



**Town of Portola Valley**  
**Nature and Science Committee Special Meeting**  
**Thursday, January 13, 2022 – 5:00 PM**

**Special Videoconference Meeting via Zoom**

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**VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING AGENDA**

**Remote Meeting Covid-19 Advisory:** On September 16, the Governor signed AB 361, amending the Ralph M. Brown Act (Brown Act) to allow legislative bodies to continue to meet virtually during the present public health emergency. AB 361 is an urgency bill which goes into effect on October 1, 2021. The bill extends the teleconference procedures authorized in Executive Order N-29-20, which expired on September 30, 2021, during the current COVID-19 pandemic and allows future teleconference procedures under limited circumstances defined in the bill. Portola Valley Town Council and commission and committee public meetings are being conducted electronically to prevent imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees. The meeting is not available for in-person attendance. Members of the public may attend the meeting by video or phone linked in this agenda.

**Join Zoom Video Meeting:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86955492439?pwd=V2QrQ2tibmtkTHI2YTdnNVJBcFZ6dz09>

**Phone into Zoom Meeting:**

1-669-900-6833  
1-877-853-5247 (toll-free)

*Mute/Unmute – Press \*6 / Raise Hand – Press \*9*

**Meeting ID:** 869 5549 2439

**Password:** 799841

1. Call to Order
2. Oral Communications (Anyone wanting to address the Committee or anyone wanting to speak on an item not on the agenda)
3. Minutes of December 9, 2021, meeting
4. Discussion of goals and activities in pandemic
5. Planning and discussion
  - 1) Town Committees meeting on January 23
  - 2) Star Party/meteor shower with Andrew Pierce
  - 3) Big Water Event
  - 4) Other event/speaker ideas
  - 5) Nature Center plans at Hawthorns
  - 6) Recruiting new members
  - 7) Membership list for 2022 was sent to the Town
6. Vote on changing back to alternate month meetings
7. Budget
  - 1) Planning
8. Adjournment:  
Next meeting: March 10, 2022, at 5:00 pm on Zoom (if vote to change meetings to alternate months passes)

## Nature and Science Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday December 9, 2021 – 6:00 PM

Special Videoconference Meeting via Zoom

1. Call to Order – The meeting was 5:02pm.

2. Oral Communications ,

- Brook proposed additional event ideas such as live evening talks perhaps including a nature photographer talk or another gall talk or insect talk by Paul. Seasonal Windy Hill hikes as a nature hike.
- Native Plant or Save the Pollinators. Yvonne suggested that the committee host a “save the pollinators day” in the Fall.

3. Minutes of November 11, 2021 regular meeting.

- The committee unanimously approved the meeting minutes.

4. Report on talk by Paul Heiple on galls.

- Bonnie reported that it was a great talk. Paul has infectious enthusiasm on this topic and was very knowledgeable.

5. Planning and discussion.

1) Star Party with Andrew Pierce. Brook said there’s a few meteor showers. Lyrid (April 16-26) Aquadrids (April 29 – May 28 ) Yvonne will ask Andrew would be interested in doing the Star Party in conjunction with a meteor shower in April or May.

2) Big Water Event in late March. March 30<sup>th</sup> date conflicts with Spring Break for the kids. Yvonne to research a date in June. All Sundays in May, June and July are open on the calendar. Yvonne to check on availability with Sharon for a Sunday afternoon in June or July.

3) Nature Center plans at Hawthorns. Alex Casbara attended representing the MidPeninsula Open Space District. Alex reported MidPen is reviewing opening the property for public access and especially the vision and goals. Next public meeting will be in the early part of next year at a regular MidPen meeting. Note that Hawthorns area is has a restrictive conservation easement and no new buildings may be added but reuse of buildings could be considered. Alex invited the committee to make comments on the comment form and/or send an email with questions. [acasbara@openspace.org](mailto:acasbara@openspace.org).

4) Committee Membership for 2022. Yvonne Tryce, Brook Coffee, and Bonnie Crater agreed to be on the committee in 2022. Brook proposed moving to an every other month schedule and to hold events on the even months. Yvonne will add this to the agenda for January.

Yvonne Tryce, Brook Coffee, and Bonnie Crater agreed to be on the committee in 2022. Yvonne to send a list a 2022 membership to Sharon who will be on the committee next year.

5) Recruiting new members. Brook reached out to the science teacher at Corte Madera. Brook to reach out to Jan Schachter.

## 6. Budget

1) Plan for next year. The committee will request \$1500 for banners and misc. event costs and materials to build a seed library.

2) Allocate funds for future events. Discussed above.

3) Plans for money raising. No additional fund raising required at this time.

## 7. Adjournment:

Next meeting: January 13, 2021, at 5:00 pm on Zoom