



City of Woodland

Meeting Agenda - Final

Historic Preservation Commission

Historic Preservation
Commission
c/o Community
Development Department
300 First Street
Woodland, CA 95695
(530) 661-5820

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

A. Call to Order

B. Roll Call

C. Approval of Minutes

[17-0625](#)

SUBJECT: Historic Preservation Commission Minutes

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the Historic Preservation Commission adopt the minutes of the Historic Preservation Commission meeting of July 19, 2017.

Attachments: [A - July 19, 2017 Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

D. Secretary's Report

E. Public Comment

This is an opportunity for the public to speak to the Commission on any item other than those listed on this agenda. Speakers are requested to use the microphone in front of the Commission and begin by stating their name, whether they reside in Woodland and the name of the organization they represent if any. In the event comments are related to an item scheduled on the agenda, speakers may be required to wait to make their comments until that item is considered.

F. Communications

This is an opportunity for Commission Members and Staff to make comments and announcements, to express concerns, or to request Commission's consideration of any items a Commission member would like to have discussed at a future Commission meeting.

G. Presentations

H. New Business

I. Old Business

[17-0618](#)

SUBJECT: Landmark Tree Nominations

Attachments: [1 - Nomination Letter from David Wilkinson](#)

[2 - Photographs and Locations of proposed Landmark Trees](#)

J. Adjournment



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 17-0625 **Version:** 1 **Name:**
Type: Minutes **Status:** Agenda Ready
File created: 9/13/2017 **In control:** Historic Preservation Commission
On agenda: 9/20/2017 **Final action:**
Title: SUBJECT: Historic Preservation Commission Minutes

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the Historic Preservation Commission adopt the minutes of the Historic Preservation Commission meeting of July 19, 2017.

Sponsors:

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments: [A - July 19, 2017 Meeting Minutes.pdf](#)

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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Historic Preservation Commission Minutes

TO: Members of the Woodland Historic Preservation Commission

DATE: September 20, 2017

SUBJECT: Historic Preservation Commission Minutes

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the Historic Preservation Commission adopt the minutes of the Historic Preservation Commission meeting of July 19, 2017.

STAFF CONTACT: Debbie Flemmer, Administrative Secretary, Community Development Department

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A - July 19, 2017 Meeting Minutes



City of Woodland

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Historic Preservation Commission

Historic Preservation
Commission
c/o Community
Development Department
300 First Street
Woodland, CA 95695
(530) 661-5820

Wednesday, July 19, 2017

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

A. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Staff Present:

Stephen Coyle, Deputy Director

Erika Bumgardner, Senior Planner

B. Roll Call

Present 4:

Chairperson Cheryl Brookshear, Vice Chairperson Mark Aulman, Commissioner

Christine Casey and Commissioner Tabatha Chavez

Absent 0:

C. Approval of Minutes

[17-0537](#)

SUBJECT: Historic Preservation Commission Minutes

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the Historic Preservation Commission adopt the minutes of the Historic Preservation Commission meeting of February 15, 2017 and March 9, 2017.

Attachments: [A - February 15, 2017 Meeting Minutes](#)

[B - March 9, 2017 Meeting Minutes](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chairperson Aulman and seconded by Commissioner Chavez to approve the Historic Preservation Commission Meeting minutes of February 15, 2017. The motion was carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Chairperson Brookshear, Vice Chairperson Aulman and Commissioners Casey and Chavez

A motion was made by Commissioner Casey and Chairperson Brookshear to approve the Historic Preservation Meeting minutes of March 9, 2017. The motion was carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Chairperson Brookshear, Vice Chairperson Aulman and Commissioners Casey and Chavez

D. Secretary's Report

E. Public Comment**F. Communications****G. Presentations****H. New Business**[17-0549](#)

SUBJECT: 2017 Heritage Home and Historic Preservation Award
Nominations
DATE: July 19, 2017

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Historical Preservation Commission approve the following nominations for the 2015 Heritage Home Awards:

*A motion was made by Commissioner Casey and seconded by Chairperson Brookshear that 628 College Street and 617 Cross Street be removed from consideration for a Heritage Home Awards in 2017 and that 515 Pendegast St., 622 Third St., 714 Third St., 520 Second St. and 620 Cross St. be considered for receiving a Heritage Home Award in 2017. The motion was carried by the following vote:
Ayes: Chairperson Brookshear, Vice Chairperson Aulman and Commissioners Casey and Chavez*

*A motion was made by Chairperson Brookshear and seconded by Commissioner Casey to except the State Theatre for the Preservation Award for 2017. The motion was carried by the following vote:
Ayes: Chairperson Brookshear, Vice Chairperson Aulman and Commissioners Casey and Chavez*

I. Old Business**J. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 17-0618 Version: 1 Name:
Type: Staff Report Status: Agenda Ready
File created: 8/28/2017 In control: Historic Preservation Commission
On agenda: 9/20/2017 Final action:
Title: SUBJECT: Landmark Tree Nominations
Sponsors:
Indexes:
Code sections:
Attachments: [1 - Nomination Letter from David Wilkinson](#)
[2 - Photographs and Locations of proposed Landmark Trees](#)

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Woodland Historical Preservation Commission
FROM: Erika Bumgardner, Senior Planner
SUBJECT: Landmark Tree Nominations
DATE: September 20, 2017

PROJECT BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY: On February 1, 2017, local historian and President of the Woodland Tree Foundation, David Wilkinson, submitted a letter to planning staff requesting the designation of eleven trees or groups of trees located on publicly owned land as “Landmark Trees” (see **Attachment 1**).

At a special meeting of the Historical Preservation Commission held on March 9, 2017, the Commission was asked to consider the historical importance of the trees nominated and direct staff to coordinate with the Community Services Department, the Parks and Recreation Commission and with the City Arborist to evaluate the condition and overall health of the nominated trees and to bring back a recommendation to the Historical Preservation Commission regarding the proposed designation of the trees as Landmark Trees.

Since the March 9th meeting, the City’s Parks Superintendent and Arborist, Westley Schroeder, completed a ground inspection of six of the eleven nominated trees, four located within City Park and two located within Beamer Park, and found them to be viable candidates for designation as Landmark Trees. The remaining five

trees will be evaluated at a later date and may require a more extensive survey to determine their health and long term viability.

Based on the extensive presentation provided by Mr. Wilkinson in March regarding the history and importance of the nominees, and based on the recommendation of Mr. Schroeder, the Historical Preservation Commission is asked to recommend to City Council the designation as Local Landmark Trees two native Valley Oak trees located at Beamer Park; two native Valley Oak trees located at City Park; the “Shakespeare Club” Valley Oak tree also located at City Park; and the Paradox Walnut tree located in City Park. See **Attachment 2**. (Additional information regarding these six trees is provided in the Analysis section of the report, below.)

The nominated trees will be presented to the City’s Parks and Recreation Commission at its September 25, 2017 meeting for consideration. The Historical Preservation Commission may choose to make its recommendation contingent upon the review and recommendation of the City’s Parks and Recreation Commission as provided for below in the Recommendation section of this report.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Historical Preservation Commission:

- 1) Consider the historical significance of the six trees recommended for designation as Landmark Trees; and
- 2) Recommend City Council designate as Local Landmark Trees two native Valley Oak trees located at Beamer Park; two native Valley Oak trees located at City Park; the “Shakespeare Club” Valley Oak tree also located at City Park; and the Paradox Walnut tree located in City Park, contingent upon review and recommendation by the City’s Parks and Recreation Commission.

ANALYSIS:

Section 20A-1-20 of the Woodland Municipal Code defines a “Landmark tree” as a tree or stand of trees which is of historical or public significance as designated by the city council upon the recommendation of all of the following groups and/or commissions: 1) the Parks and Recreation Commission; 2) the Historical Preservation Commission; and 3) the Urban Forestry Group. The Urban Forestry Group has since merged with the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Section 12A-3-1 of the Woodland Municipal Code (pertaining to the standards for designation of historical landmarks, districts and resources) states that a building, structure, object, or particular place may be designated for preservation as a landmark if it meets the following criteria:

Historical Importance: The building, structure, object, particular place, vegetation or geology has character, interest of value, as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the city, state or nation; or is the site of an historic event with an effect upon society; or is identified with a person or group or persons which had some influence on society; or exemplifies the cultural, political, economic, social or historic heritage of the community.

As described in Section 12A-3-2, the Historical Preservation Commission by resolution may recommend to the City Council designation of a landmark.

While neither the City’s Tree Ordinance nor the Historical Preservation Ordinance (Municipal Code Chapters 20A and 12A) provide criteria for the designation of landmark trees specifically, the Historical Preservation Commission may wish to consider one or more of the following factors in its recommendation to City Council:

- Whether the tree's age and association with a historic building or district gives the tree historical significance.
- Whether the tree represents a specimen that is particularly rare in Woodland or the region and is of considerable size and age.
- Whether the tree possesses unique characteristics or special horticultural significance.
- Whether the tree is of a significant size and/or makes a significant and outstanding aesthetic impact to its setting and is an exceptional specimen in good condition and health.

These factors correlate to the standards for designation of historical landmarks, historical districts and historical resources as described above (Municipal Code Section 12A-3-1) and are factors other communities have used to designate landmark trees.

NOMINATED TREES:

Mr. Wilkinson, in his letter to planning staff, provides a brief history of each of the trees nominated and under consideration this evening for landmark designation, including a summary of their historical importance as follows:

1. The two large native Valley Oak trees located at Beamer Park. These giants were saved only because the park was built around them. Once upon a time, Beamer Park had an abundance of native oaks that were used as a marketing tool for the rustic housing enclave, but they have all since disappeared, greatly altering the skyline and appearance of this historic housing tract.
2. The two large native Valley Oak trees located at City Park. One of the giants is located near Walnut Street and the other is near Elm Street. This is Woodland's oldest city park. The Women's Improvement Club raised money to buy the land, which was donated to the city for the public park with explicit instructions to preserve the native oaks growing within its boundaries. A few have survived to the present day.
3. The "Shakespeare Club" Valley Oak, which is now over a century old. It grows in the center of City Park near the concrete bench placed there by the Shakespeare Club.
4. The Paradox Walnut tree growing on the S/W corner Oak/Walnut streets at City Park. The eminent horticulturalist, Luther Bank, donated the tree to the community for Arbor Day 1925. It is a beautiful specimen of a tree which he hybridized.

The designation of historical landmarks within the City of Woodland is intended to protect the designated structure or vegetation from substantial modification or removal unless it becomes a threat to public safety. By designating the trees listed and described above as Landmark Trees, removal or major alteration of the trees, or improvements or modifications under the canopy or within the drip line of the designated trees, will require review and approval by the Historical Preservation Commission (HPC) unless the proposed improvements/modifications will not have a detrimental effect on the trees as determined by the City's Arborist (or a qualified arborist and reviewed by the City's Arborist). If a designated tree is found to be a public health or safety hazard as determined by the City's Arborist, it can be removed without review by the HPC. Routine maintenance of the listed trees by a qualified arborist is exempt from HPC review.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Historical Preservation Commission:

- 1) Consider the historical significance of the trees recommended for designation as Landmark Trees; and
- 2) Recommend City Council designate as Local Landmark Trees two native Valley Oak trees located at Beamer Park; two native Valley Oak trees located at City Park; the “Shakespeare Club” Valley Oak tree also located at City Park; and the Paradox Walnut tree located in City Park, contingent upon review and recommendation by the City’s Parks and Recreation Commission.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 - Nomination Letter from David Wilkinson

Attachment 2 - Photographs and Locations of proposed Landmark Trees

January 19, 2017

Erika Bumgardner
Historical Preservation Commission
City of Woodland
300 First Street
Woodland, CA. 95695

RE: Nomination of Landmark Trees

Dear Erika,

As per City of Woodland Ordinance No. 1230, I would like to nominate the following trees as Landmark Trees. All of these trees are located on public land and due to their age, size, visibility, and historical significance are justified in being considered Landmarks and worthy of preservation. By gaining Landmark status and public notoriety these trees will better connect the general public to Woodland's tree heritage and alert citizenry to the critical environmental services they provide by cleaning the air we breathe, reducing greenhouse gases, and beautifying parks and neighborhoods.

To my knowledge, very few (if any) Woodland trees have been nominated for Landmark status since the ordinance was approved in 1993. So, perhaps these nominations are timely, especially for the "City of Trees" which prides itself on its beautiful urban forest and deep arbor history. The size of my nomination list may seem extensive at first, but, we have many historical trees that deserve recognition. They are survivors, spanning many decades and even centuries. Hopefully this will be the start and catalyst for future nominations as other people begin to think about trees they feel deserve special recognition and protections so that future generations can also enjoy their grace and the tranquility and environmental benefits they bestow on the town.

Here are my nominations. If the city approves the nominations, perhaps it would be fitting to ceremoniously landmark the trees for Earth Day on April 22, 2017.

1. The two large native Valley Oak trees located at Beamer Park. These giants were saved only because the park was built around them. Once upon a time, Beamer Park had an abundance of native oaks that were used as a marketing tool for the rustic housing enclave, but they have all since disappeared, greatly altering the skyline and appearance of this historic housing tract.
2. The two large native Valley Oak trees located at City Park. One of the giants is located near Walnut Street and the other is near Elm Street. This is Woodland's oldest city park. The Women's Improvement Club raised money to buy the land, which was donated to the city for the public park with explicit instructions to preserve the native oaks growing within its boundaries. A few have survived to the present day.

3. The “Shakespeare Club” Valley Oak which is now over a century old. It grows in the center of City Park near the concrete bench placed there by the Shakespeare Club.

4. The Paradox Walnut tree growing on the S/W corner Oak/Walnut streets at City Park. The eminent horticulturalist, Luther Bank, donated the tree to the community for Arbor Day 1925. It is a beautiful specimen of a tree which he hybridized.

5. The magnificent London Plane tree growing in the parkway in the 500 block of Third Street (west side). It has a circumference of 192 inches or 16 feet. It is likely the largest specimen of this widely-planted specie that provides tremendous shade and canopy, and a refuge for birds.

6. The huge Valley Oak growing at 304 Casa Linda Drive. Wisely, the road and subdivision was built around it to preserve this amazing specimen. However, the tree has dropped limbs into the house built beneath it. Several years ago, when a limb fell on the house, the tree was threatened with removal, but there was community objection. As a compromise, one of its massive limbs was removed to lessen the danger of further limb drop on the house below. In spite of its disfigured structure, it stands proudly marking at least 300 years of life. It is one of the most massive oaks in Woodland, measuring 252 inches or 21 feet in circumference. It is truly a survivor and reminder of Woodland’s ancient oak woodland. Pioneer farmers evidently respected the tree enough to preserve it in the 1800s when most of the land around Woodland was cleared of oaks to create farms and ranch land.

7. The “cousin” to the Casa Linda oak is a massive Valley Oak located at the Gibson House (Yolo County Museum). Its circumference is slightly larger than the Casa Linda oak, measuring 257 inches or 21 feet 5 inches. It may be the most massive oak in Woodland. It was preserved by the pioneer Gibson family who sensibly built their house near it in 1857 to utilize its temendous shade canopy, which sheltered the family from the punishing afternoon heat. (Note: I will seek approval from the Yolo County Museum for Landmark designation)

8. The iconic American elm located at 430 Third Street. This is Woodland’s only historical American elm, which were planted over a century ago, whose upper limbs were not “topped” by the city. Consequently, it is the only American elm that has retained its renowned and iconic spreading canopy. This beloved tree, noted for its toughness and dappling shade, was widely planted in American cities until Dutch elm disease killed millions of elms beginning in the 1930s. Fortunately, DED has never infected any of Woodland’s American elms. However, many were removed in the late twentieth century when Woodland embarked on road widening projects in the older section of town; others were removed to relieve the city budget of their upkeep and maintenance requirements. Entire city blocks were left devoid of shade. Today there are only 75 American elms located in the city right-of-way. The city is taking good care of these historic trees and removing the ones that become unsafe. The Woodland Tree Foundation and city are planting hybrid Asian elms to reintroduce this valuable tree to Woodland which will provide many benefits for future generations to enjoy. In 2017 new varieties of DED resistant American elms will be planted in Woodland.

9. The California Fan Palms and Canary Island Palms located at the Woodland Public Library. These trees are very symbolic of the California experience and they complement the Mission

Style architecture of the historic Carnegie-funded library. The library grounds were planted for public enjoyment, which now include the lovely rose gardens. Woodland's mayor at the time the library was built in 1905, was Richard H. Beamer, a lover of trees. He personally purchased and planted the Canary Island Palms located in front of the First Street library entrance and the California Fan Palms located along First and Court streets surrounding the library. During this time, the library grounds were known as "Library Park." In 1916 Richard H. Beamer told the *Mail of Woodland* newspaper:

I want to leave a thousand trees in this city as commemorative of my life. I want children to play in the shade of the trees I have planted and cared for, and to remember that a man who grew from boyhood to old age here, had a thought for their comfort and pleasure. That will be my monument.

Mr. Beamer would be proud to know that over a century after he planted the palms, they are thriving and being well maintained by the city he loved. And that the community, several generations hence, holds the trees in high esteem and will consider designating the palms historical and arboreal landmarks.

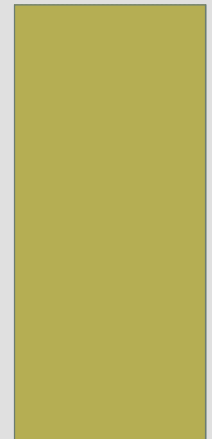
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Wilkinson", with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Wilkinson
Woodland, CA.

LANDMARK TREE NOMINATIONS

CITY OF WOODLAND
HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION . SEPTEMBER 20, 2017



Beamer Park





Beamer Park





City Park



City Park





City Park





City Park

