

Tree Committee Members:

Susann Ortega-Acting Chair
Susan Allen
Kellie Carlin
Edie Kausch
Carol Troy

MINUTES
ST. HELENA TREE COMMITTEE
ST. HELENA CITY HALL, CONFERENCE ROOM
1480 MAIN STREET, ST. HELENA
Thursday, April 24, 2013 Special
3:00 pm

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Susann Ortega, Kellie Carlin, Edie Kausch, Carol Troy, Susan Allen;
Staff: John Ferons;

3. PUBLIC FORUM: None

3. SCHEDULED MATTERS:

A. Discussion of proposed revisions to amend Chapter 12.24 "Trees and other Vegetation" of the St. Helena Municipal Code to further protect trees within the community:

Mayor Nevero spoke, a succinct, reasonable ordinance is more likely to draw support from the public and the council than the 19-page proposal that was rejected last year, said Nevero. Once it's in place, the committee could always try to augment it later, she said. "Simple is better," Nevero told the committee, adding that their last attempt was sunk by "a visceral reaction to too much restriction."

Members of the committee agreed that the next ordinance they put before the council should be shorter, simpler and less restrictive than the proposal that was harshly criticized by property rights advocates last year.

The committee discussed regulations and possible tree diameters, to be defined at a later date, requiring property owners to get a city permit before cutting down any healthy tree.

The new ordinance would be less restrictive than ones adopted by communities in Sonoma and Marin counties

7. TENTATIVE AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

A

8. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion carried to adjourn to a regular meeting of the Tree Committee in the main conference room of City Hall located at 1480 Main Street, St. Helena, CA., May 9, 2013 at 3:00 pm.

Approve as discussed Edie and Kellie