

MINUTES CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
March 22, 2016

Present: Bourne, Chiariello, DeStaebler, Eastman, Eckstrom,
Murphy, Plunder, Walz

Absent: Heiple

Also present: Town Council Liaison, Richards; new Town Manager,
Jeremy Dennis

1. Call to Order 7:29

2. Oral Communications -

- a. introduction and welcome of new Town Manager, Jeremy Dennis
- b. from Marilyn Walters (written) - a request that we sign letters in support of Oak Woodland Protection Act AB2162.
- c. Town sponsored Bring your own Cup film series began tonight. Flyer distributed for upcoming films.
- d. GoNative Native Plant Garden Tour April 9

3. Approval of Feb Minutes - unanimous as written

4. Current Site Permits

- a. 1260 Westridge - no recent action

5. Old Business

- a. Broom Pull: 21 enthusiastic volunteers accomplished a great deal. We need some gloves for volunteers and a few additional weed wrenches.
- b. BYH - deStaebler - no current applications
- c. Tip of Month - Eastman - wildflowers currently blooming; will include note about Going Native.
- d. Kudos of the Month - Murphy- Broom pull
- e. Guide to Town Center Plantings - Chiariello
 - i. This awaits final edits from Walz and Heiple.
- f. Monarch waystations - nothing new
- g. Local Native seed collection - Plunder

- i. Plans to have info for Earth Day table.
Seedling potted Toyons to distribute - with instructions for their care. Practical list of local sources needs to be edited.
- h. Committee/Town cooperation
 - i. Trails - nothing new
 - ii. Cultural Arts - Library Project - no new
 - iii. Public Works - from H. Young:
 1. Renovation of front yard of Old Schoolhouse will begin late May. Infrastructure for native Plant garden will possibly be installed at same time - this area can be planted out in the fall as rains begin again.
 2. Hydroseeding of area around new retaining wall at Arastradero is growing nicely. Seeds spread along ROW not obvious yet.
 3. GoNative contracted to work 6 days along ROW plus usual work at Town Hall. They pulled 20 garbage cans of burr clover from performance lawn recently!
 4. Broadleaf weeds appearing in playing fields - not sprayed yet - may need spraying.
 5. Annual mowing of ROW begins as vegetation browns in May or June. We questioned broadcasting wildflower seeds into areas that will be mowed that early - counterproductive?
 - iv. Long Range Planning Committee next meeting this Thursday at 4pm in Old Schoolhouse. Springdown is on agenda - several members of CC will attend.

- v. Earth Day Saturday 4/23 11am to 3pm.
Assignments of tasks completed
- vi. Water Conservation
 - 1. Water wise and native Garden Tour.
This year our efforts will be confined to helping to publicize the Going Native Tour.

- i. Our web site - Plunder - no new
- j. Weed seedling info sheet - Heiple - no new
- k. Revised PV Ranch planting list - not delivered yet; Chiariello completed, Walz has not yet.
- l. Ban on Poison bait - deStaebler/Chiariello/Eastman. State law has pre-empted local ordinances. We will focus on education about this issue. Begin with bait stations at local institutions.
- m. Budget - April 29 deadline for new. Unanimous vote to spend in the next 2 months:
 - i. For Broom Pull gloves \$150, wrenches \$300
 - ii. For native seed library project \$200 for seeds
 - iii. Brochure of Native Plants at Town Center \$500 (use deGarmeaux's printer)
 - iv. BYH awards \$1,000
 - v. Reimburse Bourne for Broom Pull snacks \$40max

2. New Business

- a. We received a request to comment on opening a gate in the fence to Christ Episcopal - they will be establishing a meditation garden in that redwood grove. Conservation Committee feels as a general principal the fewer fences in town the better.

3. Adjournment at 9:10pm
Next Meeting April 26, 7:30 pm

