



TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY
Conservation Committee Meeting
February 28, 2023
7:00 PM

Catherine Magill, Chair
Judith Murphy, Vice Chair
Teresa Coleman, Secretary
Nona Chiariello, Member
Paul Heiple, Member
Marianne Plunder, Member
Megan Richards, Member
Dieter Walz, Member
Joerg Zimmerman, Member

IN-PERSON MEETING

HISTORIC SCHOOLHOUSE- 775 PORTOLA RD. – PORTOLA VALLEY, CA

REMOTE MEETING COVID-19 MEETING ADVISORY: On September 16, 2021, 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.

ASSISTANCE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Town Clerk at (650) 851-1700 or by email at mthurman@portolavalley.net 48 hours prior to the meeting start time. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the Town to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION VIA ZOOM

To access the meeting by computer:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85011632789?pwd=RHdmdUVyaStiY3FOUXo4R21mZjNsdz09>

Webinar ID: 850 1163 2789

Passcode: 925570

To access the meeting by phone:

1-669-900-6833 or 1-888-788-0099 (toll free)

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

- 1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**
- 2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**
Speakers' time is limited to three minutes.
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
 - a. January 24, 2023
- 4. OLD BUSINESS:**
 - a. Land Acknowledgement discussion
 - b. Review of Sub-Committees and Priorities (Appendix A)
 - c. Oversight of Town-owned properties - Updates (Committee)
 - i. Frog pond (Zimmerman),
 - ii. Springdown (Murphy),
 - iii. Town Center,
 - iv. Triangle Park,
 - v. Rossotti Field and Dorothy Ford Open Space
 - d. Committee / Town Cooperation
 - i. Broom Pull – March 5 (Magill)
 - ii. Public Works (Magill)
 - iii. Proposed WFPD Ordinance (Magill)
 - iv. Open Space Committee (Chiariello)
 - v. Wildfire Preparedness Committee (Chiariello)
 1. Discuss Wildfire Preparedness Fair (April 22).
 - vi. Trails and Paths (Coleman)
 - vii. Parks & Rec - Revisit location of potential Dog Park (Magill)

- e. CC Routine Town Communications
 - i. Kudos (Plunder)
 - ii. Backyard Habitat (Plunder)
 - iii. Tip of the Month (Magill)
 - iv. What's Blooming Now? (Magill)
- f. Wildlife corridors for safety element? (Murphy)
- g. Discussion of creating working group to address updates to General Plan (Murphy)
- h. Consolidated plants lists – final discussion of new Town Approved Plant List (Richards)

5. ADJOURNMENT - The next regularly scheduled meeting date is March 28, 2023, 7:00 PM

Land Acknowledgement:

The Town of Portola Valley acknowledges the colonial history of this land we dwell upon—the unceded territory of the Ramaytush (rah-my-toosh) Ohlone, Tamien Nation, and Muwekma (mah-WEK-mah) Ohlone, who endured a human and cultural genocide that included removal from their lands and their sacred relationship to the land. Portola Valley recognizes that we profit from the commodification of land seized from indigenous peoples and now bear the ecological consequences. We seek to understand the impact of these legacies on all beings and to find ways to make repair.



TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY
Conservation Committee Meeting
January 24, 2023
7:00 PM
Special Virtual Videoconference Meeting via Zoom

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM

Roll Call:

Members present: N. Chiariello T. Coleman, P. Heiple, C. Magill, J. Murphy, M. Richards, D. Walz, M. Plunder (joined 7:51 pm)

Members absent: none

Also present: M. Hufty (Town Councilmember liaison)

Guests: C. Dremann, S. Gilbert

2. Oral Communications:

T. Coleman raised concern over the newly added Town-mandated land use statement on all committee agendas.

3. Approval of Minutes for November 22, 2022: The minutes were *approved unanimously* (M. Plunder absent).

4. Site Permits

3 Hillbrook – review completed and report submitted

5. Tree Permits

All submitted permits had been approved (primarily oaks to be removed)

6. Old business

a. Election of Officers for 2023

Chair – C. Magill nominated by N. Chiariello, seconded by J. Murphy; unanimously approved (Plunder absent)

Vice Chair – J. Murphy nominated by C. Magill, seconded by M. Richards; unanimously approved (Plunder absent)

Secretary – T. Coleman nominated by J. Murphy, seconded by C. Magill; unanimously approved (Plunder absent)

b. Review of Subcommittee assignments – C. Magill reviewed subcommittee assignments with Committee

c. Updates regarding oversight of significant Town-owned properties were provided as follows:

- i. Frog Pond – J. Zimmermann
- ii. Town Center – M. Richards
- iii. Triangle Park – J. Murphy
- iv. Spring Down – J. Murphy
- v. Rossotti Field and Dorothy Field Park – C. Magill

d. Committee/Town Cooperation

i. Public Works (Magill) – no update

ii. WFPD ordinance (Magill) – Ordinance 22-03 (Hazardous Vegetation and Fuels Management) was briefly introduced. N. Chiariello encouraged the Committee to consider the use of native plantings as a strategy to reduce fire fuels. Guest S. Gilbert (Chair of PV Ranch landscape committee) stated she had not previously heard about this ordinance and noted “brush” is not defined. The Committee agreed to include discussion of the interpretation of this ordinance on the February agenda. N. Chiariello suggested inviting Don Bullard to the meeting to hear the Committee’s concerns.

iii. Open Space Committee (Chiariello) – The proposed Committee name change will be going before the Town Council at their next meeting.

iv. Wildfire Preparedness Committee (Chiariello) – Participation by Conservation Committee in this year’s Wildfire Preparedness Fair April 22nd was discussed. Richards, Chiariello, Murphy, Magill and Heiple agreed to represent the Committee at the Fair. C. Magill agreed to pursue distribution of the monthly Conservation Committee “Tip of the Month” via email in addition to posting on PV Forum.

v. Trails and Paths (Coleman) – no update

vi. Parks and Recreation (Magill) – Potential locations for future dog park to be revisited.

e. Consolidated Plants List – (M. Richards) J. Murphy moved to approve the content of the revised plant lists; P. Heiple seconded. The subcommittee and P. Heiple will QC the list for review/approval at the next Committee meeting.

f. Conservation Routine Town Communications

- i. Kudos (M. Plunder) cleaning culverts
- ii. Backyard Habitat (M. Plunder) – none
- iii. Tip of the Month (C. Magill) – planting California natives (timing; how to)
- iv. What’s Blooming Now? (C. Magill) – ribes

7. New Business

a. Potential management of ephemeral streams and drainage/run-off – to be discussed at future meeting.

b. Broom Pull – (C. Magill) – scheduled for March 5, 2023. Community to meet at the Old Schoolhouse. C. Magill will scope out potential sites for broom removal.

Adjournment: 8:25 PM, *approved unanimously*

Date & Time of Next Meeting: Tuesday February 28 at 7:00 pm

Sub-Committee Assignments and Priorities 2023

sub-sub	Chair	Member	Member	Member	Liaison/Committee
Town-owned Open Space Oversight					
Springdown	Murphy	Plunder	Chiariello	Heiple	Nielsen/OSC
Town Center	Richards	Chiariello	Magill		
					Town Center brochure - Chiariello Oak Grove Native plant garden / meadow
Ford Field	Magill	Walz			Nielsen/OSC
Rossotti Field	Magill	Walz	Murphy		Nielsen/OSC
Frog Pond	Zimmerman	Heiple	Murphy		Gilbert/PVR
					Biological survey
Triangle Park	Murphy	Heiple	Zimmerman		
<i>*Shady Trail parklet (unofficial)</i>	Chiariello	<i>Lipman</i>			
Conservation Committee-Sponsored Activities					
Broom Pull	Magill	Plunder	Heiple	Murphy	Walz
Wildfire Prep Faire	Chiariello	Richards			
Evening Lecture	Chiariello	Plunder	Coleman	Heiple	<i>deStabler</i>
					Rodenticide
Communications					
Manage Webpage through Kari Chinn	Magill				
					Update/Consolidate Plant Lists
Backyard Habitat	Richards	Coleman	Magill		
Tip of the Month	Plunder				
What's Blooming Now?	Magill				
Kudos of the Month	Magill				
Committee Liaisons					
ASCC	Murphy	Magill			
Trails	Coleman				
Open Space	Chiariello				
Sustainability	Murphy				
Emergency Preparedness	Plunder				
Wildfire Preparedness	Chiariello				
Hawthornes/MROSD	Heiple				
Ad Hoc Fire Safety	Chiariello				
Ad hoc Parks & Rec	Magill	Plunder			Dog park
Unofficial - Back burner					
Drainage and infiltration	Murphy	Plunder			
Monarch butterfly support	Murphy	Heiple			
Weed Seedling information	Magill	Heiple	Plunder		
"Going Native"-type tour	Murphy	Magill			
Native seed collection	Plunder				
Open Space Stewardship	Plunder	Murphy	Magill		
Wildlife corridors					
HOA relationships					
Intermediate-priority Town-owned property report					