



Ms. Helena Van Der Mayden, 2130 Redwood Highway, #D6, stated the Ash tree located at her space was only 3 feet from her home. The roots were growing under the home and causing problems. The tree was located too close to the valves that operate her swamp cooler. The tree roots are destroying the driveway asphalt. She would like the tree removed.

Ms. Carol Holly, owner of the park, stated the Willow tree has caused extensive damage to the water and sewer lines. Commissioner Blauvelt had questions about the invoice submitted by Ms. Holly for the repairs to the lines. She asked about the possibility of pruning the roots.

Mr. Ed Evans, owner of Arbor Day Tree Care, stated the root system of a Willow tree could reach the distance of three times the height of the tree. He stated he observed surface roots and suckers in the adjoining yards. Commissioner Wall asked if he saw any suckers next to the building at G10. Mr. Evans stated "yes".

Commissioner Scammell asked Mr. Evans to describe the damage to the sewer system. Mr. Evans stated he did not see the pipes but that kind of damage is common with Willow trees. The tree was very old and it was not the right species for that location. Cutting back the roots would cause anchorage problems. Commissioner Scammell asked Ms. Hood if Mr. Evans would be the contractor hired to remove the trees. Ms. Hood stated "yes".

Acting Chair Aschwald asked about the recommended replacement trees. Mr. Evans stated he would recommend a Flowering Pear tree. This type of tree is not as aggressive or invasive. Commissioner Scammell she would like a replacement tree that softens the home and provides shade. Mr. Evan stated the average height of the Pear tree was approximately 20 to 25 feet and it was much more appropriate for this location. It is a semi-evergreen tree that flowers and changes colors during the year. It is relatively fast growing and can tolerate most environments.

Acting Chair Aschwald asked about the maintenance of the trees at the park. Ms. Hood stated there were about 150 trees in the ground of varying sizes and another 100 or so in planter boxes. They maintain the trees in the common area.

Acting Chair Aschwald closed the Public Hearing.

It was the consensus of the Commission to discuss the Ash trees separate from the Willow tree.

Commissioner Scammell discussed the report from the State recommending the removal of the two Ash trees. She stated the root systems were very invasive and the trees should be removed.

Commissioner Wall agreed with Commissioner Scammell. He stated he could make the findings to remove the two Ash trees based on the need to retain the economic enjoyment of the property.

Commissioner Blauvelt agreed and stated she was not convinced that the Flowering Pear was the appropriate replacement tree. She would like to see a replacement tree that would thrive in that location and provide shade relatively soon. She recommended a replacement plan that included two trees for every one removed.

Recreation Director Wilkinson stated the Public Works Superintendent could work with Marin Park management on a recommendation for replacing the trees.

Acting Chair Aschwald agreed with the other Commissioners. She stated she would like to obtain a recommendation from the Public Works Superintendent.

M/s Scammell/Wall, to approve the application to remove the Ash trees located at F2 and D5 conditioned upon a replacement plan that includes either one for one for one for two and a species that will thrive in that location and will provide a good shade canopy.

Ayes: All    Absent: Hauser

Commissioner Scammell stated the report from the State did not give specific direction regarding the Willow tree. She acknowledged that this type of tree does seek out water but she was not convinced it was the cause of the damage to the sewer line. She would like to cut the roots near the area of G10.

Commissioner Blauvelt agreed with Commissioner Scammell. She felt it was a beautiful tree and she was not convinced it should be removed.

Commissioner Wall stated there were no other large trees in the area that could have caused the sewer line problem. He stated it was a nice tree and he would like to try cutting the roots.

Acting Chair Aschwald asked if there were any signs of decay. Mr. Evans stated there were several pockets of decay in the overall structure of the tree. The tree will get quite full over the years and some large branches could come down.

Commissioner Wall stated he was not opposed to the removal of the tree as long as there is a plan to replace it.

Commissioner Scammell asked if the stump would be removed and if the new tree would be planted in the same location. Mr. Evan stated it was not a good idea to plant the same species in the same location. There was sufficient space to plant a new tree. They would remove the roots that were causing damage to the sewer lines.

Commissioner Scammell asked about any possible action by the City should they do not abide by the replanting plan. Recreation Director Wilkinson stated the matter would be handled by the City Manager who could impose a fine of not more than \$1,000.

M/s Scammell/Blauvelt, to approve the application to remove the Willow tree conditioned upon it being replaced by a suitable species that will provide a good shade canopy and will not invade the sewer line.

Ayes: All    Absent: Hauser

Acting Chair Aschwald stated there is a 15-day appeal period.

## BUSINESS ITEMS

### 1. Discussion of Use of Prop. 40 Funds

Recreation Director Wilkinson presented the staff report. At a recent City Council meeting, the Mayor had suggested using some Prop. 40 funds for the Multi-Use Field at Hall Middle School. The City will received approximately \$220,000 from the Per Capita Program. The last priority item was the Magnolia Avenue Park Landscaping Plan which will cost approximately \$40,000 to \$50,000. The remaining Mini Park Master Plan projects will cost about \$900,000. The Public Works Superintendent plans to upgrade the irrigation system in Piper Park. This will cost about \$19,000. He will attend a future Commission meeting to explain the project. He discussed the multi-use field project and stated the City is about \$300,000 short.

Commissioner Scammell asked about the funding sources and amounts. Recreation Supervisor Wilkinson stated they were granted \$109,000 from the Per Capita section of Proposition 12. They have spent about \$75,000 to \$80,000 on playground equipment. In addition, the City will receive about \$34,000 from the Roberti-Z'Berg section of the grant. This is a matching grant.

Commissioner Blauvelt stated there were other opportunities for funding the multi-use field, including the Water Bond Act and private donations.

Commissioner Wall stated he was not in favor of using these funds for the multi-use field.

Commissioner Blauvelt agreed and stated there were many other worthwhile park projects.

Commissioner Scammell agreed and stated she would like the funds to go towards other park improvements.

Acting Chair Aschwald stated a new multi-use field would be quite valuable and she would hate for the Commission to not be a part of it.

#### RECREATION DIRECTOR'S ORAL REPORT

Recreation Director Wilkinson discussed the draft agenda for the joint meeting with the Corte Madera Park and Recreation Commission. The plans for the new Recreation Department office were approved last Thursday. It should be installed in 7 to 8 weeks and will include a 900 square foot community meeting space. He discussed the employee furlough program and stated City offices will be closed certain days during the holidays.

#### COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS/OUTREACH PROGRAM REPORTS

Acting Chair Aschwald asked about the upcoming TOT meeting. Recreation Director Wilkinson stated he would ask the City Clerk about the dates.

Acting Chair Aschwald asked about the "No Public Access" signs at the boat dock. Recreation Supervisor Wilkinson stated a representative from Marin Rowing Club told him that the State had installed the signs. The sign is meant to say that jet skis are not allowed. Acting Chair Aschwald stated the signs were very misleading.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni DeFrancis  
Recording Secretary