

**ALAMEDA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY
TREE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

Wednesday, November 15, 2006.

Public Works Building, 951 Turner Court, Hayward
Conference Room 230

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair, Kathie Ready; Vice-Chair, Don Sheppard; Donald G. Nelson; Dan Gallagher

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dee McDonough

OTHERS PRESENT: Inta Brainerd; Greg Hilst; Steve Jones; Jim Tarantino; Deputy Director, Rick Ruiz; Angela Leddell; and Alisa Pisciotto (appellant)

CALL TO ORDER: The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT: – None

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Dee McDonough, TAB member, will not attend today's meeting as she indicated at the retreat.
- The Property Owner at 15894 Via Conejo called to request his hearing be postponed due to a family emergency. Hearing postponed to February 21, 2007.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: -- August 16, 2006.

Mr. Don Nelson motioned to approve the minutes of August 16, 2006. Ms. Kathie Ready seconded. Motion carried 4/0/1 with Ms. Dee McDonough excused.

IV. TAB RETREAT FOLLOW UP:

Staff provided TAB members with written copies of the Mission Statement, meeting procedures, and a meeting schedule that was developed at the TAB retreat. Members agreed to adhere to the meeting schedule, accepted the established meeting procedures and mission statement outlined at the retreat.

VI. APPEALS:

5580 Coldwater Drive, Castro Valley

Staff explained that Ms. Alisa Pisciotto's permit application to remove a Redwood tree(s) from the right-of-way adjacent to her home was denied because the tree(s) was healthy and did not qualify for removal under the provisions of the ordinance.

Ms. Alisa Pisciotto, property owner, introduced and discussed pictures of the tree(s) and explained that she felt she should be allowed to remove the tree(s) because it was located over her gas line, PG&E had to trim the tree, may cause sidewalk problems in the future, and could potentially fall onto her home.

Ms. Pisciotto's arborist identified the Redwood tree as three trees instead of one multi-trunked tree. Staff also considered the three-trunked Redwood tree to actually be three individual trees with two of them located in the ROW. Therefore, Alameda County would only have jurisdiction over two trees located in the right-of-way. The right-of-way must be restored to its' original condition or better and staff asked the TAB to consider the quality of the replacement trees and whether or not one or two should be planted.

RECOMMENDATION:

Mr. Don G. Nelson motioned to approve her appeal and allow for removal of the tree(s) based on the evidence provided by Ms. Pisciotto. Dan Gallagher amended the motion requiring the owner to remove and replace the Redwoods with two 24 inch boxed *Cercis occidentalis* in the County's right-of-way. Kathie Ready seconded. The TAB members amended the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

VII. FOLLOW UP ITEMS:

- Sidewalk program coordinator explained sidewalk repair procedures and answered questions relating to programs and repairs.
- There is a \$100.00 outstanding violation, and it has been sent to collections.

VIII. JANUARY WORK SESSION:

- Date set for January 17, 2007.
- Staff will request copies of tree ordinances and manuals from Palo Alto and Fremont for the Board to review. The County would like to establish a procedures tree manual for reference and to supplement the tree ordinance.

IX: OTHER:

- Kathie Ready reminds Board members of several meeting procedure guidelines.
- Kathie also reminded staff that minutes should include the name of the person making a motion, who seconded the motion and the outcome.

X: WRAP UP AND ADJOURN: There being no further business, Chair Kathie Ready moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:24 p.m., Vice-Chair Dan Gallagher seconded the motion. The motion was carried 4/0/1 with Ms. Dee McDonough excused.