

DRAFT CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MINUTES MAY 28, 2019

Present: DeStaebler, Magill, Murphy, Plunder, Stromeyer, Walz
Absent: Chiariello, Eckstrom, Heiple,

Also Present: John Richards, Council representative; Howard Young, Director of PV Public Works Department.

1. Call to Order at 9:07am
2. Oral Communications –
3. Approval of Minutes - deferred
4. Current Site Visits
 - a. Priory 6 housing units reviewed. Again the use of the discouraged Carex tumulicola, otherwise excellent.
 - b. Subcommittee on Guidelines revision – no report
5. Tree Permits - none
6. Old Business
 - a. Oversight of Significant Town Owned Open Space properties – updates.
 - i. Springdown Preserve - Chiariello, Plunder, Murphy
 1. Comprehensive care calendar
 - a. Photo documentation Plunder
 2. Management Plan is being implemented with care by Young.
 3. Monarch butterfly habitat - few milkweed seen.
 4. Pond lots of cattails are growing.
 5. Web cam – Stromeyer suggests Young speak with staff at Jasper Ridge who oversee their webcam and have years of experience.
 - ii. Frog Pond –Murphy reports possibility that local Scout troop will help with brush clearing near school and along trail.
 - iii. Ford Field – deStaebler reports Harding Grass expanding in Ford Field.
 - iv. Town Center – Chiariello, Magill, Murphy
 1. ASCC wants specific plan for screening tennis courts
 2. Murphy ordered tree labels for beginning comprehensive labeling of trees to make discussions more specific. Plunder, Walz subcommittee to create new mapping of trees and attach labels.
 - v. Rossotti's Field and ROW - deStaebler, Magill, Walz – nothing new
 - vi. Triangle Park – Eckstrom, Heiple, Murphy – nothing new
 - b. Intermediate Properties analysis and recommendations. On hold since Most Important properties may not be funded and work would produce no result.
 - c. Tip of Month – Magill Best practices for removing thistles.
 - d. What's blooming now – Magill Carpenteria and Deeerweed.
 - e. Kudos of the Month – Plunder. Residents who have done us all a favor by removing thistles.
 - f. BYH deStaebler – nothing new
 - g. Vegetation management
 - i. Denise Enea will attend our June meeting
 - ii. MROSD – Plunder nothing new
 - iii. Ad Hoc committee on Fire Safety – Plunder is our representative; concern that no meetings have been called yet.
 - h. Committee/Town cooperation
 - i. Public Works – Howard Young reviewed the many tasks of Public Works, discussed several items and answered our questions in depth. We appreciate his attention to our areas of concern. He is budgeted only for the basics of care on Town owned properties and cannot spend extra hours from his staff or contracted workers on things we see that need doing to prevent deterioration, improve esthetics, etc.
 1. Elimination of rodenticides program all over town has been successful. Trapping only has not led to an increase in vermin.
 2. GoNative charges \$3000/day for a crew of 6.
 3. Projects are expensive because Town must legally contract only

with businesses that pay prevailing wages.

- ii. Sustainability and Environmental Resources Committee – Murphy participating in Stretch code subcommittee.
 - iii. Trails – Stromeyer reports they request we do not use oleander as we plant Paseo del Arroyo.
 - iv. Open space – Chiariello reports they continue to work with staff on Town shedding some least important properties
 - i. Paseo del Arroyo plans and planting list - Plunder, Walz and Murphy made a field visit, created a plant list and will submit with a drawn plan to Young.
7. Protect “Heritage” shrubs – Magill nothing new
 8. Change Heritage Tree criteria for Bay trees – Walz nothing new
9. New Business
 - a. Rodenticide turn in event still planned.
 - b. Fall Evening lecture Pumas – Plunder. Stromeyer has the name of an excellent speaker and will give contact to Plunder.
10. Adjournment
 11. Next Meeting **6/25/2019, 7:30pm**
 - a. Denise Enea will join us