

MINUTES
CITY OF PETALUMA, CA
TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, January 21st, 2009, 3:30 pm
CONFERENCE ROOM 3 - PETALUMA COMMUNITY CENTER
320 North McDowell Blvd. Petaluma, CA 94954
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Roll Call:

Members: Ferguson, Norman, *Scaccalosi, Sullivan, Wilson
***Chairperson**

Staff: DeNicola, Lanusse

PUBLIC COMMENT: Jason Sweeney from the Southern Sonoma County Resource Conservation District gave a speech about what they do and asked for ideas regarding Adobe Creek re-vegetation and the working with the neighborhoods. This organization began in 2006 and is funded through the water agency for management for flood control and native habitats. A major concern was vandalism during the establishment period.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes from November 2008 meeting in section IV regarding TAC goals for Council report. It should be moved to section II 150 trees grant and read "Norman will make a presentation tonight on the 150 Tree Grant Planting Day".

OLD BUSINESS

I. Grants- Norman and DeNicola The State has frozen all funds, but the Tree inventory Grant is still something the TAC would like to pursue, because it will inevitably help for future funding down the line. DeNicola said that the GIS department is understaffed. There was talk about volunteering to assist with the data layer.

II. 150 Trees Grant- The state has frozen all funds, so the tree planting is stalled until the state passes the budget.

III. Update on Interim Tree Code- This will be changed to Tree Preservation Ordinance. The T.P.O. is part of the Interim Zoning Ordinance (I.Z.O.). Currently the draft development code gets input from the public, then council, then will be approved for its final version. The Tree Tech manual stands on its own and it is in draft format. It will probably go to the TAC. We are currently using Windsor's code.

IV. TAC Goals for Council Report- Scaccalosi will review his presentation, and we will set up a date and time for his council report.

V. Heritage Trees- DeNicola reports that George White's staff will process the application when time allows due to limited staff and that there is no revenue for his department with the application.

VI. Arbor Day- Scaccalosi and Lanusse reported that all went well with the Garden Club and Scout troop. They planted two 15 gallon red maples at Luchessi park. They were then staked the next day. Refreshments and cookies were served following the planting at the Senior Center. Don Streeper from the senior center attended, and Terresa Barrett from Council attended as well. Another one will be scheduled in the coming months for either California's Arbor Day or Earth Day.

VII. Street Tree List- Lanusse passed around the top page of the tree list so the TAC can eliminate categories for the final version of the tree list.

NEW BUSINESS

COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS:

Sullivan- Bloggers on Petaluma 360 brought up issues of Trees at Kohl's. Are Oaks in the right place? Also, trees in the theatre district are a concern. Will those raise the sidewalk? Discussion regarding chain of command and how City of Petaluma responds was detailed. Complaints should go through departments, not blogs, to be dealt with.

Norman- Tree technical manual is done, but draft form is still in draft form and may go to TAC. Please add to agenda. A tree seminar is coming up in Berkeley February 19, 2009.

Ferguson- Reports that he is no longer the commissioner delegated to the TAC. Also, there is no new commissioner assign to the TAC.

LIAISON REPORTS:

STAFF REPORTS:

PENDING FUTURE ITEMS:

1. Tree Brochures
2. Depot Palms
3. Sunnyslope Development- With Existing Trees

ADJOURNMENT: 17:15

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