



**TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY**  
**Conservation Committee Meeting**  
**April 25, 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

**REGULAR MEETING**

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

**REMOTE MEETING ADVISORY:** On March 1, 2023, all committees in Portola Valley will return to conducting in-person meetings. A Zoom link will be provided for members of the public to participate remotely; however, the Town cannot guarantee there will be no technical issues with the software during the meeting. For best public participation results, attending the meeting in-person is advised.

**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 [towncenter@portolavalley.net](mailto:towncenter@portolavalley.net). 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/82650489026?pwd=b1JzMEJFNzJ2TVpUcVZ6KzdiZEVaUT09>

**Webinar ID: 826 5048 9026**

**Passcode: 870598**

**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. Discussion with Don Bullard about WFPD and Conservation alignment on clearing brush and other related issues**
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
  - a. March 28, 2023
- 5. SITE PERMITS:**
  - a. 228 Westridge – post-ASCC action on redwoods
- 6. TREE PERMITS:**
  - a. 5050 Alpine Rd.
- 7. OLD BUSINESS:**
  - a. Oversight of Town-owned properties - Updates (Committee)
    - i. Frog pond – proposal for work-day prior to chipping, due week of 5/1 (Zimmerman)
    - ii. Springdown (Murphy),
    - iii. Town Center (Richards)
  - b. Budget requests for upcoming fiscal year – final review, Appendix A
  - c. Committee / Town Cooperation
    - i. Wildfire Prep Faire 4/22 – follow-up
    - ii. Public Works (Magill)
    - iii. Open Space Committee (Chiariello)

- iv. Wildfire Preparedness Committee (Chiariello)
- v. Trails and Paths (Coleman)
- d. CC Routine Town Communications
  - i. Kudos (Plunder)
  - ii. Tip of the Month (Magill)
  - iii. What's Blooming Now? (Magill)
  - iv. Backyard Habitat
- e. Consolidated plants lists – final discussion of new Town Approved Plant List (Richards)

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The next regularly scheduled meeting date is May 23, 2023, 7:00PM.

\*\*\*\*\*

**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**  
**March 28, 2023**  
**7:00 PM**  
**In-person Meeting and hybrid 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, M. Plunder, C. Magill, J. Murphy, M. Richards, J. Zimmermann, D. Walz

Also present: P. Heiple (joined via zoom)

Also present: M. Hufty (Town Councilmember liaison; joined 7:16)

Guests (via zoom): R. Comes, K. Corley (joined in-person at 7:39)

**2. Oral Communications:**

M. Plunder stated Woodside has a proposed ordinance regarding maintenance of a portion of larger (over one acre) parcels and requested the Committee put this topic on a future agenda for discussion.

C. Magill stated the Committee has been asked to support (via a letter?) action regarding the eucalyptus trees on Alpine Road. M. Plunder stated this is a safety issue, not one for Conservation (N. Chiariello recused herself at 7:09 and returned to the meeting at 7:11).

**3. Approval of Minutes for February 28, 2023:** The minutes were *approved unanimously* with one clarification/correction (P. Heiple, D. Walz abstained).

**4. Tree Permits**

a. 20 Kiowa – Removal of two oak trees was approved. M. Plunder requested reports be circulated to full Committee; J. Murphy requested final site reports also be forwarded to Committee.

**Action item:** C. Magill will forward final reports to Committee.

**5. Old Business**

a. Oversight of Town-owned properties

i. Frog Pond – J. Zimmermann stated the budget proposal and action plan are being finalized and will then be reviewed by Committee. He is also working with the school (meeting April 18<sup>th</sup>) for separate Frog Pond items.

ii. Springdown – J. Murphy stated Go Native has worked for two days so far, primarily hand weeding; several more work days are scheduled. The subcommittee is focusing on removing thistles and larger weeds that spread quickly and are seeing a lot of low annual grasses and weeds. The silt has been cleared from the culvert. M. Plunder asked if a camera to capture wildlife activity at the Frog Pond can be added to the budget for next year. J. Murphy stated this was added to the budget and approved previously, however some problems were encountered (streaming, privacy, pedestrians).

**Action item:** subcommittee of Chiariello, Plunder and Magill will identify and address camera-related issues. M. Hufty will liaise with Kari to determine who from the Town the subcommittee should be working with.

iii. Town Center – M. Richards stated we need to determine how to engage with the Town/H. Young regarding any additional plantings or actions to be performed at Town Center.

**Action item:** C. Magill to invite H. Young to a future meeting to discuss projects to be done

iv. Triangle Park – no update

v. Rossotti Field and Dorothy Ford Open Space – no update

b. Budget requests for upcoming fiscal year – the Committee *approved the proposed budget unanimously* (P. Heiple abstained)

c. Committee/Town Cooperation

i. Broom Pull – the March 26<sup>th</sup> event was well attended and very successful.

ii. Public Works – no update

iii. Proposed WFPD Ordinance – subcommittee of Richards, Chiariello and Plunder was formed. The Committee *unanimously approved a motion* to have this subcommittee develop a proposal capturing the Conservation perspective that will be presented to the Town and D. Bullard.

**Action item:** C. Magill to invite D. Bullard to the April Conservation Committee meeting

iv. Open Space – will be meeting in May(no update)

v. Wild Fire Preparedness – N. Chiariello stated the annual Faire will be held Saturday April 22 from 10:00 – 2:00 at Town Center. Richards, Plunder, Magill, Walz will help with the CC booth.

vi. Trails and Paths – H. Young has requested input regarding the schedule timing for mowing of trails (wildflowers); Zimmermann will follow up with the Ranch and let H. Young know.

vii. Parks and Recreation – C. Magill stated potential locations for a dog park are still being explored.

d. CC Routine Town Communications

i. Kudos (M. Plunder) – broom pull

ii. Backyard habitat (M. Plunder) – no update

iii. Tip of the Month (C. Magill) – caterpillars, thistles

iv. What's Blooming Now? (C. Magill) – wildflowers, redbuds

e. Proposal to streamline Committee Operations- C. Magill led a discussion of potential options of committee structures.

f. Consolidated Plant Lists – to be finalized at April meeting

**Adjournment:** 9:12 PM

**Date & Time of Next Meeting:** Tuesday April 25, 2023 at 7:00 pm



Deadline for budget requests is Friday, May 12, 2023.