



**TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY
Special Water Conservation Committee Meeting
Monday December 5, 2016
9 AM Town Hall Conference Room
765 Portola Road, Portola Valley, CA**

WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:05 AM.

Roll Call:

Committee Members:

Present: Al Sill, Mia Di Giovanni, Maryann Derwin, Judith Murphy, Delle Maxwell, Rebecca Flynn, Brandi de Garmeaux

Absent: Loverine Taylor, Whitney Lane

Other Attendees: Debbie Mendelson

Oral Communications:

Debbie – Highlighted article on State’s new water conservation plan; Discussed issues with her Cal Water endpoint meter (it indicates that she has a leak but that cannot be correct, hard time finding anyone at Cal Water that was knowledgeable about endpoint program)

Judith – Highlighted Silicon Valley Community Foundation water meeting following our meeting (she will attend)

Rebecca – Received her \$1000 rebate check for lawn removal from Cal Water (took 6 months)

Al – Cal Water endpoint unit is now working. Cal Water said that they would notify me after it was fixed. They never notified me, but about a week after I called, it started to work. One possible issue with the data – Sum of reported daily consumption figures is 4.3CCF, but charged for 10CCF (but missing 3 days of billing period). Will re-check again next month. Still experimenting with leak detection feature.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the October 17 meeting were approved as written

Old Business:

Subcommittee Updates:

Smart Irrigation (Al, Brandi, Loverine, Mia):

- Perhaps another class next year? This year's class was well received. Perhaps next class should be more hands on.

Graywater (Rebecca, Judy):

- Rebecca finished gray water manual
- Brandi will run it by Jeremy
- We should have a substantial rollout so that it gets noticed
- Hard to find gray water info on San Mateo county website (must search under "rain") – Brandi will discuss with the county
- Al to post new manual on web site after OK from Brandi
- Brandi will get presentation of manual on agenda to present to town council

Rainwater Capture (Loverine):

- No discussion

Leaks (Brandi, Rebecca, Mia):

- Brandi has PSA's

Native Garden Tour (Judy, Delle, Marge, Danna):

- 10 local gardens identified and visited by the subcommittee
- Constructing information for visitor handouts
- Brandi needs example of waiver
- Consider collecting some water consumption relevant information for the gardens where possible

Welcome to PV (Whitney, CheyAnne):

- No discussion

Update from Maryann:

- Maryann sent out presentations from last C/CAG meeting to all committee members
- Long term water supply presentation
 - Using 10% less water even though there are 25% more people (since 1986)

- Drought prediction of 1 every 11 years (without considering climate change)
- Working with Stanford on analyzing what drove water consumption reductions
- The start to this year's rainy season has been very good, but it is still early
- Update on recent state water policy actions
 - Governors May 9 executive order
 - Longer term water conservation policy actions for both urban and agricultural sectors
 - Possible further extensions of emergency regulations if conditions are dry this winter
 - Urban Advisory Group focused on two main policies:
 - Strengthen local drought resilience
 - Use water more wisely
 - Long term conservation framework
 - Brandi will forward to committee
 - We can comment thru Dec 19
 - BAWSCA region consumption was down 15% in September 2016 relative to 2013; California consumption was down 18% for the same period

Update from Brandi:

- Green building ordinance has been thru ASCC and Planning Commission. Went thru Town Council in October – need provisions for second units. Making updates now.
- Handouts from Brandi on graywater and rainwater catchment for lawns
- How can we get further upstream and impact landscape designs early before residents are invested in their lawn centric designs?
- Recommendations for gray water: you do have to install dual piping to above grade fixtures to provide flexibility for future (and provide location for possible future tanks and power to area with 3 way valve outside of house); extensive discussion on whether this is setting too high of a standard; we really want to encourage subsurface irrigation. Agreed on change in wording to proposed regulation.

Update on Work with Parks & Rec:

- Parks and Rec wanted to look at fields – subcommittee formed, meeting with landscape designer tomorrow (status, possibilities)
- Conservation committee bringing forward proposal to reduce use of rodenticides

Update on Rainwater Harvesting Demo Site:

- Want to have a plan for demo at town hall – looking for volunteers from water conservation committee. Judy volunteered.

New Business:

Letter to CPUC on Cal Water Rate Case:

- Distributed letter from town to CPUC expressing interest in smart meters

Committee Appointments 2017: Current members will continue (Brandi will check with Whitney and Loverine)

Announcements:

Next Meeting – Date/Time and Topics:

December 19, 11:00AM to 1:00PM

Planned Topics:

- Officers for 2017
- Goals for 2017
- Review of meeting with Parks and Recs on town fields

Adjournment: 10:53 AM