SAUSALITO TREES & VIEWS COMMITTEE Thursday, November 4, 2010 Draft Minutes

Call to Order

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

Present: Vice Chair Mary Lee Bickford, Committee Member Betsy Elliott,

Committee Member Wingham Liddell,

Absent: Chair Grant Colfax, Committee Member Ronald Reich

Staff: Assistant Planner Alison Thornberry

Approval of Agenda

Committee Member Liddell moved and Committee Member Elliott seconded a motion to consider Item 1 at the end of the agenda or upon arrival of the parties involved. The motion passed 3-0.

Committee Member Liddell moved and Committee Member Elliott seconded a motion to continue the consideration of Item 2 (Discussion of Committee Procedures) to the meeting of December 2, 2010. The motion passed 3-0.

Public Comments

None.

New Business

3. Staff Issuance of Emergency Tree Removal and Alteration Permits

Committee questions and comments to staff:

- If a tree is illegally trimmed or removed without a permit, what steps are taken to remedy the situation? Staff responded the enforcement comes back to the Trees and Views Committee to review and determine proper fine amounts.
- How does one get an unprotected tree to the status of protected? Staff responded there is a process for the City Council to designate a tree with special significance as a "Dedicated Tree."

4. Review of 2011 Meeting Calendar

Committee Member Elliott moved and Committee Member Liddell seconded a motion to approve the 2011 Meeting Calendar. The motion passed 3-0.

Communications

Committee Members

Staff – Vice-Chair Bickford's idea regarding an award or recognition for people with attractive yards and gardens will be put on the agenda for December.

Public Hearings

 TR 10-339, Tree Removal Permit, Matschullat, 77 Harrison Avenue. Tree Removal Permit for removal of one Coast Live Oak at 77 Harrison Avenue (APN 065-123-10).

The public hearing was opened.

Committee questions to Staff:

- Describe what has been determined regarding the tree. Staff responded the arborist has determined the tree is diseased and decayed and could be a hazard.
- How old is the tree, how big is it, and who is the arborist? Staff noted that the arborist's report indicated that the tree is, "38 inches in circumference, 12 inches in diameter, 30 feet high and has extensive decay at the tree's base with large sections of bark dead and falling off. The extensive decay has impacted more than 30-percent of the circumference of the tree and it is a threat to falling into the street." The arborist was Lewis B. Grun (phonetic). The report was completed on October 19, 2010.

Committee comments:

- One of the members of the Trees & Views Committee should look at the tree and not rely exclusively on the arborist's report. Each situation is unique.
- Given that there are so many trees on this property and the owner wants this tree removed, the Committee should go with staff's recommendation.

Committee Member Elliott moved and Vice-Chair Bickford seconded a motion to approve a Tree Removal Permit for 77 Harrison Avenue. The motion passed 2-1 (Liddell – No).

Approval of Minutes

October 7, 2010

Committee Member Liddell moved and Committee Member Elliott seconded a motion to approve the Minutes. The motion passed 3-0.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Submitted by Approved by
Alison Thornberry Mary Lee Bickford
Assistant Planner Vice – Chair

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