What is a portal?

* + It is not just a website
    - “…*it is a web system that provides the functions and features to authenticate and identify the users and provide them with an easy, intuitive, personalized and user-customizable web-interface for facilitating access to information and services that are of primary relevance and interests to the users.”*

**ComCo Portal Terminology**

* + - ***Instance***: each community (Nashville, Rockford, CVEP, etc.)
    - ***Site***: the committee (Elementary Committee, Operating Board)
    - ***Portlet***:  [pluggable](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pluggable_look_and_feel) [user interface](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/User_interface) [software components](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Software_component) that are managed and displayed in a [web portal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Web_portal).
    - ***Organization***: Users typically belong to an organization (business, civic, govt, etc.)
    - ***User***: registered and committee member (anyone who wants to access information on the portal. “Roles” dictate the level of information a user is allowed to access)
    - ***Role***: a set of permissions given to a user given their role on the committee
    - ***Dynamic Data Lists***: Customized data collection forms (i.e. ITP response forms)
    - ***Social Collaboration***:
      * Wikis (minutes, etc.)
      * Creating content
        + Documents and Media
        + Asset Publisher
    - ***Tasks***: can be actual tasks or an agenda item
    - ***Workflow***: for items that require an approval process (minutes, tactical plans)
  + Two sides to the portal
    - Public: use as a website with dynamic content management
    - Private: where the boards and committees (sites) work happens