Tree Committee Members:
Edie Kausch - Chair
Scott Freeland – Vice Chair
Carol Troy
Connie Kay
Susan Allen-Alternate
Joan Westgate-Alternate

MINUTES
ST. HELENA TREE COMMITTEE
ST. HELENA CITY HALL, CONFERENCE ROOM
1480 MAIN STREET, ST. HELENA
Regular Meeting – Thursday, May 12, 2016
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

1. **ROLL CALL @ time: 3:32 pm**

Present: Scott Freeland, Edie Kausch, Susan Allen, Carol Kay arrival at 3:48 pm

Absent: Connie Kay, Joan Westgate

Staff: Maintenance Manager Carlos Uribe, City Arborist Jim Haller, Public Works Admin Chrissy Cook

PUBLIC FORUM: An opportunity for the public to directly address the Committee on items of interest to the public that are not listed on the agenda. Any person addressing the Committee should provide his or her name and address, and limit comments to five minutes. **Because of restrictions imposed by the Brown Act, the Committee may not engage in substantive discussion, nor take action on matters not described on the agenda.**

Committee action: No comments from public.

REPORTS BY STAFF AND COMMITTEE: Reports by staff and/or committee on items of general interest. ***Brief questions for clarification may be posed and answered, and Committee may request that items be placed on a future agenda. Except under certain circumstances, the Brown Act prohibits any other discussion or action by the Tree Committee.***

- Arborist Jim Haller reported Heritage Tree pruning to begin next month(June) or later in May.
- Question by Eddie Kaush to Arborist regarding, the health of a Chinese pistache located in the rear of the property at 1399 Railroad ave. The tree is on private property.
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2. **CONSENT CALENDAR:** Members of the Tree Committee or the public may ask that any items be considered individually for purposes of considering alternative action, for extended discussion, or for public comment. Unless that is done, on motion may be used to adopt all recommendation actions.

A. Tree Committee Regular Meeting Minutes of April 14, 2016.
Action
Committee member Kausch motioned to approve seconded by Allen and approved (3-0).

3. **PERMITS TO BE REVIEWED:**

A. 1337 Allyn Avenue. Remove southward facing lower branch and small completely dead branch nearby of Elm tree with lower branch mostly in front of 1329 Allyn Avenue. Branch is too low and also obscures light from street lamp. Work will be performed by a certified arborist.

Public comment: Representative from 1329 Allyn Avenue, Alan Galbraith concerned for the tree branch after a moving van ran into it, and confirming that the light obscured the street light. Eddie Kausch commented work must be completed by end of May 2016.

Committee member Kausch motioned to approve permit application, seconded by Allen, and approved (3-0).

B. 100 Pratt to 859 Pratt Ave Steve Taylor Excavation Inc. fbo of AT&T to trim trees from existing telephone lines for new fiber placement.

Committee member Freeland motioned to approve permit application, seconded by Allen, and approved (3-0).

4. **SCHEDULED MATTERS:**

A. Presentation: PG&E Community Pipeline Safety Initiative, by Mark Van Gorder and Darin Cline, Local Government Relations Representatives.

Committee Action: No action. 20 minutes

PG&E representatives explained the program and how it works to maintain vegetation clear from the pipeline and return at a later date with data points for which specific city trees are potentially impacted.

B. Report: City Arborist to report on non-leafing elms in the "Tree tunnel".

Committee Action: No action. 10 minutes

Jim Haller trees to be planted as time permits.

C. **Discussion**: Thank you to Mr. Peter Mennen for efforts in Re-Oaking St. Helena.

Committee Action: No action. 10 minutes Tree Committee to write a letter to Peter Mennen and submit to the St Helena Star thanking him for his efforts in Re-Oaking St Helena.

D. Discussion: Streetscapes, IE: Scott Street, change of homeownership, trees not being replaced, how to make new homeowners aware of mitigated trees on their property.

Committee No action: Action. 10 minutes

No action because no motion was made. Discussed to have owner made aware and add it as an item to be disclosed on home purchase agreement. Tree Committee to reach out to Planning department for information and conditions regarding ability to enforce tree mitigation on such properties.

E. Consideration and approval of adding 6 new alternative tree varietals to the Main St. tree list.

1. **Crataegus phaenopyrum:Washington Hawthorn**
2. **Ginko bilboa'Autumn Gold': 'Autumn Gold' Maidenhair Tree**
3. **Carpinus betulus: European Hornbeam**
4. **Ulmnus parvifolia: Chinese Elm**
5. **Carpinus betulus 'Fastigata': European Hornbea**
6. **Acer rubrum: Red Maple**

Committee Action: Approve list. 10 minutes

Committee member Kausch motioned to approve seconded by Allen, and approved (4-0).

F. Discussion: City Arborist to compile a citywide list of non-replaced tree and reach out to homeowners.

Committee Action: No action. 10 minutes

5. TENTATIVE AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

- Thank you card for Peter Mennen
- Report from City Arborist Haller to get City ROW on Railroad Av. Across from Fire Department.
- Find out recourse for item F.

ADJOURNMENT: Adjourn at 5:01 pm.

APPROVED:

Edie Kausch, Chair

ATTEST:

Maintenance Manager, Carlos Uribe