

BURLINGAME BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION
Draft Minutes February 7, 2019

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Beautification Commission was called to order at 6:30 pm by Commission Chair Kirchner.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Hinckle, Dinuri, Kirchner and Kearney
Absent: Commissioner Hunt
Staff: Parks Superintendent/City Arborist Disco and Recording Secretary Borba
Others: None

MINUTES

Commissioner Hinckle reported two corrections to the December minutes. Under Commissioner Rotation the word “enjoy” should read “enjoys” and due to the cancellation of the January meeting the next scheduled meeting should read February 7, 2019. Commissioner Kirchner made a motion to approve the December 6, 2018 minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hinckle and unanimously approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

Secretary Borba reminded the Commissioners that Form 700 is due to the City Clerk by April 1, 2019 and that Arbor Day is Thursday, March 7 at 10:30 am at the Washington Park Tennis Courts.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

OLD BUSINESS

1. Business Landscape Award – Decals Presented to Past Business Landscape Winners and Update

Secretary Borba printed out the decals for past winners and it was decided by the Commissioners to look into the cost of having them professionally printed for better quality printing. Commissioner Dinuri provided the Commissioners with an updated timeline and nomination form. Secretary Borba reported a link to the registration form will be in the Recreation Brochure.

2. Residential Sustainable Landscape Award Update

Commissioner Dinuri handed out an updated timeline and nomination form.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion on Allowing Tree Removals for Solar Panels

City Arborist Disco presented to the Commissioners some challenges regarding solar panel installation on the roofs of homes. He reported in the last couple years he has received several requests for City Trees to be trimmed for clearance for solar panel use. He stated that he would inspect the trees for trim needs after a permit was issued from the City for solar panel installation. Arborist Disco stated he now has a request for a removal of a private tree for solar panel installation. The solar panel company is recommending tree removal to receive the maximum benefits of the solar panels. Arborist Disco would like to develop a procedure or policy to address solar panel installation in regards to tree trimming or removal of City or Private trees. After some discussion by the Commissioners on trees verses solar panels a subcommittee was established to research further on this subject. Commissioner Dinuri and Kirchner will report back to the Commissions.

REPORTS

1. Parks Superintendent/City Arborist

City Arborist Disco stated Arbor Day will be on Thursday, March 7, 2019 at Washington Park Tennis Court. It will be the 40th year of the ‘Tree City USA’ distinction. He also reported that a Eucalyptus tree will be removed at 1273 El Camino Real due to the replacement of an electrical pole. Caltrans

and PG&E are working together to coordinate the removal. Arborist Disco met with PG&E regarding trimming the Eucalyptus trees on the side of the street where the trees are over the high power wires on Easton Drive. He also stated the City Tree Contractor, Timberline will be trimming Eucalyptus trees on the 1700 block of Easton Drive in the next couple weeks along with some Liquidambar.

2. Commissioner Hunt

None

3. Commissioner Hinckle

None

4. Commissioner Kirchner

Commissioner Kirchner stated the website states you can request a street tree be planted at your address. Arborist Disco responded the City plants one 15 gallon tree at each address at no charge. He also stated on the Burlingame website under Beautification Commission the description needs to be updated.

5. Commissioner Kearney

None

6. Commissioner Dinuri

Commissioner Dinuri inquired if there were any tree issues during the recent storms. Arborist Disco responded in the first wave of storms the City lost four small trees and a large Eucalyptus limb on Drake that took out power lines, a few small limbs and a few private trees. The City Tree Crew was out through the night responding. During the last storm a private tree at the top of Trousdale fell and blocked three lanes of traffic. The City Tree Crew cleared the hazard and the property owners were billed for the City Tree Crews time. Arborist Disco stated overall the City fared very well.

The next Beautification Commission meeting is March 7, 2019. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina Borba
Administrative Staff