



Tree Committee Minutes

April 28, 2025, 5:30 p.m.

Council Hearing Room, 990 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo

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| Tree Committee Members Present: | Member Henry Bonifas, Member Dan Shinn, Vice Chair Ben Parker, Chair Elizabeth Lucas |
| Tree Committee Members Absent: | Member Daniel Canella, Member Charles Gerencser, Member Emily Rosten |
| City Staff Present: | Urban Forest Program Coordinator / City Arborist Walter Gault, Deputy City Clerk Kevin Christian |

1. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the San Luis Obispo Tree Committee was called to order on April 28, 2025 at 5:33 p.m. in the Council Hearing Room at City Hall, 990 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo, by Chair Lucas.

2. OATH OF OFFICE

Deputy City Clerk Kevin Christian administered the Oath of Office to Dan Shinn.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

As required by the Tree Committee Bylaws, the committee held an election for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair.

Motion By Member Bonifas

Second By Member Shinn

Motion to elect Ben Parker as Tree Committee Chair.

Ayes (4): Member Bonifas, Member Shinn, Vice Chair Parker, and Chair Lucas

Absent (3): Member Canella, Member Gerencser, and Member Rosten

CARRIED (4 to 0)

Motion By Vice Chair Parker
Second By Chair Lucas

Motion to elect Emily Rostin as Tree Committee Vice Chair.

Ayes (4): Member Bonifas, Member Shinn, Vice Chair Parker, and Chair Lucas

Absent (3): Member Canella, Member Gerencser, and Member Rosten

CARRIED (4 to 0)

4. PRESENTATION

Urban Forest Program Coordinator / City Arborist, Walter Gault, provided a presentation on the Brown Act and Robert's Rules of Order.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Public Comment:

Fitzgerald Kelly

Lindsey Hiber

--End of Public Comment--

6. CONSENT

6.a CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES - MARCH 24, 2025, TREE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Motion By Member Shinn

Second By Member Bonifas

To approve the Tree Committee Minutes of March 24, 2025.

Ayes (4): Member Bonifas, Member Shinn, Member Lucas, and Chair Parker

Absent (3): Member Canella, Member Gerencser, and Member Rosten

CARRIED (4 to 0)

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.a 2025 ENGINEERING STANDARDS UPDATE, STREET TREES MAJOR LIST (8020)

Urban Forest Program Coordinator / City Arborist Walter Gault provided a review of tree related Engineering Standard modifications discussed to date, presented a report on possible additional recommendations, and responded to Committee questions.

Public Comment:

Fitzgerald Kelly
Lindsey Hiber

--End of Public Comment--

Motion By Chair Lucas
Second By Member Shinn

Motion to recommend approval of the updates to the 2025 Engineering Standards, Street Trees Major List (8020) as presented.

Ayes (4): Member Bonifas, Member Shinn, Member Lucas, and Chair Parker

Absent (3): Member Canella, Member Gerencser, and Member Rosten

CARRIED (4 to 0)

8. COMMENT AND DISCUSSION

8.a ARBORIST REPORT

Urban Forest Program Coordinator / City Arborist Walter Gault provided an update of upcoming projects and activities in the Tree Division and responded to Committee inquiries.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m. The next Special Meeting of the Tree Committee is scheduled for May 19, 2025 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