



**TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY**  
**Parks & Recreation**  
**Committee Meeting**  
**Tuesday, August 15, 2023**  
**7:30 PM**

**Patty Dewes, Chair**  
**Karen Askey, Member**  
**David Bailey, Member**  
**Mary Ann Berkowitz, Member**  
**Lindsay Bowen, Member**  
**Carrie Fregosi, Member**  
**Jon Myers, Member**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**HISTORIC SCHOOLHOUSE – 765 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. 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/82488717581?pwd=bWNEdm5UOU8wZlhnb1pWaHNVdEtIz09>

**Webinar ID: 824 8871 7581**

**Passcode: 192344**

**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 two minutes.*
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
  - a. Tuesday, July 18, 2023
- 4. NEW BUSINESS:**
- 5. OLD BUSINESS:**
  - a. Discuss Zotts to Tots/Town Picnic Planning
  - b. Discuss Parkland and Recreational Facility Dedication (Draft attached)
  - c. Discuss PV Recreational Facilities Opportunities (Draft attached)
  - d. Discuss Court Usage/Reservation Policy
  - e. Discuss charging PV Pickleball Club Fees
  - f. Discuss request for Little People's Park Playground Equipment
  - g. Review updates on Dog Park
  - h. Review and Discuss Hawthorns Property Planning
  - i. Review and Discuss updates on CA Sate Grant
  - j. Review and Discuss update on Parking at Rossotti's
  - k. Review and Discuss updates on Brown Act Committee Structure
- 6. ADJOURNMENT**  
The next regularly scheduled meeting date is Tuesday, September 19 @ 7:30 PM

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Land Acknowledgement:**

Town of Portola Valley – Parks & Recreation Committee Agenda

Tuesday, August 15 7:30 PM

Page 2 of 2

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**  
**Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting**  
**Date & Time: July 18, 2023 @ 7:30 PM**  
**765 Portola Road, Portola Valley, CA**

**Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:46 PM

**Roll Call: Members present** - Jon Myers, Patty Dewes, Karen Askey, David Bailey, Lindsay Bowen. This represents a quorum. **Town Council Member:** None **Members absent:** Mary Ann Berkowitz, Carrie Fregosi

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

**Oral Communications: None**

**New Business:**

- a. We agreed to defer this discussion until we review the results of the trial court usage policy (September).

**Old Business:**

- a. **Discuss Parks and Recreation Committee input into General Plan and overall need to accommodate PV's planned growth.** Karen had drafted a policy statement (thank you!). We agreed to separate into two documents:
  - **1) Parkland and Recreational Facility Dedication:** Patty will review with Sarah for next steps with Town Council and possible integration w/ the post HE implementation plan.
  - **2) PV Recreational Facilities Opportunities.** We will discuss next steps as a Committee
- b. **Zotts to Tots/Town Picnic Planning:** Progressing well.
- c. **Court Usage Reservation Policy:** No new information
- d. **Discuss request for Little People's Park Playground Equipment:** Jon agreed to do some further research in this area.
- e. **Discuss charging PV Pickleball Club Fees:** After discussion, it was agreed that we should recommend to the Town that they charge these Clubs according to the established Town fee structure. Patty will communicate this.
- f. **Dog Park:** After discussion, we agreed to go back to the Conservation Committee and The Town to get more clarity regarding restrictions at desirable sites.
- g. **Hawthorns Property Planning:** No new information.
- h. **CA State Grant:** No new information.
- i. **Parking at Rossotti's:** Discussed Alpine Inn employee parking at Ford Field. Patty agree to follow up w/ the Town to communicate our recommendation – we are in support as long as they follow the Town's reservation policy and fee structure and that they not be allowed to park here during LL events.
- j. **Committee Structure:** The Town is moving forward to identify the components of a non-Brown Act Committee.

**Next Meeting Tuesday August 15, 2023 @ 7:30 PM.**

Meeting was adjourned at 9:47 PM

Patty Dewes, Secretary

July XX, 2023

To: Portola Valley Town Council & Planning Commission

From: Portola Valley Parks & Recreation Committee

Subject: Parkland & Recreational Facilities Land Dedication Requirement for Developers

As stated in our response to the Housing Element IS/MND, the Portola Valley (PV) Parks & Recreation Department strongly disagrees that there will be “minimal impact” on our Town’s recreational facilities. In addition, we are extremely disappointed with the Town’s response to our concerns on this issue. While acknowledging that the Town has a great amount of open space and hiking trails, the IS/MND response did not address actual recreational facilities and parking, areas in which we already face current constraints.

These constraints will only worsen with ongoing increases in population, and we **MUST** address future impacts while also dealing with our current limitations.

**PROPOSAL:**

As we move forward with our Housing Element, the PV Parks & Recreation Department urges the Town Council and Planning Commission to enact a “Parkland & Recreational Facilities Dedication Requirement for Development Projects Over Eight (8) Units” in both its rezoning/building code and to enforce this requirement in the planning and development phases of each project.

We also believe that this issue should be addressed in the Post HE Adoption Plan currently being presented by Commissioners Hasko and Taylor.

This Parkland Dedication Requirement would require that landowners/developers dedicate part of the building site to recreational facilities, such as sports courts, dog park, or mini-parks. Please note that we specifically are asking for land dedication, and **NOT** an in-lieu fee. We need the land, and money will not alleviate the situation. We would also require a park maintenance fee, if not in perpetuity at least of the estimated costs of maintenance, repair and replacement for 20 years.

**RATIONALE:**

PV is currently facing increasing limitations in recreational space and parking, which will be more problematic as our population continues to grow:

1. We face ongoing capacity issues with our sports courts, and we are working hard to find equitable solutions for court sharing between participants in tennis, pickleball, basketball, and skateboarding. Court sharing is not without some challenges given the tremendous increase in pickleball participants. The ideal solution would be to offer dedicated courts to each of these sports but 3 courts (the current quantity) does not make that feasible.
2. Many residents have asked for a dedicated dog park, a reasonable request given the high percentage of dog owners in PV. For the past several years, Parks & Rec has

been attempting to identify potential sites without success - our open spaces have deed restrictions, our equestrian community is concerned with large groups of dogs near paths, and there are sanitary, safety and maintenance issues in using our softball and soccer facilities. Many residents are using our local school facilities and our Town Center; all of which are unsafe and unsanitary. Additionally, state law requires that all dogs be on leash unless in a fully gated area.

3. PV is dealing with current parking constraints around our athletic fields. While we all love the Alpine Inn, our soccer community is now choosing fields outside of PV due to lack of parking. And recently we have seen the Ford Field lot full of cars without an event occurring there. On summer weekends, even our Town Center parking lots seem to be overflowing.
4. Residents with younger children (age 2-5) have requested a suitable playground for that age range, as our current play structures are designed for older children. As our Housing Element is aimed to bring in more families with young children, this demand will be even greater.

In reviewing PV's General Plan, there are several sections which stress the importance of parks and recreational facilities in our community

<https://www.portolavalley.net/home/showpublisheddocument/5975/635393271701670000>:

The first principle states, ***"Parks should be designed and located to enhance the quality of living for local residents."***

In the Recreation Element, Objectives, Section 2305, it states:

***1. To provide appropriate park, recreation and open space areas serving major parts of the planning area, and neighborhoods and designed so as to minimize the impact of excessive use upon the valley.***

***2. To allow for regional use of scenic resources that are unique in the Midpeninsula and so located as to not conflict with the primary residential function of the town.***

And in Standards sections, Section 2307, #3, we find:

***3. Where possible, the acreage in parks, open space preserves and portions of greenways or scenic corridors serving residential areas should be not less than five percent of the total acreage of the residential areas served. For example, a 400 acre residential development should be served by no less than 20 acres of public park of the classes enumerated above.***

In reviewing PV's Municipal Ordinances, we could not find any language directly pertaining to the dedication of recreational facilities for developments that the Town has included in the Housing Element. In the Codes, there is mention of a subdivision ordinance, but our understanding is that this language is not applicable, and was most likely written for subdivisions like the PV Ranch.

As we codify our new language regarding a Parkland & Recreational Facilities Dedication Requirement, we must ensure it is included in our General Plan, Municipal Ordinances, and Planning/Rezoning documents, AND that we enforce this requirement in the planning and development phases of each project.

In closing, it is imperative that we address how Portola Valley will provide adequate recreational and parking facilities for our growing population. Developers MUST play a major role in helping to provide such facilities, while PV continues to look for additional solutions to address this issue.

Thank You.

The PV Parks & Recreation Committee

Patty Dewes, Chair

Karen Askey

David Bailey

Maryann Berkowitz

Lindsay Bowen

Carrie Fregosi

Jon Myers

## **PV Recreational Facilities Opportunities Discussion Draft**

1. **USE OF STANFORD LAND:** Stanford is one of the largest private landowners in PV, and has proposed a mini-park for the Wedge development. But in reviewing the plans, it is quite small given the vast acreage of property and, in our opinion, not designed to be inclusive to the entire PV community. Stanford can easily provide greater recreational space to our community, perhaps housing both new tennis courts and a dog park at the Wedge site. The Glen Park site also offers great alternatives.
2. **TENNIS COURT AGREEMENT WITH COUNTRY OFFICES:** There are two old tennis courts behind the Country Offices at Alpine Road and Nathorst. We believe preservation of these courts should be a requirement of future development and in the interim, the Town could enter into an agreement to restore these courts for use by Town residents.
3. **USE OF WOODSIDE PRIORY FACILITIES:** The Woodside Priory has tennis courts that seem open a great deal of the time. What is PV's relationship with the Priory? Could the Town create an arrangement for public use of tennis courts at certain hours?
4. **RECIPROCATATION WITH LADERA RECREATION DISTRICT:** The neighborhood of Ladera is considered within the sphere of influence of PV. The Ladera Recreation District offers lighted tennis courts, a playground which includes apparatus for children ages 2 to 5, and a swimming pool. PV should consider an arrangement for reciprocal privileges between the two communities.
5. **USE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES:** With respect to Corte Madera and Ormondale Schools, CA code already allows for public use of facilities. Space seems limited, but we must ask ourselves if there is land available on those properties for more recreational use?
6. **USE OF EL MIRADOR PROPERTY:** In the future, as the El Mirador property ties up estate distribution issues with respect to POST, would it be possible to swap PV land that is not developable, for equitable space at El Mirador? Or should we consider a swap of Dorothy Ford Park to leave that untouched as intended?