



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

**REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, July 24, 2019
COUNCIL CHAMBER, 735 ANACAPA STREET**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Nichol Clark called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. at the City Council Chamber.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Nichol Clark

ROLL CALL

Commissioners and Staff Present

Chair Nichol Clark
Commissioner Cory Baker
Commissioner Jacob Lesner-Buxton
Commissioner Beebe Longstreet
Commissioner Andria Martinez Cohen
Commissioner Kathy McGill
Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Rich Hanna
Parks Manager Matthew Parker
Creeks Manager Cameron Benson
Urban Forest Superintendent Tim Downey
Parks Superintendent Ken Brown
Public Works Principal Engineer Adam Hendel
Executive Assistant Rose Nevarez

Commissioners Absent

Vice Chair Roger Perry

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: None

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Rick Closson

YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT: None

COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT REPORTS:

Commissioner Longstreet attended the MacKenzie Park Off-Leash Dog Area Ribbon Cutting.

Commissioner Baker attended the Golf Advisory Committee meeting.

Commissioner McGill attended the PARC Foundation Board meeting.

Chair Clark attended the Integrated Pest Management and Street Tree Advisory Committee meetings and attended the MacKenzie Park Off-Leash Dog Area Ribbon Cutting.

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS: None

CEREMONIAL ITEMS: None

CONSENT ITEMS:

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

The Commission received the report and their questions were answered.

2. Subject: Minutes – For Action (Attachment)

Recommendation: That the Commission waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 26, 2019.

Motion:

Commissioner Martinez Cohen / McGill to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 26, 2019.

Vote:

Unanimous voice 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 July 24, 2019
- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

- Urban Forest Superintendent Tim Downey
- Public Speaker Eric Peterson (Item 3.F.1)

Recommendation: That the Commission:

A. Approve the following setback tree removal request with conditions:

1. 1502 Chapala St. – *Persea americana*, Avocado – Robert F. Adams

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

Motion:

Commissioner Longstreet / Martinez Cohen to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation that pursuant to SBMC 15.24.090, the principles of good forestry management will best be served by the proposed removal, and approve the removal on the condition the tree is replaced along the Chapala frontage with a tree that has the potential to achieve twenty-five (25) feet in height.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (6/0)

B. Partially approve the following setback tree removal request with conditions:

1. 1429 Crestline Dr. – (1) *Harpephyllum caffrum*, Kaffir Plum, and (1) *Chamaerops humulis*, Mediterranean Fan Palm – K.C. and Michelle Mauk

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

Motion:

Commissioner Martinez Cohen / McGill to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and approve the removal of the Kaffir Plum on the condition it is replaced by a tree that has the potential to achieve a minimum twenty-five (25) feet in height, as pursuant to SBMC 15.24.090, the principles of good forestry management will best be served and the neighborhood would not be materially affected by the removal and replacement; and deny the removal of the Mediterranean Fan Palm on the basis that concerns for its proximity to the home could be mitigated through pruning of one or more of the trunks without removal.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (6/0)

C. Approve the following setback tree removal request without conditions:

1. 431 Old Coast Highway – (2) *Syagrus romanzoffianum*, Queen Palms, and (1) *Washingtonia robusta*, Mexican Fan Palm – Eric Goodall

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

Motion:

Commissioner Longstreet / Martinez Cohen to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation for the removals, as pursuant to SBMC 15.24.090, a reasonable and practical development of the property requires removal of the trees, and said development increases the safety of the community.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (6/0)

D. Deny the following setback tree removal request without prejudice:

1. 3360 Braemar Dr. – *Sequoia sempervirens*, Coast Redwood – Alex and Kristin Brodie

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

Motion:

Commissioner Longstreet / Martinez Cohen to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and deny the removal without prejudice, and if resubmitted, should include an arborist report, plus any existing landscape plan.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (6/0)

E. Deny the following setback tree removal requests:

1. 2920 Hermosa Rd. – *Syagrus romanzoffianum*, Queen Palm – Larry Niday

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

Motion:

Commissioner Longstreet / Clark to deny the removal without prejudice, to be resubmitted if the applicant obtains approval to proceed with the driveway widening.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (6/0)

2. 115 Coronada Circle – (3) *Liquidambar styraciflua*, American Sweetgum – Karen McElwain

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

Motion:

Commissioner McGill / Martinez Cohen to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and deny the removals as the trees are reasonably healthy, none of the findings pursuant to SBMC 15.24.090 fit the circumstances of this request, and the removal of these trees would be a material loss to the neighborhood.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (6/0)

F. Deny the following street tree removal request without prejudice:

1. 820 Lowena Dr. – *Dracaena draco*, Dragon Tree – Matthew Firestone

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

Motion:

Commissioner Longstreet / Martinez Cohen to postpone a decision pending exploration of other options, including an easement, and submission of a landscape plan for the development.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (6/0)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND STAFF REPORTS

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

Documents:

-Staff Report dated July 24, 2019

Speaker:

-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.

Director Jill Zachary reported on the Children's Fiesta Parade taking place on August 3 at 10:00 am.

5. Subject: Annual Advisory Committee Reports – For Information (Attachments)

Recommendation: That the Commission receive the Annual Advisory Committee Reports.

The Commission received the report and their questions were answered.

6. Subject: Integrated Pest Management Plan And Pesticide Hazard And Exposure Reduction Zone Model – For Action (Attachments)

Recommendation: That the Commission:

- A. Receive a report on the Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM) and Pesticide Hazard and Exposure Reduction (PHAER) Zone Model;
- B. Receive and discuss recommendations to modify the PHAER Zone designation for City parks and parking lots; and
- C. Approve and forward the PHAER Zone recommendations and 2018 Annual Report to City Council.

Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Rich Hanna gave an overview of the IPM Plan and PHAER Zone Model, the IPM Advisory Committee and its role, and Program achievements.

Parks Manager Matthew Parker reported on 2018 pesticide use by the Airport, Parks and Recreation, and Public Works Departments, and Santa Barbara Golf.

Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Rich Hanna then reported on Parks Division alternative practices and methods to pesticide use; glyphosate use; and PHAER Zone recommendations. He stated the IPM Advisory Committee approved the 2018 Annual Report and staff recommendations to change 14 City parks/parking lots to all Green zones, and keep the A.C. Postel Rose Garden as-is.

Commissioner McGill commended everyone involved in the overarching effort. She asked what measures will be put in place to monitor the safety of playing fields due to rodent burrows.

Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary responded that a special exemption to use a Yellow material could be made if Green methods of removal do not work.

Chair Clark thanked the IPM Committee and believes the members of the Committee place public safety first and foremost. She thanked the Parks Division for addressing the community's concern regarding the use of glyphosate. Chair Clark is pleased with the direction the Division is taking and commended them for being proactive. She asked if it was possible for high school students to receive community service hours for weeding in City parks.

Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Rich Hanna believed that was a good idea. Participants in the Youth Apprentice Program have recently removed annual rye grass at the Cabrillo Ball Park, but the Division should be proactive and will reach out to groups on an annual basis.

Commissioner Longstreet recalled that having volunteers regularly weed parks was proposed at the inception of the IPM Program, but was not realized, and wishes the public would adopt their neighborhood parks. She believes appropriate application and use is more important than the particular PHAER designation because the substances all have negative impacts if used improperly. Commissioner Longstreet

referenced the Creeks Division's use and method of application of glyphosate. As the Division is extremely ecologically minded, she believes they would use a different method if possible, and thought it commendable that the Parks Division used only 3 gallons of glyphosate concentrate during 2018. Commissioner Longstreet is pleased with the IPM Program's progress since its inception 15 years ago, and as there is no budget for the manpower necessary to manage weed removal without use of pesticides, everyone must accept the presence of weeds. She believes the Airport Department has done a good job of maintaining safety while limiting the use of Red and Yellow chemicals, and commended all the departments for embracing the program and their willingness to try alternative methods of pest control.

Motion:

Commissioner Martinez Cohen / Longstreet to approve and forward the PHAER Zone recommendations and 2018 Annual Report to City Council.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (6/0)

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

7. Annual Election of Chair and Vice Chair – For Action

Motion:

Commissioner McGill / Longstreet to nominate Chair Clark as Chair for the period of August 1, 2019 through July 30, 2020.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (6/0)

Motion:

Commissioner Longstreet / Martinez Cohen to nominate Commissioner McGill as Vice Chair for the period of August 1, 2019 through July 30, 2020.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote (6/0)

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:57 p.m., with no further business to be addressed by the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill E. Zachary
Parks and Recreation Director