



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS
PLANNING COMMISSION
REPORT**

**MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
OCTOBER 14, 2020**

The Planning Commission of the Town of Los Gatos conducted a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, October 14, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

This meeting was conducted utilizing teleconferencing and electronic means consistent with State of California Executive Order N-29-20 dated March 17, 2020, regarding the COVID19 pandemic and was conducted via Zoom. All planning commissioners and staff participated from remote locations and all voting was conducted via roll call vote.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Melanie Hanssen, Vice Chair Kathryn Janoff, Commissioner Mary Badame, Commissioner Jeffrey Barnett, Commissioner Kendra Burch, Commissioner Matthew Hudes, and Commissioner Reza Tavana

Absent: None.

VERBAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

CONSENT ITEMS (TO BE ACTED UPON BY A SINGLE MOTION)

1. **Approval of Minutes** – September 23, 2020 Planning Commission Meeting
2. **Approval of Minutes** – September 28, 2020 Special Planning Commission Meeting

Commissioner Barnett requested the draft minutes of September 23, 2020 and September 28, 2020 be pulled from the Consent Calendar.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

3. 205 Lester Lane

Tree Removal Permit T-20-074

APN 424-17-015

Property Owner/Applicant/Appellant: Cynthia Jaen

Project Planner: Ryan Safty

Consider an Appeal of the Replacement Tree Requirement for a Tree Removal Permit on property zoned R-1:8.

Ryan Safty, Associate Planner, presented the staff report.

Opened Public Comment.

Cynthia Jaen/Owner, Applicant, and Appellant

- The tree was considered dead by the tree service who cut it down and per Town Code does not require replacement. The tree was also dangerous, having dropped several limbs over her property several times. The tree service pointed out that the tree was rotted inside and leaning toward the neighbor's property. Her appeal is reasonable. She has several trees on her property, more than any of her neighbors. The Town Arborist and Commissioners who visited did not knock on her door to see the property, so they all viewed the tree from the street.

Cynthia Jaen/Owner, Applicant, and Appellant

- For her to put three trees where the removed tree was would cause an issues with power lines running over her property, and there is no other space available on her property for those trees.

Closed Public Comment.

Commissioners discussed the matter.

MOTION: **Motion by Commissioner Badame to deny the appeal of a Replacement Tree Requirement for a Tree Removal Permit for 205 Lester Lane. Seconded by Commissioner Burch.**

VOTE: **Motion passed (6-0), Commissioner Hudes abstaining.**

4. **Approval of Minutes** – September 23, 2020 Planning Commission Meeting
Approval of Minutes – September 28, 2020 Special Planning Commission Meeting

Commissioners discussed the matter.

MOTION: **Motion by Commissioner Badame to approve the minutes of September 23, 2020, and September 28, 2020. Seconded by Commissioner Tavana.**

VOTE: **Motion passed (5-1), Commissioner Hudes dissenting and Commissioner Burch recused.**

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Joel Paulson, Director of Community Development

- Town Council met October 6, 2020 and considered:
 - Planning Commission recommendations for modifications to the BMP Program and Lighting.
 - Economic recovery efforts. Town Council provided direction to staff on items moving forward.
- Town Council will meet October 20, 2020 to consider:
 - An appeal of the Planning Commission decision for the North 40 modification.
 - A second reading and approval of two items heard at the October 6, 2020 meeting, the BMP Program and Lighting.
 - Recommendation from the Planning Commission on the Hillside Development Standards and Guidelines.
- A community workshop on community culture via Zoom will be held on October 22, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMISSION MATTERS

Conceptual Development Advisory Committee

Commissioner Barnett

- CDAC met October 14, 2020 and considered 15299 Top of the Hill Court.

General Plan Advisory Committee

Commissioner Hanssen

- GPAC met October 1, 2020 and took a second look at Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure Element.
- The next meeting GPAC meeting will be on October 15, 2020 to review the next draft of the Environment and Sustainability Element.
- GPAC will review the Land Use Element and Community Design Element in November 2020.

Commission Matters

Commissioner Hanssen

- Commissioner Burch has agreed to chair the newly formed Subcommittee on Objective Standards.
- She requested that documents from the Commission members for review by the Planning Commission should be submitted in advance of public hearings and adhere to the deadline for desk items at a minimum.
- Because of the complex issues surrounding the North 40 it would be helpful to have training for the Commission in early 2021 about the Housing Accountability Act and changing laws, among other topics, to give everyone the same level of understanding.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true

and correct copy of the minutes of the
October 14, 2020 meeting as approved by the
Planning Commission.

/s/ Vicki Blandin