



Tree Committee Minutes

June 24, 2024, 5:30 p.m.

Council Hearing Room, 990 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo

Tree Committee Members Present: Member Alan Bate, Member Henry Bonifas, Member Daniel Canella, Member Brian Pineda, Member Emily Rosten, Vice Chair Ben Parker, Chair Elizabeth Lucas

City Staff Present: Urban Forest Program Coordinator / City Arborist Walter Gault, Senior Planner Rachel Cohen, City Clerk Teresa Purrington

1. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the San Luis Obispo Tree Committee was called to order on June 24, 2024 at 5:33 p.m. in the Council Hearing Room at City Hall, 990 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo, by Chair Lucas with all members present.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Public Comment:

None

--End of Public Comment--

3. CONSENT

3.a CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES - MAY 20, 2024 TREE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Motion By Vice Chair Parker

Second By Member Rosten

To approve the Tree Committee Minutes of May 20, 2024.

Ayes (7): Member Bate, Member Bonifas, Member Canella, Member Pineda, Member Rosten, Vice Chair Parker, and Chair Lucas

CARRIED (7 to 0)

4. TREE REMOVAL APPEAL

- 4.a REVIEW A TREE REMOVAL APPEAL OF THE CITY ARBORIST'S DECISION TO DENY REMOVAL OF TWO (2) SHAMEL ASH (FRAXINUS UHDEI) TREES LOCATED AT 2125 STORY STREET, IN THE PARKWAY NEAR CORNER OF SANDERCOCK AND STORY

City Arborist Walter Gault presented the staff report and responded to Committee inquiries.

Appellant representative, Sam Oakley, provided an overview of the Tree Removal Appeal and responded to questions raised.

Chair Lucas opened Public Comment

Public Comment:

None

--End of Public Comment--

Chair Lucas closed Public Comment

Motion By Member Canella

Second By Member Rosten

To approve the removal of two (2) Shamel Ash (*Fraxinus uhdei*) trees consistent with Section 12.24.090 (E)(1)(d) and (f) of the Municipal Code, with the following conditions:

- A replanting plan shall be submitted prior to removal of the two trees.
- Two (2) 24-inch box trees with a minimum height of 25 feet shall be planted in the same location as the removed trees. Recommend using structural soil and significant tree protection around the trees.
- An additional four (4) trees with a minimum height of 35 feet shall be planted at a location of the applicant's choosing on the school property.

Ayes (7): Member Bate, Member Bonifas, Member Canella, Member Pineda, Member Rosten, Vice Chair Parker, and Chair Lucas

CARRIED (7 to 0)

5. TREE REMOVAL APPLICATION

- 5.a REVIEW A TREE REMOVAL CONVENIENCE APPLICATION TO REMOVE ONE (1) LONDON PLANE TREE (PLANTANUS X ACERFOLIA) (HISPANICA) LOCATED AT 4275 POINSETTIA STREET

Vice Chair Parker declared a conflict with this item and recused as he lives within the boundary, and serves as a Board Member, on the Santa Lucia Hills Homeowners Association.

City Arborist Walter Gault presented the staff report and responded to Committee inquiries.

Applicant, Luann Cheda, provided an overview of the Tree Removal Application and responded to questions raised.

Chair Lucas opened Public Comment

Public Comment:

None

--End of Public Comment--

Chair Lucas closed Public Comment

Motion By Member Bate

Second By Member Pineda

To recommend the Community Development Director approve the Tree Removal Application to remove one (1) London Plane (Platanus X hispanica) tree. The Committee finds the removal consistent with Section 12.24.090 (G) (5) and (6), per the landscape plan submitted, with the added recommendation that drought tolerant native trees be planted.

Ayes (4): Member Bate, Member Canella, Member Rosten, and Chair Lucas

Noes (2): Member Bonifas, and Member Pineda

Recused (1): Vice Chair Parker

CARRIED (4 to 2)

6. COMMENT AND DISCUSSION

6.a ARBORIST REPORT

Urban Forest Program Coordinator / City Arborist Walter Gault provided an update of upcoming projects and activities related to the City's urban forest.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m. The next Regular Meeting of the Tree Committee is scheduled for July 22, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Hearing Room at City Hall, 990 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo.

APPROVED BY TREE COMMITTEE: XX/XX/202X