

Alameda County Public Works Agency
Tree Advisory Board Meeting
Wednesday, February 23, 2011
Public Works Building, 951 Turner Ct, Hayward
Conference Room 230

MINUTES

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Inta Brainerd

CALL TO ORDER: The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

- I. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

- II. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None

- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes from November 17, 2010 approved.

- IV. **FOLLOW-UP ITEMS:**
 - **Fines Report:** No information received from Fiscal Department.

- V. **HEARINGS:**

2019 Altamont Rd., San Lorenzo - Appeal

Ms. Cavanaugh first applied for a permit to prune her tree in 2001. A permit was issued with the condition that the tree was to be pruned in accordance with ISA guidelines. Upon post inspection it was noted that the tree had been topped in half. In July of 2006 the Public Works Agency received an incomplete permit application from Ms. Cavanaugh requesting removal of the tree. The permit was missing the permit application fee, contractor information and an appropriate replacement tree. Ms. Cavanaugh was notified of the incomplete permit and she decided that she did not want to replace the tree. She was advised that her permit would be denied if she refused to

plant a replacement tree. The denied permit and appeals information was sent to her on October 12, 2006. Ms. Cavanaugh called to inquire about removing the tree on November 30, 2010 and she was advised to write a letter of appeal to the Tree Advisory Board so a recommendation could be made to the Director of Public Works. Ms. Cavanaugh states that the 100 foot tall Redwood tree is causing damage to the driveway and the roots are getting close to the foundation of her home. The roots are also causing damage to her sewer lines and costing her considerable amounts of money, \$5000 to replace the sewer line to the house. Branches have also damaged the neighbor's car. Ms. Cavanaugh is concerned that someone could be injured just by walking under the tree. At this point Ms. Cavanaugh is willing to plant a replacement tree.

Dan moves that the County approve a permit with a replacement tree to be planted in the Right of Way if space exists to be determined by the County Arborist and be rep by a tree approved by the County Arborist. If not enough space exists in the Right of Way or the front yard, then options will be examined to plant a protected tree on the property.

Don Seconds the motion.

Motion approved unanimously.

1202 Via Los Trancos, San Lorenzo

It was reported that a tree was removed from this location. Upon inspection it was noted that a Carolina Cherry tree had been removed and no permits were issued for the work. The owner previously requested a permit application. The application was mailed on July 6, 2004 but was never submitted. Alan, a relative, called on behalf of the owners to report that the tree was removed because it was causing damage to a car. He also indicated that the tree was removed because it was leaning, had exposed roots and that a branch had previously fallen, causing damage to a car. He also indicated that the contractor told him no permits were required because the tree was not a sycamore and the diameter of the tree was less than 12". The County has not received a call back with the contractor information. The contractor was paid cash with not receipt. Dan pointed out that the lean was corrective and the tree was not ailing. Don questioned the loss of value.

Kathie motioned \$250 loss of value, \$100 work without a permit, and a 15 gallon replacement from the list of approved trees.

Don Nelson motioned \$1000 loss of value, \$100 work without a permit, and a 15 gallon replacement from the list of approved trees. No second.

First motion moved and seconded. Don Nelson opposed.

16145 Via Andetta, San Lorenzo

It was reported that a tree was topped at this location. Upon inspection it was noted that an Albizia tree had been topped and no permits were issued for the work. The owner reported that he did not know permits were required. He first topped the tree in 1997. Since then the tree has dropped two 17' long limbs on both the street side and house side. Prior to purchasing the house the neighbors had been trimming the tree. Dan explained topping and why it is not appropriate, and recommends removal and replacement. Dee recommends \$100 fine for work without permit. Don S. assess value less than tree not diseased.

Don Nelson motions to fine \$100 for work without permit and tree to be removed and replaced. Dan questions size of replacement. Kathie adds 24" boxed size requirement, medium list mutually agreed upon.

Dee seconded.

Kathie adds that work must be done this spring within 90 days.

Motion passed unanimously.

16114 Via Pinale, San Lorenzo

It was reported that a tree was removed from this location. Upon inspection it was noted that a Liquidambar tree had been removed and no permits were issued for the work. The owner reported that the tree had caused severe sidewalk damage, had been dropping limbs and children had been injured.

Dee motions to fine \$100 for work without a permit and the tree is to be replaced with a 24" boxed London Plane tree.

Don Sheppard seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

VI. Other: No comments.

VII. Wrap up and Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.