



Public Works Department

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE TREE COMMITTEE

Monday March 9, 2015 7:00 p.m.
El Cerrito City Hall
Hillside Conference Room
10890 San Pablo Avenue

1. Roll Call :

Present: Vice Chair Cathy Bleier, Members Ralph Boniello, Sheauching Cheng, Karen Christian, Mike Srago

Staff Liaison Stephen Prée was also present

Absent: Chair Janet Hittle, members Michael Charlton, Steve Price

2. Comments from the Public on non agenda items:

El Cerrito resident Yan Linhart introduced himself and expressed interest in the activities of the committee as a potential future member. Vice Chair Bleier described the process for appointment to the tree committee.

3. Report from the City Council Liaison:

Councilmember Bridges was not in attendance

4. Report from the City Arborist

Prée described and showed electronic photos of the Arbor Week Tree Circus Event and the recent wood milling work at Poinsett Park. He also gave an update on the San Pablo Avenue Green Spine Project (SPAG) design comments submitted by the City including the recommendation by the tree committee to include mitigation plantings to offset the removal of mature trees and the City's recommendation to increase available soil volume in the tree planting areas. Prée reported that the Manilla Avenue Paving Rehabilitation project will increase the number of mitigation tree planting from 26 to 30 new trees and distributed revised project plans including three years of watering.

Action: Boniello made a motion supporting the City Arborist's recommendation that the SPAG project manager increase soil volume in the tree planter; Cheng second, passed unanimously.

5. Action Items:

The Committee adopted the minutes from the February 9, 2015 with an amendments by Srago, Bleier, and Christian. Motion by Boniello, second Srago, passed unanimously.

6. Revised Draft City Tree List

Boniello updated the committee on the progress made to date by the ad-hoc subcommittee members; the sub-committee's work on the list is anticipated to be completed by the April Tree Committee meeting.

7. El Cerrito Arbor Week March 7-14, 2015

Prée reported (earlier) on the March 4 Tree Circus progress and Bleier reported on the upcoming event plans for Cerrito Vista Park planting with the Prospect Sierra Middle School on March 11. Bleier asked if committee members were available to help; Boniello, Christian, and Srago volunteered.

8. Calendar of Events and Work Plan Update

Discussion of upcoming events including Earth Day

Action: Boniello made a motion for the Tree Committee to organize a City Earth Day Event at the Avila Street tree planting sit, Christian second unanimously approved.

9. Committee Recruitment

Deferred to next meeting

10. Announcements and Future Agenda Items:

- Earth Day- April 18
- Hillside Natural Area Festival- May 17
- Recruitment
- Tree List
- Arbor Week Update
- Approved City Tree List ad-hoc subcommittee update
- Work Plan

11. Adjournment