



TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY
Race and Equity Committee Meeting
Tuesday August 13th, 2024
6:30pm

Lucy Neely, Chair
 Andrew Browne, Member
 Adnan Iftekhar, Member
 Cole Kawaja, Student Liaison
 Andrew Pierce, Member
 Jon Silver, Member
 Johnathan Clark, Student Liaison

REGULAR MEETING

HISTORIC SCHOOLHOUSE– 765 PORTOLA RD. – PORTOLA VALLEY, CA

REMOTE MEETING ADVISORY: On March 1, 2023, all committees in Portola Valley will return to conducting in-person meetings. A Zoom link will be provided for members of the public to participate remotely; however, the Town cannot guarantee there will be no technical issues with the software during the meeting. For best public participation results, attending the meeting in-person is advised.

ASSISTANCE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Town Clerk at (650) 851-1700 or by email at towncenter@portolavalley.net. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the Town to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

VIRTUAL PARTICIPATION VIA ZOOM

To access the meeting by computer:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81417581914?pwd=KsKCFxFXQXNCmr8ztqHMRx2MFSBD7s.1>

Webinar ID: 814 1758 1914

Passcode: 459839

To access the meeting by phone:

1-669-900-6833 or 1-888-788-0099 (toll-free)

*Mute/Unmute – Press *6 / Raise Hand – Press *9*

1. **CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**
2. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. **Determine/Refine Agenda**
 - b. **Committee Reviews/Updates**
3. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - a. **Receive update on library display**
 - b. **Update on planning for MLK Day 2025**
 - c. **Update on housing issues in PV**

4. ADJOURNMENT

The next regularly scheduled meeting date is Tuesday September 10th, 6:30pm

Land Acknowledgement:

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.

Minutes of May 14th, 2024 PV Race and Equity Meeting

Members: Andy Browne, Lucy Neely, Andrew Pierce, Jon Silver

Public: David Cardinal

- **Call to order 6:45**
- **Policing**—Andrew Pierce asks how to make policing effective without it being abusive.
- **Food trucks**—Neely: someone emailed to share that neighbors complained about the food truck and it was disallowed from church. Browne: why would someone complaining result in the food truck being removed, as opposed to discussion happening in town? Pierce: had a similar food truck issue at work. People don't want the people that go to food trucks. That's what they're against. Cardinal: proper way would be to have them be permitted and pay some minimal local tax so as not to compete with local restaurants. We pay \$1000 a month to subsidize FM, which has lots of food trucks. There is no legal way for a food truck to be in our town. Lucy will talk to the existing food truck. Browne: do food trucks need a permit to be in a place? Cardinal: need a permit to be on public property.
- **Library**—Silver: New librarian for PV, Woodside, and West Fair Oaks. She is willing to come to our committee meeting. Wants to facilitate featuring the Equal Justice Initiative calendar along with other rotating content. Thinks Felicity Baringer is the person to come up with the other content. Pierce: where would it be in the library? Silver: wants a prominent place, on the inside near the book drop. Could be a subcommittee to meet with her. Jon will invite librarian to June 11th meeting.
- **Martin Luther King Day celebration 2025**—Jon wants help! Is going to invite people to serve on a steering committee. Wants really good music, as well as good talking. Wants Cultural Arts and churches to join.
- Value of committee/Chair: Silver asks about Adnan as chair. Neely agrees and will talk with him further.
- **Housing**—Pierce: felt burned by ADHEC process. Asks Cardinal, what could one practically do now, given the situation with the town council and state? Cardinal: emphasis of R&E committee so far has been more on education. Housing is the new battleground of equity issues. Big issue is latino populations. Future of equity and inclusion is financial as much as cultural, making an opportunity for people to come here. Town Council has not indicated support of individual affordable housing projects. Pierce: this does not help my despair. Cardinal: The hammer of HCD is coming down, going to audit ADUs, etc. Town has followed through on basically no projects. Pierce: Two observations, may or may not be correct: 1) biggest land owner is Stanford and they probably are not going to use the builders remedy. 2) Conjectures that the creation of the town was largely influenced by racial exclusion. Silver: town was founded because of the sequoias. Has encouraged TC to annex Ladera or more Stanford land, etc, to build affordable housing there. Cardinal: encourages DEI voices to make themselves heard in town housing conversation.
- Cole joins, 7:32
- **Sherriff**—how does this relate to DA? Current sheriff is trying their best but they came in with a lot of context and culture from the previous sheriff. Dave Cardinal encourages us to look at current behavior, not based on historical experiences. Andrew Pierce: we are a low crime community. What about traffic stops? Who is pulled over and how are they treated? Is this data recorded? What about people on ListServ saying 'somebody suspicious in the neighborhood'. Dave Cardinal adds that the sheriff will investigate anyone who is reported. Notes that the residents are the ones doing more filtering. Pierce: we have a contract. What kind of data are we

receiving? Neely: BPTS committee works with the traffic stop data, but maybe not demographics.
Could be a place to start. Cardinal: Local captain hosts coffees in PV every month or two.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm