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CFC Meeting Minutes June 8, 2022

<i>Approved by CFC on September 21, 2022</i>

- A. **Called to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chair Mark Nakajima at 5:31 pm.

Present: Mark Nakajima, Chair; Michael Howell, Vice Chair; Bruce Countryman; David Hunter; Councilor Kottkey

Absent: Jeremy Sapp; Jen Warren

Staff Present: Dan Riordan

Guests Present: Justin Marble representing Dan Crume, property owner and applicant requesting removal of an Oregon white oak listed on the City's Register of Significant Trees.

- B. **Public Comment:** None

- C. **Additions/Deletions:** None

- D. **Action Items:**

1. Approve meeting minutes of May 11, 2022: David made a motion, seconded by Michael, to approve the May 11, 2022, meeting minutes with a correction to the spelling of Giant Sequoia. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Public hearing to consider request to remove an Oregon white oak tree located at 2238 16th Avenue from the City's Register of Significant Trees: Dan presented the property owner's request to remove one Oregon white oak from the City's Register of Significant Trees. Dan explained the tree was damaged by heavy snow Spring 2022 and large branch failed. Dan also explained the tree exhibits decay. Dan reviewed the criteria the Commission must use to consider removal of a tree from the City's Register. Dan recommended the Commission approve the request since the removal criteria is met including the tree has become a major nuisance by virtue of damage to personal property and the maintenance required to prevent damage to such improvements or property outweighs the value of the tree to the community. In addition, since the tree has previously failed the tree has become unsafe to the occupants of the property, an adjacent property or the general public.

Certified arborist Justin Marble inspected the tree on behalf of the property owner

and provided additional detail about the tree's condition. Mr. Marble explained that based on his judgement installing a cable system to secure the tree is not a feasible solution given a large portion of the tree extends over a power line. Mr. Marble agreed that the tree meets the removal criteria.

David asked if the tree owner is concerned about risk to the neighboring property given the location near the property line. Mr. Marble stated there isn't an imminent risk but risk should be addressed. David followed-up that property owner is the ultimate risk manager.

Bruce mentioned that managing risk is what the Commission has been discussing. Councilor Kottkey noted she mentioned this to City Council.

After Commission deliberations, Michael made a motion, seconded by Bruce to approve the property owner's request to remove the Oregon white oak tree at 2238 16th Avenue from the Register of Significant Trees. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Discussion Items

1. Commemorative Tree Dedications – Council Direction: The Commission discussed the need to get direction from City Council on how to approach requests for commemorative tree dedications. Mark asked that staff bring back information about the Commission's previous commemorative tree program.

Councilor Kottkey mentioned she will reach out to late-City Councilor Ron Thompson's wife about dedicating a tree in his honor. David will be the point of contact for planting the tree.

2. Summer hiatus: The Commission reach consensus to reconvene in September.

F. Council Liaison Report: Councilor Kottkey briefed the Commission on City Council's subcommittee on homelessness and policy recommendations. Councilor Kottkey noted three community meetings will be held.

G. Commissioner Communications: David informed the Commission on a webinar he attended about using tree radar to assess condition.

H. Announce next meeting and adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 6:11 pm. The next meeting will be on September 19, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan Riordan, Senior Planner
Staff Liaison to the CFC