



TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY
Sustainability Committee Meeting
March 16, 2023
7:00 PM

Scott Elrod, Chair
Jason Saleh, Vice Chair
Rebecca Flynn, Secretary
Ronny Krashinsky, Member
Loverine Taylor, Member
Anita Wotiz, Member

IN-PERSON MEETING
HISTORIC SCHOOLHOUSE- 775 PORTOLA RD. – PORTOLA VALLEY, CA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL 7:03 PM**
Committee: Scott Elrod (chair), Rebecca Flynn (Secy), Ronny Krashinsky, Loverine Taylor, Anita Wotiz, Brandi De Garneau
Absent: Jason Salah (vice chair)
Community: David Cardinal, Judy Murphy

- 2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**
SE: Committee of Committees meeting: Certain committees could become a non-Brown Act Committee if they chose to if the committee is appointed by a subcommittee of the Town Council instead of the whole Town Council.
LT: CERT (Community emergency response team) looking to get a sustainability focus/group going. We can add to the next agenda to discuss.

- 3. INTRODUCTIONS**

- 4. PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - a. Leslie Field has applied to be a member of the committee. TC still needs to approve.

- 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
 - a. Meeting of February 16, 2023
 - b. Moved, seconded, and approved by all.

- 6. OLD BUSINESS:**
 - a. Updates from Brandi
 - Changes of Town Mgr, Town Clerk and new Asst Town Mgr, helping with onboarding
 - Working with Kari to update parts of the website on smart meters and other topics.
 - Smart Water Meters - AMI Pilot Project with CalWater
 - Hasn't gotten responses yet from Cal Water, Brandi will follow up.
 - Climate Action Plan 2030
 - Still working on it with intern. Needs to go to the Town Council to launch outreach plan. Received new measures from the County. The SC will help refine the measures and actions as well as the outreach.
 - LT requests a history of the CAP for institutional memory.
 - SB 1383 - State's Climate Pollutant Reduction Strategy targeting organic waste disposal and surplus food – continuing on regulatory items required.
 - Green building amendments and electrification of existing buildings – new projects have to comply with the ordinance. Some refinements necessary for reporting.
 - Disposable Foodware Ordinance – on hold.
 - b. Review ongoing effort to issue “Public Service Announcements” on PVForum
 - RF posted one about Heat pump technology.
 - RF posted one about Climate clock and carbon calculator.
 - RF has drafted one on hot water recirculating pumps.
 - AW plans to write something on plastics for April.
 - Judy Murphy recommends topicality such as a reminder about the solar loaner program and the brochure on emergency preparedness.

- c. Share reflections on En-ROADS climate simulation workshop held in February.
 - Workshop went well, well attended, people were engaged, raised questions about unintended consequences, segment on advocacy good.
 - Perhaps needs a stronger connecting to action.
 - Perhaps needs an optional registration to be able to provide the links for the zoom and google file prior to the workshop.
 - Perhaps more interaction with Steve and Laura after the breakout groups.
- d. Final planning for WildFire Preparedness Fair on April 22, 2023; review logo draft for table banner
 - Back up power unit
 - Smart plugs with other appliances, check about instructions. RK to check appliances. SE to pick up the plugs from Town Hall.
 - Electrification: induction cooktop
 - Books on Climate Change, particularly related to wildfire increases, and card lists. LT will send list of 4 books to Brandi to purchase and check with library. *California Burning* is one highly recommended book.
 - Topic: Resiliency is sustainable. Battery power is more sustainable than generators. Sustainable preparedness. Electrification: Removing gas from your house keeps your house safer.
 - SE and RF to work on mission statement for booth.
 - Logo approved for table banner. All voted in approval for new banner, within our budget.
 - SE to coordinate with Library for getting the solar battery and the induction cooktop for the Fair.
- e. Discuss possible HEA insert in future Greenwaste mailings
 - Brandi to report back.
- f. Review suggestion from community member in regard to electric leaf blower adoption
 - Resident Bruce McAuley asking about the voucher program and enforcement. Voucher program no longer in place.
 - Resident Judy Murphy recommends trialing a code enforcement and sending out reminders for new residents and a flyer in English and Spanish to put on gardeners' trucks. Bay area Air Quality Mgt is banning gas heat appliances. Brandi will look up state ordinance and look up to update the flyer [portolavalley.net/https://www.portolavalley.net/business/electric-leaf-blower-incentive](https://www.portolavalley.net/business/electric-leaf-blower-incentive).
- g. Library loaner program:
 - Lomi: Anita reviewing Lomi home composter. Uses it 3x/wk to produce compost from household food waste. It takes from 4 hours to 16 hours depending on mode. Runs about \$500 plus recurring costs of filters. Jay reviewed Lomi composter life cycle impact. Lomi calculates that the machine offsets its own manufacturing in terms of GHG emissions. Anita to follow up with Garrett about the machine and then to Brandi to order one if the library is ok. Need a manual.
 - Discuss possible loaner items oriented toward kids (Ronny) – electricity monitor loaners and provide kid's worksheet (Efficiency Maine). SMC Library and Sustainability SMC hosts summer workshops for middle scholars and other youth activities. Can promote activities on PVForum. Ronny to follow up with Garrett at the library.
 - Discuss electric leaf blower and/or weed-wacker loaner (Scott)
 - Temporary replacement heat pump water heater (Anita) – Sunworks says that the HPWHs are now ubiquitous and can be obtained quickly and there is even one available at 120 version and can be installed quickly so no need for temp loaner. BayRen.org keeps a list of approved contractors and enables rebates for installation.
- h. Discuss current observations about Greenwaste trash collection (defer to next meeting).

- i. Discuss whether to conduct a survey in the community related to update of the Water Efficient Landscaping Ordinance (WELO). Any survey needs to be approved by the TC. Getting people engaged with what they can do with their property to mitigate the effects of drought. Get ideas to and from the people about water conservation. How to plan for deluges and how to plan for droughts. Understanding their issues and their solutions. Loverine to work on some ideas for questions.
- j. Inputs to the Race and Equity Committee on current version of “land acknowledgement” statement used in Town communications (Committee approves the statement with perhaps a better word for “commodification”.such as exploitation.)
- k. Review and update committee priorities for 2023:
 - i. Community education: Public Service Announcements to encourage greenhouse gas and water use reduction.
 - ii. Smart water meter usage with Cal Water: education and outreach
 - iii. Climate Action Plan
 - iv. Existing building stock electrification ordinances
 - v. Demonstration units – Induction stove top, backup power, smart meter gadgets
 - vi. Preparing for drought - including update to MWELo and drought sections on Town website

7. NEXT MEETING AND PROPOSED AGENDA TOPICS

- a. Council priorities
- b. Cert Sustainability
- c. Greenwaste trash collection
- d. Water Survey
- e. 10-minute historical recap of some issue by an expert (CAP, WELO, etc)

8. ADJOURNMENT

The next regularly scheduled meeting date is April 20, 2023.
Adjourned at 9:04. PM

The Town of Portola Valley acknowledges the colonial history of this land we dwell upon—the unceded territory of the Ramaytush (rah-my-toosh) Ohlone, Tamien Nation, and Muwekma (mah-WEK-mah) Ohlone, who endured a human and cultural genocide that included removal from their lands and their sacred relationship to the land. Portola Valley recognizes that we profit from the commodification of land seized from indigenous peoples and now bear the ecological consequences. We seek to understand the impact of these legacies on all beings and to find ways to make repair.