



MORAGA

See public meetings schedule on this pages and check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements
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Town Council: Wednesday, June 8, 6:30 p.m.
 Wednesday, June 8, 6:30 p.m.
Planning Commission: Tuesday, June 7, 6:30 p.m.,
Park and Recreation Commission:
 Monday, June 20, 7 p.m.,
Moraga School District Board Meetings :
 Tuesday, June 7, 6 p.m. www.moraga.k12.ca.us.

Moraga town council undergoes mid-term mayor, vice mayor reorganization

By Vera Kochan

Without a lot of fanfare and an almost blink-and-you-missed-it reorganization process, Renata Sos and Steve Woehleke switched positions during the end of the May 25 council meeting. Their new titles, until December 2022, are: Mayor Steve Woehleke and Vice Mayor Renata Sos.

During the Dec. 8, 2021 town council meeting, Sos was elected as mayor and Council Member Sona Makker was elected as vice mayor through procedures established in the Town of Moraga Town Council Protocols which state, "In years when no members of the Town Council are to be elected, the Town Council shall consider the election of the Mayor and a Vice Mayor for one (1) year terms at the first regular meeting in December. An election of a Councilmember to fill a vacancy as Mayor

or Vice Mayor occurring mid-term shall be for the remaining portion of the one-year term for that office."

At issue was the fact that Sos was voted in as mayor, due to the bypassing of Moraga's "tradition" of progressing the vice mayor position (which Woehleke was in possession of) to the mayor position.

Sensing a certain amount of discord with the outcome, Sos called a special meeting of the town council on Jan. 5 during which she explained, "I felt that recent events warranted having this council get together to address thoughtfully, but in short order, an issue that appears to be driving a deep wedge in our community."

Sos also noted that Woehleke had approached her regarding a possible alternative to the outcome and maybe a solution to the disharmony. His scenario would allow for Sos to serve as mayor for the

first half of 2022, with himself continuing as vice mayor; then mid-year the roles would reverse with Woehleke as mayor and Sos as vice mayor.

Having reached the agreed upon reorganization date, Sos figuratively (via Zoom) handed over the gavel to Woehleke. "I want to thank Steve for his partnership and collaboration during these last few months," she stated. "I want you to know, Steve, that I stand ready to support you in your new role just as you have supported me."

"These last five months have actually been a great pleasure for me, because Renata really has gone out of her way to include me in decisions, and it's really worked out, I think, very very well," Woehleke said. "I want you all to know that I have no intention of reshuffling assignments or anything of that nature. Let's just continue to move forward."

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Moraga's iconic Painted Rock trails become hiker-ready

... continued from Page A1

JMLT Executive Director Linus Eukel was notably im-

pressed with the volunteer workforce stating, "Nearly 70 sweaty volunteers laid out the path, hauled rocks, dug dirt, removed plants, leveled out bumps and turns, and smoothed the ground for a delightful half mile of new trail that takes visitors from the top of Painted Rock in Moraga northerly to hundreds of adjacent acres that will open to the public in the near future."

Organizing the weekend event took months of planning by the V-O-Cal team. A truck full of tools, a field kitchen, radios, medical kits, sun showers and anything else necessary to support the large team of volunteers over the weekend were on hand, not to mention experienced staff members and rangers.

Other contributors to the project were Acalanes Union High School District (use of Campo's field), Lamorinda Sunrise Rotary (funding), Hi Falutin' (music), Canyon Club Brewery (beer), and Mountain Mike's Pizza.

"The dedication of everyone who works so hard and contributes so generously absolutely humbles me every time there is a project," stated

Hudson. "And, it makes me so enormously proud of them all."

"I worked on Sunday, so I had a chance to walk along all the trail that had been built on Saturday, which felt and looked great," recalled Moraga resident and volunteer Ellen Beans. "I was working unit No. 12, which was assigned to a 100-yard or so stretch to apply some smoothing out strokes with our Polaski tools. When this was done to the satisfaction of our crew leader, we walked to the head of all the working trail crews to begin another section of cutting out the trail."

Beans was disappointed that she didn't recognize any Moraga residents during her Sunday shift, but was impressed to learn that volunteers came from all over the Bay Area (San Jose, Fremont, Santa Rosa) to help out. "I hope that during these summer months that many Lamorinda residents will hike up there to enjoy the incredible views that this new gently sloping trail will facilitate."

For additional information contact: linus@jmlt.org or phone Linus Eukel at (925) 228-1130.

Goats return for fire mitigation



Photo Teresa Onoda

Grazing goats and a handful of sheep perform fire abatement May 20 on the hill behind the Rheem Theatre in Moraga.

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