

**APPROVED MINUTES
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
July 26, 2006
6:00 p.m.**

**ATHERTON TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
94 Ashfield Road
Atherton, California**

REGULAR MEETING

Vice-Chair Hau called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: **Rose Hau
 Jim Dobbie
 Marion Oster**

EXCUSED **Bob Andrews
 Kristi Waldron**

City Attorney Marc Hynes, Interim Building and Planning Administrator Gary Binger, Deputy Town Planner Lisa Costa Sanders and Town Arborist Kathy Hughes Anderson were also present.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION approval of the June 28, 2006 meeting minutes as corrected.

M/S Dobbie/Hau Ayes: 2 Noes: 0 Excused: 2 Abstain: 1 (Oster)

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

4. COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS - None.

5. GENERAL PLAN COMMITTEE REPORTS – The next meeting is scheduled for September 13, 2006.

6. STAFF REPORTS - None.

7. NEW BUSINESS - None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 8. Heritage Tree Removal Permit – 28 Laburnum Road** – Heritage Tree Removal Permit request to allow the removal of two heritage trees. Atherton Municipal Code Section 8.10.

Lisa Costa Sanders presented the staff reported and indicated staff support for the removal of two redwood trees due to the over crowding condition.

Kathy Hughes Anderson indicated that the applicant is requesting removal of the trees to allow thinning and replanting of the front yard.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

Janice Meisel, 28 Laburnum, indicated that the Town's road work cut some roots of tree #5 and removal of this tree will provide more room for tree #3 to grow. She indicated that they would like to improve the overall landscaping in the front yard.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION to approve the Heritage Tree Removal Permit to allow the removal of two heritage trees at 28 Laburnum Road based on the following finding and subject to the conditions of the Heritage Tree Removal Permit;

M/S Dobbie/Oster Ayes: 3 Noes: 0 Excused: 2

Finding:

1. The removal of the trees would not be contrary to the purpose and intent of the Atherton General Plan.

- 9. Heritage Tree Removal Permit – 74 Lilac Drive** – Heritage Tree Removal Permit request to allow the removal of two heritage trees. Atherton Municipal Code Section 8.10.

Lisa Costa Sanders presented the staff reported and indicated support for the removal of the Pine tree due to its condition and that staff does not support the removal of the cedar tree as there are other cedars on the property and the removal of this tree may not relieve the residents allergy symptoms.

Kathy Hughes Anderson indicated that the pine tree has a high thin canopy and the property was previously over planted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

David Cowan indicated that some trees cause allergic reaction to his son and that his neighbors are supportive of the removal request.

CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioners expressed support for the removal of the pine tree due to its condition.

MOTION to approve the Heritage Tree Removal Permit to allow the removal of one heritage Pine tree at 74 Lilac Drive based on the following finding and subject to the conditions of the Heritage Tree Removal Permit;

M/S Dobbie/Oster Ayes: 3 Noes: 0 Excused: 2

Finding:

1. The removal of the tree would not be contrary to the purpose and intent of the Atherton General Plan.

10. ADJOURN

M/S Oster/Dobbie to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Costa Sanders, Deputy Town Planner