



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

**REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, November 18, 2020  
VIA TELECONFERENCE**

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**ROLL CALL**

**Commissioners and Staff Present**

Chair Nichol Clark  
Vice Chair Kathy McGill  
Commissioner Jacob Lesner-Buxton  
Commissioner Beebe Longstreet  
Commissioner Andria Martinez Cohen  
Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary  
Urban Forest Superintendent Nathan Slack  
Administrative Assistant Rose Nevarez

**Commissioners Absent**

Commissioner Cory Baker  
Commissioner Roger Perry

**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

Commissioners Longstreet attended and reported on the Neighborhood Advisory Council and Sea Level Rise Adaptation Plan Subcommittee meetings.

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

Chair Clark reported on the Integrated Pest Management Advisory Committee meeting and attended the Ortega Park Master Plan Community Webinar held on November 12.

- F. Commission And Staff Communications

Director Jill Zachary informed Commissioners that the Ortega Park Master Plan will go before the Planning Commission on December 3, and a site visit will take place on the morning of Dec 1; City Council postponed the 2934 Lomita Road Tree Appeal to December 8; the new Parks and Recreation Assistant Director, Jazmin LeBlanc, joined the Department on November 9; and the Commission will receive a status report on the Department budget in the near future.

**CEREMONIAL ITEMS:**

**1. Subject: Employee Recognition – Service Award Pins**

Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary recognized Ignacio Valdez, Grounds Maintenance Crew Leader, for 20 years of service.

**CONSENT ITEMS:**

**2. Subject: Minutes – For Action (Attachment)**

Recommendation: That the Commission waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 28, 2020.

**Motion:**

**Commissioner Longstreet / McGill to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 28, 2020.**

**Vote:**

**Unanimous voice vote (5/0)**

**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 November 18, 2020
- Staff PowerPoint presented by Staff

**Speakers:**

- Urban Forest Superintendent Nathan Slack
- Karen McElwain (Item 3.C.1)

Recommendation: That the Commission:

A. Approve the following street tree removal request:

1. 7 S. Milpas St. – *Metrosideros excelsa*, New Zealand Christmas Tree – Martha Degasis

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

**Motion:**

**Commissioner McGill / Lesner-Buxton to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee and approve the removal on the condition it be replaced with a Queen Palm as proposed on the application.**

**Vote:**

**Majority voice vote (4/1) Nay: Clark**

B. Conditionally approve the following street tree removal request:

1. 1440 Pacific Ave. – *Phoenix canariensis*, Canary Island Date Palm – Michael Finucan

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 approve the removal on the condition it be replaced by the applicant with two designated street trees in locations to be determined.**

**Vote:**

**Unanimous voice vote (5/0)**

C. Partially approve the following setback tree removal request:

1. 115 Coronada Circle – (3) *Liquidambar styraciflua*, American Sweetgum – Karen McElwain

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

**Motion:**

**Commissioner Longstreet / Clark to concur with the Street Tree Advisory Committee recommendation and approve removal of the one declining tree on the condition the applicant replace with a designated street tree, as pursuant to SBMC 15.24.090, principles of good forest**

**management will be best served by its removal, and deny without prejudice the removal of the remaining two trees.**

**Vote:**  
**Unanimous voice vote (5/0)**

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE AND STAFF REPORTS**

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

Documents:

-Staff Report dated November 18, 2020

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.

Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary reported the Department has contracted with AllSeated, an online system that will provide floor plans and seating planning tools for renters of Department rental facilities, the Trunk or Treat event on October 30 in partnership with the SB Police Activities League, and fall Saturday Skate and LEGO Youth Camps.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

##### **5. Subject: Proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-2026 Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Program – For Action (Attachments)**

Documents:

-Staff Report dated November 18, 2020

-PowerPoint presented by Staff

Speakers:

-Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary

Recommendation: That the Commission review the proposed General Fund, Golf Fund, and Creeks Fund (FY) 2022-2026 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), provide recommendations on capital project priorities for FY 2022 and FY 2023, and recommend that the CIP be forwarded to the Planning Commission and City Council.

Parks and Recreation Director Jill Zachary presented the FY 2022-2026 Capital Improvement Program, which establishes a comprehensive list of planned and projected needs; considers timelines for design, permitting, and construction;

estimates project costs and identifies funding sources, and prioritizes projects for the first two years. Directory Zachary gave key program considerations, objectives, and funding sources. She then discussed ongoing projects, new projects, ongoing programs, and open space planning.

Commissioners expressed support for the projects in the program. The current pandemic has proven the importance to the community of parks, open spaces, and recreation facilities, and maintenance and renovations will only be more costly if postponed. Neighborhood parks, in particular, provide an important service to their communities. They agree it is important to have projects ready to be able to take advantage of funding as it becomes available. Commissioners believe while the City Council looks at the redevelopment of State Street and downtown, they should consider that recreation aspects should be included to enhance community living. Also, as Cabrillo Boulevard will become an important gathering place with the closure of State Street, renovations to that area should be at the forefront of planning.

**Motion:**

**Commissioner Longstreet / Clark to recommend the FY2022-23 Capital Improvement Program to the Planning Commission and City Council with comments.**

**Vote:**

**Unanimous voice vote (5/0)**

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 5:46 pm, with no further business to be addressed by the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill E. Zachary  
Parks and Recreation Director