

**CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES – May 11, 2017**

Roll Call – The meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Commissioners: Chair William Kelly, Vice-Chair Al Benzoni, Kay Findley, Noah Puni, and Nancy Wilms. Absent were Commissioners Stephen Leider, and Daniel Snowden-Ifft. Also present was Staff Liaison Jenna Shimmin. Council Liaison Dr. Schneider, and Student Commissioner Hailey Bugg were absent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. **Tree Removal Request, follow up hearing for 1920 Edgewood Drive (Shimmin – [REDACTED])** (property owner) briefly discussed the findings of his second arborist's opinion, which essentially found the same as the original report. He also noted that it was determined that the branches weren't growing correctly, which was causing some of the issues with the tree not being balanced if trimmed drastically. He also mentioned that he used Williams Sewer Line Inspectors to have hydrojetting done, which found leaks in his sewer lines near the roots of the oak tree. From this inspection it was determined that extensive repairs would need to be done, and they would most likely damage the tree roots in a very detrimental way to the tree's health.

It is of note that Tree #1 is closest to the house, and Tree #2 is the one with the substantial branch damage.

There was discussion to verify how many trees are required for the replacement plan, and it was determined that 12 are required.

A motion was made to grant permission to remove Tree #1, as it is causing issues per municipal code section 34.7.1 (Benzoni, Wilms, Favor: 5, Against: 0).

A motion was made to grant permission to remove Tree #2 on the condition that as many replacement trees as possible are planted on the property in order to provide similar aesthetics to the neighborhood as exist with the current trees (Wilms, Puni, Favor: 5, Against: 0).

INFORMATION ONLY

2. **Upcoming Events** – Water 101 at Upper District – May 16th and a Renewable Energy Council Meeting – May 16th, Mulch & Compost Giveaway Event – June 10th.

Chair Communications – Appreciated being sent the LA Time article regarding the health of trees in our area.

Commission Communications –

Commission Findley – Mentioned that it would be best, going forward, to have the City's arborist, as well as the resident's arborist present at tree hearings. This way the commission can ask questions of the experts.

Commissioner Benzoni – Agreed to help review Chair Kelly’s draft tree removal procedures.

Adjournment – Commissioner Benzoni motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m., Commissioner Findley seconded. Ayes: All, Nays: None.

NEXT MEETING – The next meeting of the Natural Resources and Environmental Commission will be held on May 23, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.



William Kelly, Chair