City of Los Banos
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AGENDA

TREE COMMISSION MEETING

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
520 J Street
Los Banos, California

February 14, 2024
5:00 P.M.

If you require special assistance to attend or participate in this meeting, please call the City Clerk's Office @ (209) 827-7000 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

The City of Los Banos complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.

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Si requiere asistencia especial para atender o participar en esta junta por favor llame a la oficina de la Secretaria de la ciudad al (209) 827-7000 a lo menos de 48 horas previas de la junta.

La Cuidad de Los Banos cumple con la Acta de Americanos con Deshabilidad (ADA) de 1990.

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Tree Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the meeting and in the City Clerk's office located at City Hall, 520 J Street, Los Banos, California during normal business hours. In addition, such writings and documents may be posted on the City's website at www.losbanos.org

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Cualquier escritura o los documentos proporcionaron a una mayoria de la Tree Commission con respecto a cualquier articulo en este orden del dia será hecho disponible para la inspección pública en la reunión y en la oficina del City Clerk del City Hall, 520 J Street, Los Banos, California durante horas de oficina normales. Además, tales escrituras y los documentos

1. CALL TO ORDER. **5:00 PM**

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

3. ROLL CALL:

   Kaljian ___, Byers ___, Accardo ___

4. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

   Recommendation: Approve the agenda as submitted.

5. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE ACTION MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF November 8, 2023.
   Recommendation: Approve the minutes as submitted.

6. PUBLIC FORUM. (Members of the public may address the Tree Commission on any item of public interest that is within the jurisdiction of the Tree Commission; includes agenda and non-agenda items. No action will be taken on non-agenda items. Speakers are limited to a five (5) minute presentation. Detailed guidelines are posted on the Council Chamber informational table).

7. PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT.

8. COMMISSIONER REPORTS.

   A. Accardo
   B. Kaljian
   C. Byers

9. ADJOURNMENT.

I hereby certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California, that the foregoing agenda was posted on the City Hall bulletin board not less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Marisol Calderon

Marisol Calderon, Secretary

Dated this 7th day of February, 2024

CITY OF LOS BANOS
TREE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
November 8, 2023

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

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Ramos called the Tree Commission Meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

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

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

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Parks and Recreation Interim Director Heim and Administrative Coordinator Calderon.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Approval of the Agenda was motioned by Kaljian, seconded by Lieb. The motion carried by the affirmative vote of all Tree Commission Members present.

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE ACTION MINUTES FOR THE MEETING of May 10, 2023: Motion by Lieb, seconded by Ramos 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 TREE COMMISSION ON ANY ITEM OF PUBLIC INTEREST THAT IS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE TREE COMMISSION; INCLUDES AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS. NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS. SPEAKERS ARE LIMITED TO A FIVE (5) MINUTE PRESENTATION. DETAILED GUIDELINES ARE POSTED ON THE COUNCIL CHAMBER INFORMATIONAL TABLE. Administrative Coordinator Calderon stated no comments were received and the Public Forum was closed.

INTERIM PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Interim Parks & Recreation Director Heim introduced new staff member Marisol Calderon, Administrative Coordinator, which is a new position with the Parks and Recreation Department. Heim also introduced himself to Mary Accardo, he stated he has been with City of Los Banos for 5 years now and his office is located at the Community Center. Heim stated he is currently looking for a 5th member for the tree commission and the recruitment has been posted online. Heim spoke about the new on-call tree service companies, A Plus, West Coast Arborists, and Ronny's Landscaping. He stated they began work in the Presidential neighborhoods, including 6th street, 7th street, Washington, Adams, Jefferson, and Madison. Heim reported another company will be starting Monday and will begin work on 4th street and some of the state streets,

such as, Illinois, Nevada, California, and Arizona. Heim stated he has spoken to the city manager regarding additional funding to continue tree trimming services and council would still need to approve. Heim expressed that he would like to continue tree trimming on M Street, L Street, K Street, and J Street and is considering additional areas, such as, Meadowlands, Stone Creek, and Regency. He informed the commission that 35 trees were planted at Ranchwood Park in early October with assistance from volunteers. He also informed the commission that the next volunteer days were coming up between now and Arbor Day and there has been a lot of public support on volunteer days.

COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS:

ACCARDO: Inquired as to how volunteer days are advertised and Heim responded that information is located on the Parks & Recreation Guide, Facebook, monthly newsletters, and information is also sent out to schools. Accardo suggested including information in monthly water bills and Heim responded he has explored this option in the past yet it may be too costly but will further explore if may be a possibility. Accardo also asked why we are no longer on the list for Tree City USA and Heim responded this may be an administrative error on their part as we have received the certificate yet he will contact them. Accardo expressed concerns regarding trees that have been marked for removal in the past but were never removed and states they only get addressed when there is an issue. Heim responded that this is what has taken place in the past, which is hazardous response, and this is due to the limited number of staff (9) for 13,000 trees. Heim stated that the recent addition of tree trimming services has assisted in this area. Accardo stated was pleased with trees that were removed in front of the library as they were a safety hazard.

KALJIAN: Inquired about tree removal and if there was a process for replacing some of the trees. Heim responded that when a tree is removed from a right of way in front of someone's home, we are trying to replace the tree but there are specs that need to be followed. Heim stated that for the trees that are removed, we do make an effort to replace the tree at a different location. In addition, Heim stated that there will be some removals due to hazardous situations yet the end goal is to maintain as many trees as possible. Commissioner Kaljian requested an update regarding the re-planting of the trees downtown and Heim responded that the process is currently on pause due to the pending completion of the downtown masterplan.

LIEB: Expressed concerns regarding the leaf pickup schedule as he states that the city didn't do a very good job of informing the public of what leaf pickup consists of. Commissioner Lieb suggested creating a better process to inform the public of when the pickup times are and where to put the leaves. Heim responded that the solid waste team does create a flyer every year to inform the public. Lieb also inquired if there is any information on the City of Los Banos website for private owners who may have questions regarding how to maintain their trees. Heim responded this information is available on the website and includes resources and contact information if there are questions. Lieb asked for an update regarding the Urban Forrest Management Plan and if it has been completed. Heim responded it has been completed and approved yet there are elements of the plan that will need to be revisited by council.

RAMOS: Stated is pleased with trees at the Meadowlands II area and with the new concrete put in for the basketball court.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at the hour of 5:39PM.

APPROVED:

_____
Commissioner Kaljian

ATTEST:
Marisol Calderon
Marisol Calderon, Secretary