Urban Forest Superintendent Nathan Slack
- Mary Jane Headlee (item 3.A.2.)

- Brad Hess, Public Works Principal Project Manager (Item 3.B.1.)
- RRM Managing Partner Debbie Lagomarcino Rudd (Item 3.B.1.)

Recommendation: That the Commission:

A. Deny the following setback tree removal request:

1. 335 Rosario Drive - *Ulmus parvifolia*, Chinese Elm – Karen Christman, Arbor Services, Inc.

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

Motion:

Commissioner McGill / Aldana to disagree with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and approve the setback tree removal of the *Ulmus parvifolia*, Chinese Elm at 335 Rosario Drive on the condition that the applicant replace it with a street tree decided by the City Arborist that can achieve a minimum height of 20 feet or more at maturity. Based on the finding that regard for safety of persons or property dictates removal and that principles of good forest management will be best served by the proposed removal.

Vote:

Majority Vote (4/2) (Nay: Chang and Clark)

2. 138 Santa Rosa Place – *Washingtonia robusta*, Mexican Fan Palm – Mary Jean Headlee

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

Motion:

Commissioner Aldana / Chang to disagree with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and approve the setback tree removal of the *Washingtonia robusta*, Mexican Fan Palm at 138 Santa Rosa Place based on the finding that regard for safety of persons or property dictates removal.

Vote:

Majority vote (4/2) (Nay: Clark and McGill)

3. 412 Dibblee Avenue – *Araucaria heterophylla*, Norfolk Island Pine – Ken Davenport

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

Motion:

Commissioner Chang / Feck to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and deny the setback tree removal of Araucaria heterophylla, Norfolk Island Pine.

Vote:

Unanimous vote (6/0)

B. Conditionally approve the following street tree removal request:

1. De La Guerra Plaza and Front of City Hall – (49) various trees – Brad Hess, Public Works

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

Motion:

Commissioner Chang / Aldana to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and approve the various street tree removals at De La Guerra Plaza on the following conditions:

1. The City preserve and transplant tree #46, Trachycarpus fortunei, Windmill Palm, to an offsite location to be determined by the City Arborist.
2. The City modify the landscape plan to reflect the planting of two Markhamia lutea, Nile Tulip Trees, on the side of City Hall, in place of the three proposed Western Redbuds.

Vote:

Unanimous vote (6/0)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND STAFF REPORTS

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

Documents:

-Staff Report dated March 27, 2024

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 Commission
Draft Minutes Regular Meeting March 27, 2024

Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary reported on the Spring Fling Dinner Dance on March 16, hourly staff recruitment for Summer 2024, the upcoming Santa Barbara Youth Council 2024 Youth Speak Out on April 13, and the upcoming Chef Apprentice Graduation on April 13.

The Commissioners received the report.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:33 pm, with no further business to be addressed by the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Zachary,
Parks and Recreation Director