



TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY
Conservation Committee Meeting
April 26, 2022
7:00 PM
Regular Meeting

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.

To access the meeting by computer, click on the link below:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81825412580?pwd=VjA4M2pkMIJNSWhhNzNLN0pFMFI5UT09>

To access the meeting by phone, dial:

1-699-900-6833

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Mute/Unmute - press *6 Raise Hand -
press *9

Meeting ID: 818 2541 2580

Password: 006025

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING

- 1) **Call to Order**
- 2) **Oral Communications**
- 3) **Approval of Minutes for March 22, 2022**
- 4) **Site Permits**
 - a) 9 Buck Meadow
 - b) CalWater Station #33, Los Trancos
- 5) **Tree permits**

415 Golden Oak Grove
- 6) **Old business**
 - a) Oversight of significant Town-owned properties
 - i) Town Center (Richards)
 - ii) Frog Pond (Zimmerman)
 - b) Committee/Town Cooperation
 - i) Public Works (Magill)
 - (1) Pruning for “view”
 - (2) Thinning/tree work to open view from Portola Rd to Town Center
 - ii) Trails and Paths (Coleman)
 - iii) Open Space (Chiariello)
 - iv) Wildfire Preparedness (Chiariello)
 - (1) Wildfire Prep Faire – CC table (fliers and sample plants from the “Reduced fire-risk” groundcover list)
 - c) Backyard Habitat (Plunder)
 - d) Tip of the Month (Magill)
 - e) What’s Blooming Now? (Magill) – Late spring - Chinese Houses, Clarkia, Diplacus, Buckeye
 - f) Kudos (Plunder)
 - g) Conservation items for ADU and other ministerial Checklists – Appendix A

- h) Plant List sub-Committees (Magill)
- i) Housing Element and Town Open Space (Magill)

Appendix A

1. Arborist report for each significant tree in area impacted by construction
2. ONLY low fire risk, low water use vegetation within 20' of structure"
3. Plantings within ROW shall conform to low fire-risk, native shrubs from the Town's Approved Plant list.
4. No closed perimeter fencing

7) Adjournment

Next Meeting Tuesday, May 24, 2022 at 7:00 pm via Zoom.



TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY
Conservation Committee Meeting
March 22, 2022
7:00 PM
Special Videoconference Meeting via Zoom

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM

Roll Call:

Members present: N. Chiariello T. Coleman, P. Heiple, C. Magill, J. Murphy, M. Plunder, M. Richards, D. Walz, J. Zimmermann

Also present: J. Richards (Town Councilmember liaison)

Guest: J. Bourne

1. Oral Communications: M. Plunder asked when in-person Committee meetings can resume. J. Richards replied in-person meetings will possibly resume in mid-April, pending the setup of appropriate equipment at the Old Schoolhouse (to facilitate hybrid meetings).

2. Approval of Minutes for February 22, 2022: The minutes were *approved unanimously*.

3. Site and Tree Permits

a. Site permits :

385 Westridge – waiting response from architect

3 Buck Meadow – 5 year easement restoration has been completed

41 Stonegate – preliminary review completed and submitted to Town (will require additional review when planting plans are further developed)

9 Buck Meadow – preliminary review completed (awaiting Arborists report)

b. Tree permits:

50 Hayfields – approved (one oak tree)

350 Grove - Seven of nine oak trees approved for removal; two eucalyptus trees suggested for removal

Sequoias redwood trees: approved removal of two almost dead trees

4. Old business

a. Oversight of significant Town-owned properties

i. Town Center – subcommittee: chair M. Richards; N. Chiariello, C. Magill

ii. Spring Down (Murphy) – Mowing will be performed approximately once/month for the next few months. Subcommittee is J. Murphy (chair), M. Plunder, P. Heiple, N. Chiariello. G. Nielsen from Open Space is also participating with subcommittee.

iii. Frog Pond (Zimmermann) – J. Zimmermann has scoped out work to be performed by Town volunteers in advance of the next scheduled chipper day for the Ranch on May 2nd. There is some concern regarding the close proximity of the ongoing school construction to the Frog Pond and prohibited visible lighting at night; a walk around will be conducted with PV Ranch on March 23, 2022. Fire mitigation activities have been performed by the Town for Frog Pond Park and Alpine Road.

iv. Hawthorns (Zimmermann) – report has been sent to the committee regarding the removal of star thistle, broom (meeting scheduled for March 23, 2022).

b. Committee/Town Cooperation

i. Public Works – A preliminary draft of the maintenance plan for the Sequoia Trail has been created.

ii. Trails and Paths (Coleman) – fire mitigation activities will be occurring on Golden Oak and Cervantes in July and August.

iii. Open Space (Chiariello) – no update.

iv. Sustainability (Murphy) – Cal Water cannot hire workers to install smart water meters. Nature and Science is proposing doing a compost-related activity, possibly at the Twon Picnic.

v. Wildfire Preparation (Chiariello) – The committee is revising their charter and will no longer include a subcommittee on evacuation (Emergency Preparedness Committee may take over; to be determined by Town Council) and will be focusing on home hardening, vegetation. NIST has developed a 77-page document on home hardening which includes detailed modeling. The focus of the Canyon report being developed by Jennifer Youstra was raised; should it be focused on vegetation removal, decking or some other topic? It was noted Cal Fire has an excellent website on home hardening.

c. Backyard Habitat (Plunder) – no current applications

d. Tip of the Month (C. Magill) – Mowing/weed whacking

e. What's Blooming Now? (C. Magill) – Wildflowers (buttercup, blue eyed grass)

f. Kudos (Plunder) – none

g. PV Donates – send any ideas to Chair Magill.

h. Recommended plant lists – subcommittee is Magill, Coleman and Richards

i. ADU checklists – awaiting clarification from L. Russell.

5. New Business:

a. Mountain Lion study at MROSD – the Santa Cruz Puma Project will be collaring mountain lions in the area to better understand their movements and habitat range.

b. Ready for Wildfire Sprint – this community-wide clean-up project of the right-of-ways will be initiated with Alhambra Court.

c. Housing Element and Town open space – Frog Pond Park has been surfaced as a possible site for potential housing development as it was not “parcelized” by the Town at the time it was established. Subcommittee (chair- Murphy; also Plunder, Magill) will look into identifying town owned properties and their security from development.

Adjournment: 8:17 PM

Date & Time of Next Meeting: Tuesday April 26th at 7:00 pm via zoom