



**TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY**  
**Sustainability Committee Meeting**  
**September 21, 2023**  
**7:00 PM**

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

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**HISTORIC SCHOOLHOUSE – 765 PORTOLA RD. – PORTOLA VALLEY, CA**

**1. CALL TO ORDER at 7:00 & ROLL CALL**

Present: Scott Elrod, Jay Saleh, Rebecca Flynn (Sec'y), Ronny Krashinsky, Anita Wotiz, Loverine Taylor

Absent: Leslie Field, Jeff Aalfs

**2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

*Speakers' time is limited to two minutes.*

Brandi di Garneau has left the Town. A new employee is to be hired to replace her.

Town Attorney said it was correct to send out notice about the recalled smart plugs that were distributed for free at the Wildfire Prevention Fair. Emporia will replace them if you follow the directions in the notice.

Rebecca has been attending building science lectures about energy efficiency. A notice about the meetings was sent to the PVForum about the 3C-REN lectures. They are free to attend.

**3. INTRODUCTIONS**

**4. PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- a. Meeting of August 17, 2023
- b. Minutes approved by all 6 present members.

**6. OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. Updates from Brandi (Brandi could not attend to update us. She will update her projects with Mayor Jeff Aalfs. We are waiting on his update on what the committee needs to take on in the absence.) Can any items be joint with Woodside or other small communities? Can the SC coordinate with Woodside SC.
  - i. Smart Water Meters - AMI Pilot Project with CalWater - key element for the SC. How should the SC continue to advance that roll out?
  - ii. Greenwaste interactions, tour planning, HEA insert in future Greenwaste mailings – can the SC directly contact GW about the tour.
  - iii. Climate Action Plan 2030 – key element for the SC. Needs to be approved by the Town Council first before we could take the lead on it. SC needs to get a copy of the rough draft and a copy of a model CAP.
  - iv. SB 1383 - State's Climate Pollutant Reduction Strategy targeting organic waste disposal and surplus food.
  - v. Green building amendments and electrification of existing buildings.
  - vi. Disposable Foodware Ordinance
- b. Review ongoing effort to issue "Public Service Announcements" on PVForum
  - i. Leslie currently working on one on local geotech approaches.
  - ii. New water meters = how to interpret your data on Eye On Water. Run faucets to let air out. – Lovey
- c. Updates on library loaner program
  - i. Library has decided to only allow 2 loaner products at a time. Equity issues. Would the Town be able to take on the loaner program or could it be run from SC

- member houses? Can we coordinate with East Palo Alto library? Backup power unit borrowed once a month. Attempt to add third item to library. Garrett leaving.
- d. Plans to develop a resource list (people, devices, demonstration locations) for sustainability in PV.
    - i. Response from Town nearly nonexistent of people willing to be “experts” (only SC members)
    - ii. Are there homeowners interested in opening their home and sharing their sustainability items in the house?
    - iii. Rolling out the resource.
  - e. Discussion: How do we get people to care and be engaged about climate change and take action and make changes in their lives?
    - i. Cognitive dissonance about GHG usage
    - ii. Heavy carbon tax or electrical/gas bills - doesn't hit their pocketbooks in this Town. No big fines.
    - iii. Advise Town Council on changing regulations - - Climate Action Plan
    - iv. What do other Towns do?
    - v. What all electric reach codes have we implemented in Town?
    - vi. What views do the Town Council members have on climate change actions? What views do the Town Residents have?
    - vii. What building regulations could be added to the Town? Adding 2” rigid insulation to the walls, increase R value to the roof, air sealing, eliminate thermal bridges. Provide carrot of extra AMFA.
  - f. 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. Review Climate Action Plan template or other towns' versions
- b. Review Brandi's responsibilities
- c. Green Waste
- d. Regulations

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

The next regularly scheduled meeting date is October 19, 2023.  
Adjourned at 8:28 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.