



CNPS Chapter Council Meeting Minutes

June 5 2021 – Zoom Meeting hosted by Judy Fenerty, CNPS Chapter Council Chair

By Marty Foltyn, CNPS Chapter Council Secretary **DRAFT**

Final approval:

Date:

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1. Attendance

a. Delegates

Chapter	Delegate Name (as listed in CNPS Directory 9/12/2020 with additional names added by Judy Fenerty)	Voting Delegate Name (Yes - Present)
Alta Peak (AP)	Cathy Capone	Yes
Baja California (Baja)	Cesar Garcia Valderrama	Yes (arrived at 10:00 am)
Bristlecone (BC)	Stephen Ingram	Yes
Bryophyte (BRY)	Brent Mishler, James Shevock (Alt.), Paul Wilson (Alt.)	Yes (BM)
Channel Islands (CI)	Patt McDaniel, Andrea Adams-Morden (Alt.)	Yes (PMcD)
Dorothy King Young (DKY)	Nancy Morin	Yes
East Bay (EB)	Beth Wurzburg, Judy Schwartz (Alt.)	Yes (BW)
El Dorado County (ED)	Alice Cantelow, Susan Britting (Alt.)	--
Kern County (KE)	Rich Spjut, Suzanne Weller (Alt.),	--
LA/Santa Monica Mtns (LASMM)	Snowdy Dodson, late Bill Neill (Alt.)	Yes (SD) late
Marin County (MAR)	David Long, Laura Lovett (Alt.)	Yes (DL)
Milo Baker (MB)	Liz Parsons will be Wendy Smit today	Yes (WS)
Mojave Desert (MD)	Arch McCulloch, Dru Coiner (Alt.)	-----
Monterey Bay (Mbay)	Brian LeNeve, Rosemary Foster (Alt.)	Yes (BL)
Mount Lassen (ML)	David Popp (Delegate) Woody Elliott, Anne Ferry (Alt.), Nancy Praizler	Yes (DP)
Napa Valley (NV)	Stephen Rae	--
North Coast (NC)	Larry Levine	Yes
North San Joaquin Valley (SJ)	Jim Brugger	-----
Orange County (OC)	David Pryor	Yes
Redbud (RB)	Shane Hanofee	Yes
Riverside/San Bernardino (RSB)	Arlee Montalvo, Katie Barrows (Alt.)	Yes (AM)
Sacramento Valley (SAC)	Ellen Pimentel, Janet Koster (Alt.)	Yes (EP)
San Diego (SD)	Frank Landis, Marty Foltyn (Alt.)	Yes (FL)
San Gabriel Mountains (SG)	Helena Bowman, Cliff McLean (Alt.)	Yes (HB)
San Luis Obispo (SLO)	Melissa Mooney, Bill Waycott (Alt.)	Yes (MM)
Sanhedrin (SAN)	Andrea Davis, Jennifer Riddell (co-Presidents)	Yes (AD)
Santa Clara Valley (SCLa)	Vivian Neou	Yes
Santa Cruz County (SCruz)	Lucy Ferneyhough, Karen Hildebrand (Alt.)	Yes (LF)
Sequoia (SEQ)	Reece Riley	Yes
Shasta (SH)	David Ledger	Yes
Sierra Foothills (SF)	Open	-----
South Coast (SC)	David Berman, Cris Sarabia	Yes (DB)
Tahoe (TA)	John Roos, Brett Hall (Alt.)	--
Willis L. Jepson (WLJ)	Mary Frances Kelly-Poh, Kathleen Catton (Alt.)	Yes (MFKP)
Yerba Buena (YB)	Paul Bouscal, Eddie Bartley	Yes (PB)

b. Other Attendees

Attendee Name	Title/Affiliation
Judy Fenerty	Chapter Council Chair, Santa Clara Valley Chapter
Woody Elliott	Chapter Council Vice Chair, Mt. Lassen/Marin Chapters
Marty Foltyn	Chapter Council Secretary, San Diego Chapter
Orchid Black	Parliamentarian, SGM/RSB
Andrea Adams-Morden	Channel Islands Chapter Board Member
Barbara Brydoff	President, Alta Peak Chapter
Cathy Chambers	East Bay Chapter
Justin Daniel	Vice President, San Diego Chapter
Sally de Becker	President, East Bay Chapter
Rosemary Foster	Monterey Bay Chapter, Alternate Delegate
Susan Gallagher	Membership Chair, Shasta Chapter
Vern Goehring	Sacramento Valley Chapter
Laura Lovett yes	Board Member, Alternate Delegate, Marin Chapter
David Magney	CNPS Special Projects Program Manager
Robin Mitchell	Recording Secretary, East Bay Chapter
Liv O'Keeffe	CNPS Senior Director Public Affairs
Cris Sarabia	President, CNPS Board of Directors, South Coast Chapter
Vince Scheidt	CNPS Interim Executive Director, San Diego Chapter
Judy Schwartz	East Bay Chapter
Pat Schwartz	East Bay Chapter
Aaron Sims	CNPS Rare Plant Program Director
Andrea Williams	CNPS Director of Biodiversity Initiatives, East Bay Chapter
Brock Wimberley	CNPS Senior Operations Director
Connor Griffith	CNPS Operations Coordinator
Isabella Langone	CNPS Conservation Analyst
Jeanne Wilson	Redbud Chapter President
Reagen O'Leary	Sequoia Chapter President
Natalia (Tal) Blackburn	El Dorado Chapter
Suzanne Weller	Kern Chapter

2. Introduction, Welcome, Announcements (Judy F./Marty F.)

- Meeting called to order via Zoom at 9:05 am Pacific Daylight Savings Time
- The main meeting online site has links to documents that can be downloaded:
 - <https://sites.google.com/site/cnpschaptercouncilonline/june-2021-agenda>
- Roll call of Chapter Council Delegates conducted. Quorum present.
- Agenda reviewed.
- A note from the Chapter Council secretary – as a convenience, highlights of action items and items of information to Delegates and Chapters recording in these minutes will be highlighted in aqua.

3. Secretary's Report (Marty F.)

- Review of the March 2021 CNPS Chapter Council Meeting minutes.
- No new amendments received.
- Move to approve seconded: Frank/Mary Frances
- Passed by consensus. One abstention (David Ledger)

- Final version of March 2021 minutes posted at [this link](#)

4. Interim Executive Director Update, Staffing and Reorganization (Vince Scheidt)

- Inquiries how organization is doing – doing better than fine.
- Have brought in six new staff members detailed in [CNPS Quarterly Program Update](#) to be presented by Liv O’Keeffe. The link for this document is <https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZGVmYXVsdGRvbWFpbnxibnBzY2hhcHRlcmNvdW5jaWxvbmhpbmV8Z3g6MTk4NDkyNGRjZWZkMDUzZQ>
- Vince discussed the improvement to the turnover rate now as opposed to the last two years
- Auditing the work of the Strategic Plan Committee – very pleased
- ED Search committee solicitation going out soon.
- Very active JEDI group working to increase the diversity of membership
- Went through some rough patches with Facebook recently – the group is very large and there was some trolling and some misunderstandings. This is on track to be corrected.
- Got two PPP loans totaling approximately \$1M that will be forgiven
- Have a \$5M property bequest that Santa Clara Valley Chapter and State CNPS are working on
- Updating some operational manuals for employees
- New gift acceptance policy being developed – more formalized.
- Staff getaway was held earlier in Colusa County at Governor Brown’s ranch. Social event. Discussed where group envisioned CNPS to be in five years. Vince’s wish list is to see CNPS \$20 membership fee to allow greater diversity of membership; 50,000 members (Staff liked 100K and David Magney would like to see 1 of 10 Californians as CNPS members); have our own facility – LEED certified and mixed used center with conservation garden.
- Paul B (YB) – would like to see an endowment to have naturalist work with groups. Recommend a free youth membership and a program for youth statewide.
- Brian – is the \$5M bequest in this financial report? Vince responded No. Involves Santa Clara Valley Chapter and still in process. Judy – financials go through March 2021.
- Mary Frances – would like more details on the property. Vince – member of SC Valley Chapter – Wanda Alexander passed away – Los Gatos property 50/50 split between State CNPS and SCV Chapter – 3 structures and land. Wanted property to be used as center for education. May be issues re: parking and traffic. Still sorting this out. Vince feels the property value estimate may be low based on comparable real estate values. Working to realize Wanda’s vision. Will need to work through their trustees to abide by the wishes of the donor.
- David Ledger – Did we get out of the Berkeley lease? Vince responded that we still have it for 3 years after signed in July 2020. A portion of the \$5K a month is being subleased. Do not believe it is being used at capacity. Not sure of future at this time (Covid, etc.). Would not support renewing the lease.
- Paul B – feel people underserved – Yerba Buena working on providing resources and supporting education around our natural resources.

- Aaron Sims commented via chat that the Berkeley office is being used by Angela Pai to store, facilitate, and process rare plant seeds for the California Plant Rescue initiative. Though the office is not being used at its full capacity as far as he knows.
- Vince – making sure that transparency is paramount and communication is open which is essential for the growth of the organization. Encourages all to contact him with questions.

5. Board Report (Cris Sarabia, Cathy Capone)

- Board meeting June 4, 2021
 - Closed session first – conservation litigation and personnel update.
 - Open session – approved minutes from March 5.
 - Director’s report – good representations of all the indigenous lands.
 - Board been busy working on multiple committees. Nice to have overlap. Board members have been teaching classes and holding workshops, keeping in loop on CDFW staff changes (increases): representing CNPS. Also involved coastal sage scrub in south coast regional and oaks in SLO.
 - Hope to have more opportunity for physical interaction during in person meetings.
 - Discussion on Employee Manual – all updated and many sections new that were reviewed by legal counsel. Board approved with minor edits.
 - Budget and financial – Brock and Steve Schoenig (Treasurer) presented financial statements. Numbers in budget conservative – second round of PPP (Federal Payroll Protection Program) not in the budget. Overhead rate down with in house efficiencies.
 - Budget assigned to projects – but no action plans. Will assist the staff in developing action plans as this is tied directly to budget.
 - Discussed bylaws and looking into questions needing resolution.
 - Had an executive director hiring committee update – finalizing job description/announcement and will post on Monday. If stay on track with timeline, should have selected a candidate by end of September 2021.
 - Talked about reviving the invasive plant committee (Steve Schoenig -reaching out to talk to those involved in the past and to new folks. If interested, please reach out to Steve.
 - Bill Waycott talked about elections which will be done in October digitally. Brock coordinated the preparation of a better nomination form. Will send by email. But can return it physically. Here are the open positions for 2022:

CNPS Board and Chapter Council Elections

Position	Two Year Terms
President of the Board	2022-2023
Vice-President of the Board	2022
Secretary of the Board	2022-2023
Directors of the Board – Two Positions	2022-2023
Representative to the Chapter Council – One Position	2022-2023
Vice-Chair Chapter Council	2022-2023

- Bill and Cris terming out. Note that the bylaws provide for a limit of six years of service on Board and CC combined – then take off a year before can run again.
- Encourage all to look at nomination form and position descriptions to be posted on Chapter Council site on Monday June 8. All are encouraged to consider and think about others who might be encouraged to serve. Cris and other board members are ready to help.
- Cathy Capone – suggest CC delegates think about potential candidates that do not need to remain as CC delegate to serve as officer. One way to go – bring in another chapter member to be the delegate while you run for CC or Board office. This can add to our diversity and leadership.
- Melissa – want more information on budget and action plans. Action plans do not exist yet but should come after the strategic plan updated. They are created by ED along with the program directors. Not working on them now.
- Chapter Council Representative to the Board – one opening.

6. Rare Plant Program Update (Aaron Sims and David Magney)

- Aaron shared his screen and presentation on CNPS Inventory of Rare Plants. This presentation will be uploaded to the agenda page at <https://sites.google.com/site/cnpschaptercouncilonline/june-2021-agenda>
- Has been with CNPS as staff for 11 years – the best time is now!
- Announcing new rare plant inventory – as of May 2019 the database stopped working.
- Have been working through obstacles of Covid restrictions.
- Released on June 2. www.cnps.org/rare-plants/cnps-inventory-of-rare-plants.
- Want folks to go to the home page
 - Home page – can use this for comment letters, new developments, education on rare plants
 - Home page – simple and advanced search – use this for the autosuggest bar

- Displays all of the recent (50) additions and changes
- Displays plants currently under review
- Can also search for common names
- Search results – show all that are rare – can sort columns, and can turn on/off columns for printing ease. Can export to MS Excel which will give all the of the database information and create PDF reports.
- Plant detail pages are linked – new glossary -
- Simple and advanced search with many options to search by
- Can you upload a list and download a list of plants in area – next release
- Clickable USGS quad map for searches
- Baja California information included
- Aaron wants to know any improvements and enhancements – asims@cnps.org.
- Aaron said by chat Quick follow up about location searches, it's intentionally setup at the quad level for a number of reasons. One is that the CNPS and CDFW survey guidelines say searches for rare plants for projects need to be based on 9-quads. It's an industry standard.

7. State Staff & Programs Update (Liv O’Keeffe)

- Report is available at [this link](#) or via the main agenda on the [June meeting page](#).
- Acknowledges and appreciates all the hard work of Board, Chapter Council and leaders.
- Organization running on all cylinders now.
- Calling out a few highlights of the report, which is available [at link here](#).
- New Biodiversity program is a highlight -Andrea and team doing amazing work on genetic considerations.
- Excited by plant lists being developed.
- Andrea has had great success with grant writing. Trying to produce a working with nature guide and decision support tool to protect native flora.
- California Fire followers program big hit – ¼ way through – take a look at the details
- Horticulture program very busy – chapter plant sales ongoing including online sales. Sales generating \$88K this spring
- Naturehood webinar series – very popular. Look to transition to yearlong beginning nature gardener course. Talking to water agencies and others about sponsoring.
- Many presentations around the state.
- Calscape nursery project going very well. How do we partner with other organizations to level up the platform.
- Landscaper training – Theodore Payne is partner – English and Spanish classes. Now looking at licensing model
- Looking at expanding the parkway project pilot throughout the state
- CDFA – now Bloom California – 61 nurseries recruited and providing metrics for 2-year tracking. Great stakeholder groups.
- Spring garden tours going great.
- Looking how level up Calscape to next generations – looking at digital agencies and hiring a program manager for Calscape – to organize advisory committee to advise agencies.

- Has been hard year for volunteers but feel this year was great for Native Plant Week. Featured a suite of gardens with 360 degree – and beautiful interviews produced by David.
- Forever Forest contest through art very successful
- Growing home program in Southern California with schools using white sage.
- *Dudleya* legislation – AB223 passed by Assembly with unanimous vote. This summer Senate will vote and bill goes to Governor’s desk. First bill to protect native plants.
- *Artemisia*- new name of the longstanding CNPS science journal - *Fremontia*. Hope to see this print issue soon!
- Great momentum on California wildflower book.
- Centennial project blocked by successful CEQA lawsuit profiled in *Vogue*
- Thanks to everyone participating in the conservation breakout groups – will unveil conservation advocacy tool kit later this year.
- Worked on letter for fire advocacy – got 60+ organizations around the state joining us.
- IPA program on track to complete and promote.
- Also information on Rare Plants in the report.
- Vegetation program – fieldwork has commenced. This program is a real source of mentorship.
- Shout out to the operations team keeping CNPS functional.
- Judy – looking forward to being together to do some 5-year planning and for new employees to meet at their staff retreat!

8. Diversity Working Group (Justin Daniel, Liv O’Keeffe)

- Diversity + Equity + Inclusion + Justice (known as JEDI or DEI) group meeting every two weeks for the last few months. Thank you to those who have participated.
- Working with Avarna consultants to prepare and conduct a survey.
- Presented survey results:
 - Majority said they could speak to DEI.
 - Majority strongly agreed they had a responsibility to engage in DEI work
 - Majority know how to integrate their DEI work into CNPS – enthusiasm among leadership. Avarna will help synthesize ideas
 - Majority feel comfortable having difficult DEI conversations through my role at CNPS but there is some uncertainty. Need to have different voices. Willingness to engage
 - What is going well with DEI in chapter – willingness and openness to do the work. Good attitude. Some outreach to local tribes, eager for ideas, awareness of gaps.
 - Unique challenges – de facto segregation based on where people live; lack of diversity in age and race; don’t know how or what to do; lack of bandwidth capacity/lack of desire.
 - What kind of resources would be most helpful – Spanish translated materials; ideas for common ground and ways to engage; contacts and introductions; scholarships/discounted/free membership; training on Tribal engagement; resources to support outreach to diverse communities; a values statement from CNPS; hiring more diverse staff.

- Asking who is talking to who - get a sense of where CNPS is with a question “Has your chapter collaborated with Indigenous communities on projects or other activities?” Answers ranged from yes with specific examples such as tribal speakers at meetings, partnering to provide native plants for Tribal land restoration/purchasing native plants from Tribal nurseries; integration of Indigenous-focused interpretive content; tabling at Indigenous led events; engaging with the American Indian Council. Others said no with a strong desire to engage but not knowing how to do so.
- The survey asked if a chapter had ways to acknowledge the historical connection between Indigenous people and the land. Answers range from sometimes via land acknowledgments, talking about the Indigenous names or uses of plants; collaborative restoration work, and including Indigenous books in chapter stores/sales.
- A key point and question was how do we meaningfully conduct land acknowledgements and beyond in a way that is genuine and not rote.
- Justin and Liv updated the Chapter Council that the group is capturing ideas and needs to inform the development of the DEIJ action plan with Avarna; providing DEIJ input on the Strategic Plan; doing a chapter survey; providing input on Facebook Group challenges; and facilitating monthly group meeting for black/indigenous/people of color (BIPOC) members of our community.
- In fall 2021, the Avarna engagement will include training webinars, information gathering, action plan development, and values statement
- Via chat, Liv O’Keeffe provided links to recommended resources and food for thought
 - Conservation for Whom https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q5_e89oe1cQ
 - Short Video – Is it time to say RIP to POC <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vDvWdn2sc8k>
 - The Sum of our Parts: <https://www.npr.org/2021/05/18/998037773/the-sum-of-our-parts>
 - Other resources <https://theavarnagroup.com/resources/>
- If you or someone want to be involved, please contact Liv or CNPS office
- Please keep results confidential for right now for survey results as we do internal work
- Vince- reason why this group important – we don’t represent the state of California or nation in our demographics. Need to provide more inclusion which is important especially as we grow
- Contract Cris Sarabia if interested in participating in BIPOC group

9. Policy Committee (Melissa Mooney) (potential vote)

- Melissa presented the [Policy with Regard to Plant Collecting for Educational Purposes \(CBAI-93b\)](#).
- The Chapter Council has approved PS20 ethics and best practices for collecting plants and PS 95 collection and documentation techniques.

- The original of this CBAI-93b policy with track changes and the updates done at the June 5, 2021 meeting is on the CNPS Chapter Council June meeting agenda page at the bottom. <https://sites.google.com/site/cnpschaptercouncilonline/june-2021-agenda>
- Changes include a lost comment in comment period, also comment from Frank Landis received 6/4/2021 on special status plants.
- Called out terms are explicit. Will incorporate link to new version in final edit
- Back in March submitted a version to send out to members- got six comments. Chapter and Aaron Sims. And committee added comments of their own.
- Issues addressing dealt with online resources vis collection of plants. Permits required. What is the proper language for special status species?
- Do we want to avoid sensitive areas? Fine nuances in wording.
- Frank had comment about special status plants.
- Footnotes are more extensive.
- Brent thanked Melissa and Arlee for adding Consortium of California Herbaria. Let's also add a footnote for it: <https://ucieps.berkeley.edu/consortium/about.html>
- Arlee commented that late comments from Frank provide definition of take – simple - special status plant don't hurt it.
- Melissa noted that special status plant is also noted in PS20.
- **VOTE: Frank moved to adopt as revised. Brent seconded**
 - Larry – left a comment in the notes – several occasions where online resources are mentioned can be combined in one location after vote.
- **Vote taken - 20 yes – 0 opposed 0 abstentions. Motion passed.**
- Next steps – talk about what policies to consider next. Would like to bring one for each meeting – have a sponsor for each policy would be good. The updates are high priority
- Advocacy policy; fire policies; environmental impact; PI92; conservation
- The link for conservation policies is here: <https://www.cnps.org/conservation/policies-2>
- Committee has not selected one of these for updating. Would like to focus on environmental impact and associated policy on collections, working on both at the same time.
- Larry commented that having sponsors for policy changes makes the process go easier.
- Judy commented that a lot of chapters depend on advocacy guidelines for CEQA comments especially – so that is important

10. Vegetation Management and 30/30 (Andrea Williams)

- Andrea Williams, Director of Biodiversity Initiatives, presented on the 30/30 effort to conserve 30% of state in 30 years – what lands do that concern? A copy of this presentation has been requested and will be posted to <https://sites.google.com/site/cnpschaptercouncilonline/june-2021-agenda>
- 30 x 30 webinar to be conducted in June 2020. Contact Andrea for details.
- Regional workshops finished. Now moving to topical workshops.
- Liv is sending emails to those that indicated their interest.
- Andrea is working on letters – accepting comments this month
- Also working on nature-based components of forest management

- Climate – equity – then biodiversity (but this is not announced yet).
- Andrea is meeting regularly with various state groups – for management of grasslands.
- Wildfire – submitted a grant for working with nature guide.
- Also, native plant/vegetation management grant
- Wrapped up project regional defensible space – website – good information <https://defensible.space.org/>
- Here is the link for the genetics symposium <https://www.cnps.org/education/conferences-and-symposia/genetics-symposium-2020>
- Link for the Fire-Recovery priority initiatives <https://www.cnps.org/give/priority-initiatives/fire-recovery>

11. Ad Hoc Agenda Item - Informal Discussion /Q&A with Brock Wimberley, Senior Operations Director

- Judy is asking everyone to turn in their Chapter Annual Activity Report (CAR) – some used for the IRS Form 990 (volunteer hours), rest used by PR team to develop the CNPS annual report.
- Financial reports incorporated into CNPS consolidated Form 990 – nonprofit IRS tax return. Required by IRS so critical to get that information from chapters.
- Annual report - <https://www.cnps.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/CNPS-2020-AP-for-web.pdf>
- Financial report includes the Profit & Loss (P&L) and balance sheet – please call Brock if you have questions. In the future, we will include the financials in the quarterly program report to the Chapter Council.
- David Long – Are volunteer hours used to meet matching grant requirements? – in some cases they are.

12. Strategic Plan Committee (Judy Fenerty, Cris Sarabia, Woody Elliott)

- Strategic plan was introduced. – joint Strategic Plan Committee worked on this.
- The link is here: [revised strategic plan](#)
- Spoke to the Iterative process – Last updated in 2016. Mission and Vision updated in 2009. This iteration has everything.
- Woody presented the results of the poll on the draft mission statements (50/50 split) and draft vision statements. (Option 3)
- Mission statement was text; Strategies under Goals were bullets -and it felt that a statement here would be more beneficial.
- Delegates asked to vote as soon as possible.
- Cris - All comments gathered and incorporated good feedback. Good to be able to vote although could postpone.
- Questions/comments
 - Laura – what is missing is first layer of what we want to do – help people understand why native plants are so important to the planet. Jump to the conserving part. Native plants are not optional.
 - Woody – presented the bylaws definition of mission/vision etc.

ARTICLE I: Definitions As used in these Bylaws:

- h. The “Strategic Plan” is a roadmap for action that guides the Society’s planning and allocation of resources. It consists of the Mission, Vision and Goals, together with the Strategies and Action Plans.
 - 1. The “Mission” states the Society’s purpose or reason for existence.
 - 2. The “Vision” identifies the outcomes the Society seeks to bring about with its programs and other work.
 - 3. “Goals” are the top-level priorities for the Society during a specific planning period.
 - 4. “Strategies” are methods for achieving the goals the Society seeks to achieve during a specific planning period.
 - 5. “Action plans” are the short-term projects and tasks needed to accomplish the Society’s Goals and Strategies.
- Snowdy – no punch for this – want to see CNPS take leadership – not just collaborate and work together = we should be dragging other organizations forward.
- Question on poll- some did not see the link. It was sent out on Thursday June 3.
- Links:
 - The committee has compiled draft **Goals and Strategies**, which you can see here: <https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZGVmYXVsdGRvbWFpbnxjbnBzY2hhcHRlcmNvdW5jaWxvbmtpbmV8Z3g6MjVkJE3OThlODVhYjQxZg>
 - In addition, the committee has selected several draft revised **Mission and Vision** statements. Please review them, select the versions you prefer, and provide feedback: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1Tc0WHQtrKjtQ1v59TUqVQGINNbKaMoxAQ85zOMoKCU/viewform?edit_requested=true
- Woody suggested that Chapter Council could vote on goals and strategies and postpone vote on Mission and Vision.
- Discussion on Strategic Plan:
 - Melissa suggested general discussion on the plan. Thanked everyone working on committee. Question on how to measure meeting the goals and strategies? Was there a decision made on keeping the strategic plan general without action plans?
 - Larry – provided some history.
 - Frank – conflicts – CNPS confederation of chapters or top-down organization with chapters like committees. In San Diego – wanted to do own mission/vision – depended on state document.
 - Brent – looked at many strategic plans – tone is right – public facing statements what overall aspirations are as society and what to focus on. Specific action plans – (like stop development of Tejon Ranch) do not go here – direction to everyone on goals and numbers – action plan does details. Action plans have staff

involvement and change over time. Principal strategies – mission and goals don't change overtime.

- Beth –East Bay went through strategic planning workshops- have same philosophy. Mission/vision/goals – public facing. How meet is more details don't need to be here. Don't focus on details but on objectives and how now to meet goals – is the measurement. Specific objectives are the key.
- Question on why separate chapters – have own challenges - work better problems in chapters– but in align with state
- Mary Frances – we are all one organization use the state organization strategic plan. The Action items under the plan pertaining to our chapter are different and that is what we report on every year. And we do not need to have every action items.
- Patt – Last strategic plan had simple entry to strengthen CNPS. Why is that not here this time? Goals have headlines. Melissa said under engage and energize – strategy 1 of goal 4 was heavily revised. Justin commented that they understand that it referenced the financial strength of CNPS – which is good – so now adding fiduciary responsibility and also a goal they felt more important – of education. Patt had interpreted it more broadly and would like to see the organization operate in an integrated manner as we are unique. Perceives some dissatisfaction on how the chapters are integrated with Society and would like to see some integration of that into Plan.
- Lucy – made a motion that we accept the proposed draft of revised goals and strategies and work on the other part later (tabling this). Arlee seconded.
 - Discussion:
 - Beth asked for clarification on goal 2 – maintaining robust legal tools – what does that mean. Judy F. – building a CEQA toolkit and using databases.
 - Frank one thing not clear in policies is why get involved in county policies. Every session someone tries to gut CEQA. Maintaining the external environment to do work.
 - Beth asked for clarification under Goal 4 second strategy – providing access to what? Advance accessible connections?
 - Justin – access links to strategy before in diversity and backgrounds. Access not readily apparent – social and other barriers want to address encourage more engagement. Creating educational opportunities – broaden membership through younger base found in universities schools and partnerships; Brent concurred trying to come up with concise statements to connect with whole of California.
 - Brian does not like “landscapes that support them” in Goal 1. Do not understand Goal 3/Strategy 1 – connect and nurture supply and demand -

- Vivian – connected with horticulture aspects of Goal 3. Capturing issue of finding native plants. Provide good conduits to put plants in garden.
 - Brian question Goal 4 – advance accessible connections – does not understand –
- David – great draft – but if we don’t understand the language we need to have more time to have language that we understand first
- Orchid – does like wordsmithing for the purpose of getting the language right. Does concur with David’s point. Volunteer everyone who does not like it – to work on it 😊
- Judy will open a google doc for comments.
- Larry – in agreement. Would like to see under strategies text written in more natural language and less jargon. Does not want to vote it down – is there a way we can continue to work on this?
- Arlee – under enhance and restore goal 3 – interpreted production of plants to include production of plants in restoration of natural areas.
- Frank – referencing Brian question of Goal 1 – some words dropped out. Vegetation they form. Major law – endangered species act – but no law protects vegetation and landscapes. Also need to grapple with assisted migration. Want to renegotiate policies and have language to support it.
- Vivian – agree with David having been on a committee that it is hard to know what is not obvious to others. If this does not pass – how do we get input and invite the chapter delegates to communicate on these? Don’t know what you don’t know.
- Orchid – Motion could be withdrawn; postponed; or referred back to committee or could force a vote.
- Judy asked Lucy if she would like to continue with the motion. Lucy asked if we need to put up our new draft with existing and current modifications- and put wording in with what we want to see. Judy could put in a google doc. Lucy only selected the problem areas.
- Judy said we are losing delegates. Marty said once you start with quorum you have quorum, but I think Orchid’s three points are the choices. Recommend go with committee, chair can do that.
- Lucy wants to refer to committee and send back to update.
- Woody – current strategic plan had a lot of verbiage below the Goals that helped explain them. Judy said that the committee did not have a chance to do that. Woody said the communications team would help with that. A bit frustrated, good minds working on the Draft, can do another questionnaire – but don’t know how will get past this.

- Judy thinks can wrap Strategic Plan in September.
- Vivian – Interested in knowing what parts are not clear. Can deal with this in committee.
- Judy asked all delegates to review the original and proposed plan and be ready for new information.
- Woody could receive all comments at woodyelliott@gmail.com. Judy will also send the link to the google doc, working with Cris and Woody.
- Concern of endless loop – Vince is in support of completing the work and not to have a repeat of the last time.

13. Carbon Neutral – Frank Landis

- Twenty-three (23) Chapters said that due to zoom they had major carbon savings. We should think about how many meetings can be put on CNPS zoom account.
- With the success of the virtual March 2021 meetings, it would be good if State would continue to pay for zoom licenses for smaller chapters. Look to Vince for this.
- Woody commented that the state does have five zoom channels- Frank = want to make sure this continues into the future.
- Judy – has been a tough year during pandemic but doing well. But hard to recruit people – currently we do not have a carbon neutral committee – Frank said he does not want to be lead person but does want to have a committee.
- Judy will send out reports – Phytophthora policy can be found here <https://sites.google.com/site/cnpsphytophthoraresources/>. All delegates have a responsibility to be on committees. Please let Judy know if you want to be on a carbon neutral committee formed by Board and CC Delegates and other CNPS members – goal to be carbon neutral by 2030. Judy will push to get things done.
- Shout out to El Dorado chapter who had good ideas – Tal commented in January their board voted to buy 7 tons of carbon credits. Made best guess as to what have, hard with Covid, to determine how much gas being burned. Is a lot of education and trying to do the process. That has been the mantra of our Board.

14. Roundtable

- Judy - had many emails on concerns – are we moving the dialog forward? One brought up was carbon neutral policy – most responded in the chapter activities reports and have compiled the data – will continue tracking this.
- Mary Frances- when are we doing the Board evaluation. Judy – did within last six months. Mary Frances feels that many of the issues raised by Brian were linked to poor communication with the Board. Can contact Cris to join the board meetings that happen the day before the Chapter Council meetings.

- Question was asked if possible to send board agendas to Chapter Council Delegates - Cris will do that, in time enough so CC Delegates can attend. Orchid thought it was a Tuesday before deadline to get the Board Agenda to Chapter Council.
- Brian – did not see the 2020 board report a link was provided at the March 2021 meeting and is here
<https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZGVmYXVsdGRvbWFpbnxibnBzY2hhcHRlcmNvdW5jaWxvbmtpbmV8Z3g6N2YwNzNmODRkMTc0ZWMMOMg>

15. Future Chapter Council meetings, Next Steps, Action Items. (All)

- September 11-12, 2021 (Sept. usually Conservation Symposium – done virtually in 2020). Big discussion should we meet in person. (Judy commented that Delegates should join the Logistics Committee). Show of hands – many yes - return to in-person meetings.
- Challenge – have seen many participants come to chapter zoom meetings that never attended in person. Need to have accessibility for hybrid meetings and look at the work of in person meetings. Judy will send a poll out on the kind of meetings Delegates would be interested in attending.
- Potential agenda for September meeting - strategic plan, bylaws, carbon neutral some of the topics
- December 4 will be the next meeting after Sept 11 - 12.
- Snowdy – Let’s do December or some meeting once a year in person and/or hybrid
- Larry – If chapter council agrees to have the September meeting live – North Coast is offering – willing and prepared to host it.
- Judy is hoping to have a Logistics Committee meeting early June.
- Vince – in person meetings offer opportunity to meet staff and socialize. Want to come together sooner rather than later. Have a budget line item for CC so they can bill for expenses (Chapter Council delegates)
- Frank – Folks are saying they cannot make physical meetings, and some leave right after the meeting due to travel.
- Judy – Places where we don’t have internet access will not work anymore. Will be very challenging. Will be asking delegates and staff to help with this. Want to keep our attendance up.

16. Meeting Adjournment

- Motion made to adjourn made by Frank, seconded by Snowdy
- Approved by acclamation. Meeting adjourned at 1:21 pm