# SAUSALITO TREES & VIEWS COMMITTEE Monday, February 10, 2014 Draft Summary Minutes

#### **Call to Order**

Chair Bickford called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 420 Litho Street, Sausalito.

Present:

Chair Mary Lee Bickford, Vice-Chair Betsy Elliott, Committee Member

Peter Montagne, Committee Member Tom Wilhite

Committee Member Ellen Rosenstein

Absent: Staff:

Administrative Analyst Lilly Schinsing

Chair Bickford indicated that because there were four Committee members present at the meeting any tie vote would be considered a denial, therefore the option to continue the item to a meeting when a full committee would be presented.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Vice-Chair Elliott moved and Committee Member Montagne seconded a motion to approve the agenda. The motion passed 4-0.

**Public Comments of Items Not on Agenda** None.

## **Approval of Minutes**

December 2, 2013

Vice-Chair Elliott moved and Committee Member Wilhite seconded a motion to approve the summary minutes of December 2, 2013. The motion passed 4-0.

## **Public Hearings**

1. TRP 14-016, Tree Removal Permit, Flynn, 88 Central Avenue. Tree Removal Permit to allow the removal of two Coast Live Oak trees and a Pittosporum tree located at 88 Central Avenue (APN 065-202-07).

The public hearing was opened.

Administrative Analyst Schinsing proved a PowerPoint presentation.

Committee questions for staff followed.

• Do the replacement trees have to be the same kind as the trees removed, or can they be any kind? Staff responded the standard condition is that the property owner is able to choose the type of replacement tree, however the Trees & Views Committee may require a specific tree for the site.

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48 49 50 The public testimony period was opened.

The applicant, Keith Plymale, made a presentation.

Committee questions for Mr. Plymale followed:

Are these trees infected to the point that they are affecting the structures in a threatening way? Mr. Plymale responded the arborist's report indicated there is some active and some old decay. The Pittosporum is becoming an issue because the bark is being cut by the 2x8 holding up the entry gate and stair. The oak is adjacent to the structure and has decay between the two stems.

The public testimony period was closed.

#### Committee comments followed:

- Based on the arborist's report and photographs presented by the applicant it is apparent that the trees should be removed and replaced for the safety of the structures and people. The replacement trees should be at the owner's discretion.
- Trees #1 and #2 are damaging the house, there is danger of Tree #1 falling. and the tree in the back yard could potentially hurt someone if it falls.
- The third oak tree is in decay and will weaken as time goes on, especially because it is top heavy, and so danger of it falling and hurting someone increases as time goes on.
- The oak tree in the front is causing property damage as well being unhealthy.
- It is appreciated that the property owners wish to replace the oaks with more coast live oaks.
- To plant a new coast live oak is inviting Sudden Oak Death. Until there is a cure, it would be best to plant other oaks that are not susceptible to SOD.

Vice-Chair Elliott moved and Committee Member Montagne seconded a motion to approve a Tree Removal Permit for 88 Central Avenue, subject to the following additional Condition of Approval:

There shall be a preference that the replacement trees be oaks.

The motion passed 4-0.

The public hearing was closed.

#### **Old Business**

2. Tree Tip of the Month. Discussion of the February Tree Tip of the Month.

Administrative Analyst Schinsing provided a presentation.

Committee comments followed:

The Committee agreed by consensus to approve the February Tree Tip of the Month.

### **New Business**

**3. Street Tree List.** Discussion of edits to the Department of Public Works' Street Tree List.

Administrative Analyst Schinsing proved a presentation.

Committee comments followed.

#### **Staff Communications**

 The Tree Tip of the Month for March 2014 will be written by Committee Member Montagne. The Tree Tip of the Month for April 2014 will be written by Vice-Chair Elliott.

#### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Submitted by
Lilly Schinsing
Administrative Analyst

Approved by Chair Mary Lee Bickford