

**Approved Minutes August 2020
Conservation Committee
Special Zoom meeting Agenda
August 25, 2020**

Present: Chiariello, Coleman, DeStaebler, Magill, Murphy, Plunder, Stromeyer (from Argentina!), Walz

Absent: Heiple, Alex Kawaja, student representative

Also Present: John Richards, Council liaison;

1. Call to Order 1:05
2. Oral communications – latest site visit request sent out by Town on Box. Because several of us are not technologically advanced, I've requested from Planning several times if we could get this the way we always did, but have not heard back.
3. Minutes for July 2020 unanimously approved with 1 correction.
4. Site permits – pending 245 Shawnee Pass. Issues with access on Box
5. Old Business
 - a. Oversight of Significant Town Owned Properties. Some areas have been stripped of all lower vegetation by zealous firework. Fire safe groundcovers and understory shrubs should be introduced strategically for habitat, erosion control, esthetic and succession reasons. Subcommittee to look at plant lists and make recommendations was formed: Chiariello (head), Plunder, Coleman, Magill. Encouraged them to work with Fire committee and PVR and Westridge landscaping committees.
 - i. SpringDown – Go Native removed invasive weeds around pond and perimeter. Meadow looks ratty awaiting last mowing.
 - ii. Town Center – Chiariello presents updated brochure. It includes 2 non CA natives that do well here and widely planted in Town. Approved as presented. We will ask Young to have GoNative at their next visit focus on removing non natives from bed #8.
 - iii. Frog Pond – nothing new
 - iv. Triangle Park – noting new
 - v. Ford Field – Walz and Coleman removed Dittrichia and Ailanthus
 - vi. Rossotti's Field – nothing new
 - vii. Shady Trail parklet – much fire prevention work needs to be done here; it is badly overgrown.
 - b. Committee/Town cooperation
 - i. Public Works – Murphy. Young is busy with budget planning and fire mitigation. They are getting to CC recommended and budget approved projects as they can. Walz commends Young on how good all the ROW along Scenic Corridor looks with fire mitigation work.
 - ii. Sustainability and Environmental Resources Committee – Murphy – no meeting lately
 - iii. Trails – Stromeyer. Young reports bulk of trail mowing is done and fields are getting ready for leagues to resume practice. Issue of bikers on trails was discussed at length, especially Eagle Trail, Coalmine Ridge and Alpine Trail. They will attempt to re-implement "Safe Route to School initiative with PV school district.

Signage has been put on Alpine Trail. The Sequoia Trail is again open to the public 5 days/week including on weekends; it is reserved for Sequoias seniors 2 day/week.

- iv. Open space – Chiariello no recent meeting.
 - c. Label trees Town Center – Walz reports 80 trees now identified and labeled. Severe heat, fire risk and smoke have slowed him down. Committee thanks him for his persistence.
 - d. Tip of the Month – Magill – Dittrichia again – NOW is the time! Plan to have the next one on what to plant in the fall to make your garden more fire safe. This to accompany roll out of our approved fire safe plant lists which are being finalized by Walz.
 - e. What's blooming now – Magill. Epilobium – CA fuschia
 - f. Kudos – Plunder. To those residents who have created appropriate defensible space.
 - g. What are our Singing Frogs doing now? Murphy, Kawaja, Heiple. Seasonal, next in October.
 - h. Changes heritage shrubs – remains in Planning hands
 - i. Predators / Rodenticides – Chiariello, Kawaja, Plunder – nothing new.
6. New Business - none
 7. Adjournment at 2:05 Our World Record!
 8. Next meeting: Tuesday, September 22, 2:00 pm Zoom