

MINUTES APPROVED Conservation Committee JULY 24, 2018

Present: Chiariello, DeStaebler, Eckstrom, Heiple, Murphy, Plunder, Walz
Also present: John Richards, Council representative
Absent: Bourne, Magill

1. Call to Order 7:33
2. Oral Communications – Murphy reports Town Council approved our budget as requested.
3. Minutes of June meeting unanimously approved as written, Plunder abstaining because absent.
4. Current Site Visits
 - a. 99 Hillbrook –Magill completed
5. Tree Permits
 - a. 857 Westridge (unofficial) Murphy/Walz re-visited with arborist. Request needs to be formal as part of request for building permit.
6. Old Business
 - a. Oversight of Significant Town Owned Open Space properties – updates and adding history.
 - i. Spring Down Preserve
 1. Comprehensive care calendar
 - a. Photo documentation Plunder
 - b. *Chiariello will Remove goats from plan.* Bad experience at Jasper Ridge with goats leaving uneaten the nastiest of the weeds – thistles and Dittrichia.
 2. Management Plan/Request for Funds
 - a. To Council 4/11/18 – amount deferred until clear how much Open Space will be willing to commit. Town Manager has committed to getting the balance from the General Fund for our proposed work because the Council was enthusiastic about supporting the plan.
 3. Monarch butterfly habitat
 - a. Milkweed plants available for us to plant in fall.
 - b. No monarchs or their larvae have been seen yet in PV this year, even in thriving milkweed stands.
 4. Blue Heron Pond was the name chosen by the Council for the Spring Down pond.
 5. Justin in Public Works has been delegated responsibility of care of Spring Down by Young. We can communicate directly with him, but Young would like to be copied in on all instructions/requests.
 - ii. Frog Pond – last report April '18
 1. Presented to council 5/10/18
 2. AdHoc committee on Guiding Principles
 - a. Draft discussed in June. Has gone to Open Space and Ranch for comments.
 - iii. Ford Field –revised with history added. Draft discussed. Murphy will edit.
 1. Will go to Open Space for comments
 - iv. Town Center – last report April '18
 1. Presented to council 5/10/18
 2. Council budgeted \$56,000 for FY '18-19 for our proposed upgrade/maintenance plan. Subcommittee will work on detailed calendar for implementation with Public Works.
 - v. Rossotti's Field and ROW revised with history added – draft discussed. Murphy will edit.
 1. Will go to Open space for comments.
 - vi. Triangle Park will be added to list of Most Important Properties per Council request. Heiple and Eckstrom and Murphy subcommittee.
 - b. Proceed with Intermediate Properties analysis and recommendations? *Because of current workload of committee this has been deferred until late fall.*

- c. Tip of Month – Plunder will repeat Italian Thistle
 - d. What's blooming now – Plunder
 - e. Kudos of the Month – Murphy fire prevention
 - f. BYH deStaebler
 - i. Walden visit scheduled later this week.
 - g. Committee/Town cooperation
 - i. Public Works – Murphy
 - 1. Best communication with Public Works for requesting work done is on Tuesday or Wednesday because they have Thursday meeting to plan the following week's work.
 - ii. Sustainability and Environmental Resources Committee – Murphy. Nothing new
 - iii. Trails – Bourne via Murphy. Paseo del Arroyo improvements being Town Funded.
- Waterman doing plans. *CC would like to review.*
- iv. Open space – Chiariello – they will be taking a more active role with us in oversight of important properties they acquired.
- h. Rodenticide
 - i. Turn in Day October 13
 - ii. Timetable for decreased Town use. Council budgeted to use means other than rodenticides at Town Center by September. Vendors being interviewed by Public Works. Anticipate no use rodenticides on any other town properties by end of year.
7. New Business
- a. 10 year Celebration of Town Center. We decided to support the 10 year anniversary by:
 - i. leading walks to spread CA poppy seeds through Spring Down
 - ii. cooperate with whatever Town plans for celebrating naming of the pond. Pond looks ratty in the fall to anyone without a naturalist's appreciation for seasons, so this may be a dud without careful presentation.
 - iii. consider a table emphasizing rodenticides
 - iv. lead tours of Town Center plantings
 - 1. Chiariello will make sure we have adequate brochures
8. Adjournment 9:10
9. Next Meeting **8/28/2018**, 7:30 pm Old Schoolhouse.

Submitted by Judith Murphy, chair