



Chapter Elections

November 3 is not the only important election coming up. At our last in-person chapter meeting of the year on Wednesday, October 14th, we will vote for a slate of chapter officers. The terms of office for president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer begin January 1, 2027, and will end on December 31, 2028. In addition to the slate below, we will accept nominations from the floor at the chapter meeting.

Additionally, due to our change to hosting a Zoom-only chapter meeting for the month of November, when officer elections would typically be held, and our desire to hold in-person elections, we are proposing a minor amendment to our chapter bylaws to allow elections to be conducted at our October meeting. Proposed changes to the relevant article to be voted on during the chapter meeting are provided in edits below. A more thorough review and update of the chapter bylaws will be conducted in 2027.

Article VI. Elective Officers

Section 2. Election of Officers. The Executive Committee shall nominate officer candidates at the ~~October~~ **September** Executive Committee meeting. Members shall be notified of the slate of officers nominated in the ~~November~~ **October** issue of the Chapter newsletter. In the event that a slate of candidates is not available for publication in the ~~November~~ **October** newsletter, candidates may be presented at the ~~November~~ **October** Chapter meeting. Nominations for officers may also be made from the floor at the ~~November~~ **October** meeting, provided that consent has been obtained from the nominees.

Elections shall be held at the ~~November~~ **October** Chapter meeting. Election protocol includes introducing the nominees, asking the general membership for additional nominees, and conducting the vote. Any member of the Executive Committee shall conduct the vote following the “Robert’s Rules of Order, Revised” voting procedure: officers shall be elected by a majority vote of members attending., ~~using member-voting protocol detailed in Article III, Section 2 of these bylaws.~~

Executive Board Nominees

Lesley Hamamoto is running for president. She is our current president and has been a member of CNPS for over 10 years. She previously served as Sac Valley Chapter Secretary. She is a professional biologist/botanist for the State of California and an avid native plant gardener. She especially enjoys learning about the complex interactions between native

plants and native wildlife and the role that gardening can play in supporting local ecosystems.

Bob Cutler is running for vice president again. He has been a chapter member and volunteer since 2018. He assumed the position of technology chair in 2019 and has served on the board of directors since then. He initially got involved as a self-taught gardener who wanted to learn about native plants to make intelligent decisions about adding natives to his yard. He is running for vice president to help ensure that the chapter can continue implementing and supporting conservation projects and spreading the word about the benefits of landscaping with native plants.

Lorena Guerrero is running to continue in her current role as secretary. Lorena has been a member of the Sacramento Chapter of CNPS since 2018. In addition to being the current chapter Secretary, she also serves as the volunteer coordinator for the chapter, assisting in the organization of many chapter events including the spring and fall plant sales and the Gardens Got Natives tour. Lorena is committed to the success of the chapter and understands the responsibility of serving as an officer on the board. She hopes to continue to help keep the board running smoothly in her role as Chapter Secretary.

Carol Witham is running as treasurer. Carol is an independent consultant with a specialty in vernal pools. She has been a CNPS member for over 35 years and has served in various leadership roles within the Sacramento Valley Chapter and at the state organization. She has served as Chapter Treasurer for the past 12 years.