

MINUTES FOR November 22, 2016 MEETING

Present: Chiariello, DeStaebler, Eckstrom, Heiple, Murphy, Plunder, Salah, Walz

Absent: Bourne

Also Present: John Richards, Council Liaison

1. Call to Order 7:34
2. Oral Communications -
 - a. Plunder notes that early warm rain has brought a generous crop of new broom to town. These small seedlings pull easily.
3. Minutes - approved as written
4. Current Site Permits
 - a. We will continue with assignment of subcommittee lead in alphabetical order, but will resume practice of having the committee as a whole look at all the plans.
 - b. Murphy will revise the boilerplate. Please all use.
5. Old Business
 - a. Wells - Bourne Santa Clara has meters on all wells.
 - b. Ban on Poison bait - Chiariello reports that subcommittee met with de Garneau and Dennis in productive meeting. Town Environmental Policy already has general wording about using least toxic means of control. Expense is an issue; baiting is less expensive than trapping. Malibu and Portland have good examples of civic policies and procedures. Gopher snakes do the job.
 - c. BYH - DeStaebler. This year's 2 recipients will get

- their awards at the Council meeting on 12/14.
- d. Tip of Month - Plunder - early broom and soft soil; encourage residents to pull from own property.
 - e. Kudos of the Month - Murphy - none this month
 - f. Broom Pull Sunday March 5, 2017
 - g. Monarch milkweed project Heiple will look for some inexpensive seedlings for us to plant out.
 - h. Local Native seed collection - Plunder continues to gather and welcomes contributions.
 - i. Committee/Town cooperation
 - i. Public Works
 - 1. **Schoolhouse garden** – planting should begin the last week of November. Bob Waterman directing.
 - 2. **Native plant garden** – With our contribution of \$1000, this project has regained momentum. Plan previously approved by ASCC and Town in 2013 and delayed because of drought has been simplified. Plant list reviewed by von Felt and Breen. For those available at Acterra purchase order given to Young. They have no Salvia spathacea or Heteromeles and so Murphy requests those as seedlings or divisions from local gardens. Several members will contribute. A community involvement planting is planned for hours of Farmer's Market on Thursday 12/8 2-5 pm. Members encouraged to come help. Drip irrigation will be installed next spring.
 - 3. **Springdown Pond.** The biologist has finished his report. There are 50 woodrat nests in area. They are being mapped and a plan made to carefully move them to adjacent area – in woods along creek. Nests are passed from mother to daughter – rats are trapped, nest moved carefully, then specific rat returned to own nest. July 2017 all work will be done at same time. 3 agencies with 3 deadlines make this complicated.
 - 4. **Analysis of playing fields** – working group of Murphy, LaVelle from Parks and Rec, and

diGiovanni from Water Conservation working with Howard. We will meet with landscape architect and contractor who consults on fields for a 4 hour field trip focusing on how to save water and preserve performance in December.

5. **Wildflower seeds.** 1/2cup of 2016 PV Wildflower mix was distributed to members who brought containers. Town would appreciate help in spreading along Alpine and Portola – we can use their spreader. Let Young know exactly where you put.

6. **Portola Road widening** in front of Town Center. Council authorized a widening of the road by 2 ½ feet on each side from main entry to fire hydrant to improve safety of bike lane. Because of necessary setback of trees and their clearance (14 ½ feet for emergency vehicles) 6 oaks will be removed from the north side and possibly 1 on the south side. Murphy reviewed on site with Young. Work planned for summer 2017.

ii. Brochure for Town Center Plantings nothing new

iii. Long Range Planning Committee - Salal now the representative. Next meeting not yet scheduled.

iv. Town Water Conservation Project - nothing new

v. Water Conservation Committee

1. Water-wise Garden tour Sunday 4/2 planning continues. Potential gardens visited.

j. Weed seedling info sheet - Heiple needs to provide pictures to committee for approval.

6. New Business

a. Reappointment for 2017. All current members will

stay on. *Murphy will continue as chair and Chiariello as vice-chair.* Roster distributed and corrections requested.

- b. Sponsor Northern CA Society of Botanical Artists? Judy Paris requests. They will make all arrangements. *Unanimously approved.*
- c. Sponsor Town evening on “Care of Trees” with Fire District? Denise Enea Fire Marshall discussed co-sponsoring with us an evening with a forester devoted to care of our local trees in our drought conditions. *Unanimously approved.* Heiple and Plunder will work with de Garreaux and Enea.
- d. Goals for 2017 were discussed.
 - i. We want to be mindful of doing well the things we are mandated to do and not spread ourselves too thin to do a good job on the topics we have electively decided to pursue.
 - ii. We should focus on projects where our input is valuable and we can influence outcome.
 - iii. Our role in commenting on landscape plans was discussed, with concern that by the time we are involved the new owner and landscape architect have a great deal already invested in the plan they submit. How to get them more aware of the guidelines so they are incorporated from the beginning. Salal, Murphy, and Richards will meet with Dennis to discuss.

7. Adjournment 9:30

8. Next Meeting 1/24/2017, 7:30 pm