

**SAUSALITO TREES & VIEWS COMMITTEE**  
**Thursday, April 5, 2012**  
**Draft Summary Minutes**

**Call to Order**

Chair Bickford called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 420 Litho Street, Sausalito.

Present: Vice Chair Mary Lee Bickford, Committee Member Betsy Elliott (beginning at Item 1), Committee Member Wingham Liddell, Committee Member Ronald Reich

Absent: Committee Member Betsy Elliott (until Item 1.)

Staff: Assistant Planner, Alison Thornberry-Assef

**Approval of Agenda**

**Committee Member Reich moved and Committee Member Liddell seconded a motion to approve the agenda. The motion passed 3-0.**

**Approval of Minutes**

December 1, 2011                      February 2, 2012

**Committee Member Reich moved and Committee Member Committee Member Liddell seconded a motion to approve the summary minutes of December 1, 2011 and February 2, 2012. The motion passed 3-0.**

**Public Comments of Items Not on Agenda**

None.

**Public Hearings**

None.

**Old Business**

- 1. Bank of America Public Right-of-Way.** Replacement trees for Bank of America Public Right-of-Way.

Assistant Planner Thornberry-Assef presented the Staff Report.

**Assistant Planner Thornberry-Assef indicated that Committee Member Elliott had joined the meeting.**

Committee questions to staff:

- What trees did the architects recommend? *Staff responded the Conceptual Landscape Plan shows the arborist's recommendation, which is the Evergreen Pear because they fit well in that location and match other trees located in the area along Bridgeway.*

- What eventually will happen to that area along Bridgeway? *Staff responded the Conceptual Landscape Plan shows that general area with the restrooms near Bank of America and the trees located in front. The Planning Commission oversees the rest of that area.*
- Are Evergreen Pears the trees that are growing on Bridgeway right now? *Staff responded Evergreen Pears grow on Bridgeway and are common in other locations because they are one of Sausalito's approved street trees and grow well in the City's climate.*

Committee comments:

- The Chanticleer Pear tree is in the same family as the Evergreen Pear. It is the same size and has many white flowers and leaves that turn red in the autumn.
- The Chanticleer Pear will lose its leaves in the autumn, whereas the Evergreen Pear does not.
- The Evergreen Pear tree also blossoms in the spring.
- The Committee prefers and recommends the Chanticleer Pear because it blossoms in the spring and its leaves turn color in the autumn.

**Committee Member Reich moved and Committee Member Elliott seconded a motion to recommend Chanticleer Pears as permanent replacement trees in the public right-of-way at the front of the Bank of America building. The motion passed 3-0 with Committee Member Liddell abstaining.**

**New Business**

**2. Suggestions for FY 2012-13 Prioritized Project List.**

Associate Planner Thornberry-Assef presented the Staff Report.

Committee comment:

- It is important to have consistency in what Public Works does with trees on public land as opposed to the private sector. Right now there is no consistency for replanting, et cetera, and it needs to be addressed.

Committee questions to staff:

- Is it necessary for a total rewrite of the Trees and Views Regulations rather than just requesting certain amendments? *Staff responded there could be amendments to certain sections or an update of the entire regulations depending on community input and research to see what other codes are like, if they are working, and what works and does not work.*
- If we get on the Prioritized Project List can we discuss having an arborist on staff? *Staff responded having a City arborist may not an option with the current budget.*

Committee comments:

- It is important to have a consistent plan instead of a haphazard plan so that there is a consistent look to the City.
- A consistent plan is a good idea in general, but variation is important.

Staff comment:

- Updating of the code may solve some of the Committee's concerns regarding things that can be handled under the actual code such as replanting deciduous trees or oak trees and giving the Trees & Views Committee authority over the replacement trees.

**Committee Member Reich moved and Committee Member Elliott seconded a motion that the Trees & Views Committee's number one priority for the fiscal year 2012-13 will be the rewriting of the Trees & Views Regulations and request the City Council's put it on their 2012-13 Prioritized Project List. The motion passed 4-0.**

#### **Staff Communications**

- The Department of Public Works Tree Maintenance Activities-March 2012: The report is available for the Committee's review.
- E-Communication Policy: On February 7, 2012 the City Council approved a resolution establishing a citywide policy governing the use of personal computer devices during public hearings.
- Chair Colfax Resignation: At their next meeting the Trees & Views Committee will nominate and elect a new Chair and Vice Chair and the City Clerk will announce that the Trees & Views Committee is seeking a new Committee member. Applicants will be interviewed and chosen by the City Council.

**Committee Member Reich moved and Committee Member Elliott seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 4-0.**

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

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Submitted by  
Jeremy Graves, AICP  
Community Development Director

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Approved by  
Mary Lee Bickford  
Chair