

Alameda County Public Works Agency
Tree Advisory Board Meeting
Wednesday, May 20th, 2009
Public Works Building, 951 Turner Ct, Hayward
Conference Room 230

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair, Kathie Ready; Vice-Chair, Don Sheppard; Dee McDonough, Dan Gallagher with Donald G. Nelson excused.

OTHERS PRESENT: Inta Brainerd, Steve Jones, Holly Smith, Dennis Filippi, Renee Ross, Darryl Moses, Koji Onaga, Patrice Ballinger

CALL TO ORDER: The chair called the meeting to order at 3:01

I. PUBLIC COMMENT: - None

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS: - Don G. Nelson would not be present due to illness.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes from February 18, 2009 approved with one correction: #VII change “meetin” to “meeting.”

IV. FOLLOW UP ITEMS:

- **SLVHA letter:** Don Sheppard motioned to have Inta prepare recommendation to County Council for approval/advice on having all replacement trees in San Lorenzo Village be Sycamore trees except where overhead high voltage lines exist.

Motion seconded by Dan Gallager

Motion approved unanimous

- **Nuisance Tree List:** Dee McDonough recommends adding female Ginko to list. Steve Jones recommends adding Tamarisk to list.

Dee McDonough motioned to the adoption of the nuisance tree list be added to the permit process.

Motion seconded by Dan Gallager

Motion approved unanimous

- **Hearing/Appeals Results timetable:** Provided by staff and reviewed by TAB. TAB requested staff to check status on Anthony Garde 15794 & 15811 Via Rivera.

- **Revised guidelines for violations:** TAB requested to change (if possible) to (unless exempted) and to add the cost of the appraisal to the summary and guidelines.
- **Chair, Kathy Ready, requested an update on the Redwoods that were illegally removed from County property.** Inta to check status with Real Estate.

V. Hearings:

15972 Wellington Way, San Leandro

Staff noted in the field that a Moraine Ash tree had been topped and girdled. No permits were issued for this work.

Mr. Ross responded to the violation notice and indicated he was removing the tree because it was causing damage to his walkway and was leaning. He indicated that he was not aware permits were required.

Motion by Dee McDonough recommended the tree be removed and replaced with a 24" boxed tree, \$500.00 fine for loss of value and a \$100.00 fine for work without permit for a total of \$600.00.

Motion seconded by Dan Gallagher.

Motion approved unanimous.

16140 Windsor Drive, San Leandro

It was reported that a Camphor tree was removed. The tree was planted to replace a Liquidambar tree that was removed by the County due to storm damage. No permits were issued for the replacement and owner was notified the Camphor was not an approved replacement species. The owner responded to the violation notice and indicated that she removed the replacement tree (Camphor) because it was causing damage to the sprinkler system.

Property owner stated that a Crape Myrtle tree had been planted within the last month to replace the Camphor tree that was removed. Again no permits were obtained.

Dee McDonough motioned that the current tree remain, \$500.00 fee for loss of value and \$100.00 fine for work without permit.

Kathie Ready amended the motion, \$100.00 fee x 2 for work without permit both times for a total fine of \$200.00.

Motion seconded by Don Sheppard.

Motion approved unanimous.

4270 Veronica Ave, Castro Valley

Staff noted in the field that a Modesto Ash had been topped. No permits were issued for this work.

The owner responded to the violation notice and indicated that she had the tree trimmed because it had dropped a large limb a few days before.

Property owner stated she had several certified arborists assess the tree and they recommended that the tree be removed. She states no one mentioned to her that a permit was required for the pruning or removal. She stated that she loves the tree and did not want to remove it.

Dan Gallagher motioned to remove and replace the tree with a 24" boxed tree from the recommended tree list, \$500.00 fee for loss of value and \$100.00 fee for work without permit for a total fine of \$600.00.

Motion seconded by Don Sheppard.

Motion approved unanimous.

2016 Manchester Rd. San Leandro

It was reported that a Sycamore tree was topped. This tree is one of the grant trees planted in 1996. The owner responded to the violation notice and indicated that he did not authorize the planting of such a large tree.

Property owner stated the tree that was topped was not the original tree, that the original tree was hit by a car. His intent for trimming the tree was to increase the canopy spread. He was unaware of permit requirements and is requesting community service time instead of fines.

Dee McDonough motioned to research community service in lieu of fines, and a \$100.00 fine for work without permit.

Dan Gallagher amended the motion to add a \$100.00 fine for loss of value for a total of \$200.00 and the removal of stub.

Dennis Filippi volunteered to remove the stub on his own time.

Motion seconded by Don Sheppard.

Motion approved unanimous.

VI. Other: None

VII. Wrap up and Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 5:00pm