



**TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY
Bicycle, Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Committee Meeting
Wednesday September 6th 2017
8:15 AM Historic Schoolhouse
765 Portola Road, Portola Valley, CA 94028**

MINUTES

Chair Ed Holland called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Angela Hey, Gary Hanes, Ed Holland, and Kevin Welch.
Others Present: Town Public Works Director - Howard Young, Police Commissioner - Gary Nielsen, Town Councilor – Gary Hughes, Sergeant Chad Buck - San Mateo Sheriff's Office, Woodside Fire District Chief Dan Ghiorso.

Oral Communications

Joanne Klebe, 121 Grove Drive, reported that there are three warning signs on one side of the crosswalk on Portola Road at Woodside Priory School. There are none on the other side. Howard said he would look into it.

Gary Nielsen introduced Dan Ghiorso, Woodside Fire District Chief. He noted there had been a few accidents on Portola Road. He said that none of the cyclists they have picked up after an accident had lights. He urged the committee to inform cyclists that lights increase their visibility in daylight as well as at night.

Approve Minutes of the August 5th 2017 meeting

The minutes of the August 5th 2017 committee meeting were unanimously approved. Motion to approve proposed by Gary, seconded by Kevin.

Sheriff's Report

Sergeant Chad Buck reported on a bicycle accident on Portola Road. He visited the accident victim and his wife.

Citations

Total Number of Citations in August – 33

- Speeding – 13
- Stop Sign – 7
- Parking – 1
- Other – 12, including failure to obey signs on Shawnee Pass (4), expired registration (2), headlamps, change of address, on cellphone while driving, no license plates (2), no seat belt

3 accidents – 2 injury, 1 non-injury

Police have been patrolling around school traffic and looking out for illegal parking near schools.

Kevin asked if there were any recommendations to prevent accidents.

One of the accidents involved a driver and cyclists. The driver made a left turn when he shouldn't have. Howard noted it was a non-correctable accident based on driver decision.

Ed suggested that for town events they have a flagger controlling traffic turning into the town center. Gary Nielsen noted that there were warning signs.

Fire Chief notes that there are accidents when bikes are in the shade without lights. He suggested that cyclists use lights. Joanne noted that on the Facebook page for the ride they use lights. Angela suggested motorists clean their windscreens.

Public Works Report

Road shoulder widening on Portola Road at Town Center

Howard reported that the project is complete, apart from finalizing the paperwork with San Mateo County.

Gary noted that near 515 and 550 Westridge the patch jobs on the roadwork are not good. Howard said he would look at it.

Resurfacing Portola Road

The road resurfacing on Portola Road has been completed. The surface will be smoother after 3 months. Next year more of Portola Road will be resurfaced. He noted there are Federal Funds available for resurfacing Federal streets.

Sewer Encroachment Permits

There will be sewer pipe installations at Windmill School and at the commercial building next door to it. Also there is another sewer being installed at a Westridge private development near school properties.

San Mateo County Grant

Howard will make a presentation to San Mateo County on the Town's application for a grant to study crosswalks.

Trash

Angela noted trash in the shoulder of Alpine Road. Howard noted trash is picked up every 2 weeks. There's a problem in town with dog excrement being left in bags on trails.

Town App Reporting

The town plans to use an app to enable residents to report problems.

Windy Hill Parking On Portola Road

Most cars are parking off the shoulder. PG&E has a twisted inspection cover that needs replacing – the town has informed them and placed a cone on the cover.

Update on 2017 Outreach, Events and Teaching Programs

Ed will draft an invitation for PV Forum. Gary had contacted 2 prominent members of the cycling community regarding cycling in Portola Valley.

Matters Arising

Howard noted the neighborhood watch signs, featuring an owl, had been discussed at the town council. The plan is for a couple of signs to be put at entrances to the town. Then neighborhood groups can create customized signs with the same basic design.

Trails committee outreach – Howard noted the town put a gate on Toyon Trail as part of a pilot program.

Time & Date for Special October 5th meeting – note change of time and date

The next meeting of the committee will be on Thursday October 5th in the Schoolhouse at 7 pm.

Adjournment

Chair Ed Holland adjourned the meeting at 9:15 a.m.