

**CITY OF LOS BANOS
TREE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 10, 2021**

**ACTION MINUTES – These minutes are prepared to depict
action taken for agenda items presented to the
Tree Commission.**

Special Note – This meeting was held by teleconference due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Kaljian called the Tree Commission Meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Lieb led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL – MEMBERS OF THE TREE COMMISSION PRESENT: Heaton, Kaljian, Lieb, Ramos.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Public Works Director/City Engineer Fachin, Assistant Public Works Director Pezeshk, Parks and Recreation Operations Manager Heim, Administrative Coordinator de Melo.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Lieb, seconded by Kaljian to approve the agenda as submitted. The motion carried by the affirmative vote of all Tree Commission Members present.

NOMINATION AND SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR 2021: Motion by Lieb, seconded by Heaton to approve Ramos for Chair and Kaljian for Vice Chair. The motion carried by the affirmative vote of all Tree Commission Members present. Chairperson Ramos led the rest of the meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE ACTION MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 12, 2020: Motion by Lieb seconded by Kaljian to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion carried by the affirmative vote of all Tree Commission Members present.

PUBLIC FORUM: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ADDRESS THE COUNCIL ON ANY ITEM OF PUBLIC INTEREST THAT IS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE CITY; INCLUDES AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS. NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS. DETAILED GUIDELINES ARE POSTED ON THE COUNCIL CHAMBER INFORMATIONAL TABLE. No one came forward to speak, Secretary de Melo stated she had received no comments, and the Public Forum was closed.

PARKS & RECREATION OPERATION MANAGERS REPORT: Parks and Recreation Operations Manager Heim reported that we plan on celebrating Arbor Day virtually this year. We are currently looking for a business and a residence to give tree awards to. Operation Manager Heim also discussed the status of the Urban Forest Management Plan.

ACTING PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR/CITY ENGINEER REPORT: Acting Public Works Director/City Engineer reported that we are re-starting our commercial landscape inspections. We have revamped the process and have made it more organized and efficient. As time goes on, he will report back to the commission on the progress we have made on these inspections. We still have one vacancy on this commission. The deadline to apply is next Friday. Commissioner Lieb stated he would like the commercial landscape rules and expectations listed somewhere on the City's website. Chairperson Ramos agreed. Acting Director/City Engineer Pezeshk stated that the Conditions of Approval for each business is different, so it's not one size fits all, but we can post the general requirements on the website. Our website is going to be under construction in the upcoming weeks.

COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS:

HEATON: Has noticed mistletoe growing in the trees in Pacheco Park. Wants to know if the tree inventory plan will identify this? Operations Manager Heim will confirm with Plan-it Geo.

KALJIAN: Excited that we are getting back into the commercial landscape inspections. Is concerned about the 50% shade canopy not being enforced.

LIEB: His pet-peeve is seeing tree stumps around town without new trees replacing them. He is interested in seeing in the tree report, where all these stumps are located and in which landscape and lighting districts, so we can come up with a plan to replace them. Suggested we take pictures or video of City replacing them so that residents can see the types of things their landscape and lighting district funds are being used for. When will the Dog Park open? Operations Manager Heim stated he wants to make sure the turf has a good root system and a few minor repairs and signage to take care of before it can open, but it will be in the near future. Asked the status of the Pacheco Park Grant. Operations Manager said we were not previously award this grant, but we are re-applying for the next round of funding, and the due date is March 12th. Commissioner Lieb asked about the trees at the corner of Hwy 165 and B Street. Operations Manager Heim stated those trees were diseased, so we will be replacing them and upgrading that area with new landscaping.

RAMOS: Asked about the landscape at the new subdivision at the end of Overland Ave. and if there will be any parks put in that subdivision. Acting Director/City Engineer Pezeshk said he would look at the improvement plans and send them.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at the hour of 5:56 p.m.

APPROVED:

Chairperson Ramos

ATTEST:

Jelene de Melo, Secretary