

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING NO. 787, MARCH 24, 2010

ROLL CALL

Mayor Toben called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Howard called the roll:

Present: Councilmembers Derwin, Driscoll, Richards and Wengert, and Mayor Toben
Absent: None
Others: Town Manager Howard, Town Attorneys Sloan and Prince, Asst. Town Manager McDougall, Planning & Building Asst. Brown, and Town Clerk Hanlon

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Bill Lane, Westridge Dr., congratulated the Council and staff—especially Councilmember Driscoll and Mr. Vlastic—for their presentations at the special meeting held at the Community Hall. He added that Ms. de Garmeaux did a beautiful job on the panels that showed the progress to get the LEED platinum award.

Scott Parker, School Board, asked the Council to support Measure D, which would be on a special mail-in ballot on 5/4/10. Information was on the District's website at PVSD.net. After almost two years of reductions to the schools' budgets, Measure D would help mitigate the problem. The District had to make a lot of difficult decisions, and more were in store. He appreciated the good communication and relationship between the Town and the schools. Mayor Toben said he was proud to have signed the ballot argument in support of Measure D. The relationship with the School District had served the Town so well in the last several years. He said members of the Council would do everything they could to bring the ballot measure home. Mr. Lane added that *The Almanac* reporters throughout the years had done a lot to assist communication and provide fantastic coverage of the Town and schools.

(1) PRESENTATION: Report on Portola Valley School District Goals [7:35 p.m.]

Mayor Toben welcomed Tim Hanretty and Ann Campbell. He said this was the last time the Council would see Ms. Campbell in her capacity as District Superintendent. She would be the next County Superintendent of Schools.

Ann Campbell, School District Superintendent, said she would treasure the time spent in Portola Valley—a community that was incredibly supportive of its schools. She gave a presentation on the state of the Schools District and discussed: 1) the schools and number of students, teachers and staff; 2) academics and Academic Performance Index scores; 3) awards; 4) skills needed for the 21st century; 5) school garden; 6) classrooms and computer pilot program; 7) language/writing pilot program; 8) music programs; 9) creating global students and citizens; 10) assistance to Afghanistan; 11) budget cuts; 12) Measure D; 13) website; and 14) District's vision statement. She invited Councilmembers to visit the schools and see what was going on in the classrooms. Mayor Toben said the children were fortunate to be served by Board members, faculty, and parents. Councilmembers thanked Ms. Campbell for the fabulous service the schools offered to the community.

(2) PRESENTATION: Report on Portola Valley School District Sustainability projects

Tim Hanretty, Asst. School District Superintendent, described upgrades of the facilities and initial steps taken to explore a solar energy system.

Rashmi Menon, consultant, gave a presentation on sustainability projects undertaken during the last year.

She discussed: a) energy and water audits; b) interface with the SuRE Coordinator; c) power management; d) renewable energy; e) solar project cost; f) types of financing secured; and g) School District's reputation and financial rating. Carter Warr, architect, discussed location of the solar energy system and character of the school sites. Responding to Councilmember Wengert, Ms. Menon said the payback period was estimated at 7-15 years. The range was large because the interest rate had not been locked in, and the cost estimates were not finalized. The system itself would live for 25+ years. Mr. Warr noted that with new technologies, the cost per watt was substantially down.

Mayor Toben said it was exciting to see the District's commitment to sustainability converge with the Town's interests and priorities. The fact that the schools celebrated their Earth Day event at the Town Center was an example of how the District and Town continued to work together.

CONSENT AGENDA

By motion of Councilmember Derwin, seconded by Councilmember Richards, the item listed below was approved with the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Derwin, Driscoll, Richards and Wengert, and Mayor Toben
Noes: None

(4) Warrant List of 3/24/10 in the Amount of \$64,916.82.

REGULAR AGENDA

(3) Minutes of Town Council Special Meeting of 3/10/10 (Removed from Consent Agenda)

Councilmember Driscoll submitted changes to the minutes of the 3/10/10 meeting. By motion and second, the minutes were approved as amended by a vote of 5-0.

(5) Emergency Preparedness in Portola Valley [8:10 p.m.]

Mayor Toben said the Town was committed to emergency preparedness on an on-going basis. For every month that had a fifth Wednesday, the Council held a special session dedicated to emergency preparedness. This month's meeting had been moved to this agenda.

(a) March 20-21 Workshop on "Assessing Wildfire Hazards in the Home Ignition Zone"

Fire Marshall Denise Enea described the makeup of the Firewise Advisory Committee, which met on a regular basis. She said the goal was to come up with fire prevention, fire education and emergency preparedness programs that would be promoted within the Fire District. The workshop was one of the first events put on with about 35 students attending--including Woodside and Portola Valley Councilmembers, both Town Managers, the Fire Chief, and emergency preparedness volunteers. It was a nationally accredited class from the National Fire Protection Agency and Firewise. Firewise was an accredited certification program that communities could attain and achieve. It was a collaboration of the residents, the town and fire agency to get together and figure out how to make their communities safer. For quite a few years, she had been promoting defensible space and doing more. This workshop was the next level and addressed what could be done before evacuating to make houses safer and survive a fire. Describing some examples of things that could be done, she said it was great that the class had been taught in the community. She urged that the Firewise progression continue, noting that Portola Valley Ranch had submitted their application.

John Boice, CERPP and EPC, said it was a very interesting workshop. The people who taught the class

were professionals with a lot of experience fighting fires. They were very enthusiastic about what they were doing. Ms. Enea added that the instructors wanted to stay in touch and help the communities. Councilmember Driscoll asked if the Town could obtain copies of the videos shown. Ms. Enea said Firewise was a public domain and the videos could be shown to anyone. At a minimum, Councilmember Driscoll suggested getting a DVD of the videos for the library. Ms. Enea said she would follow up. Ms. Howard noted that the Town received a letter listing those who attended and thanking the Council for their support.

(b) Update from CERPP with Current Status of CERPP and Future Endeavors

Ms. Howard said CERPP was the backbone of the Town's effort to be prepared for an emergency. It was very important that the Town, CERPP and the Fire District were working together to create a more seamless response. She noted that a list of CERPP's division leaders had been distributed

Mr. Boice gave a presentation on CERPP. He discussed: 1) territory covered by CERPP; 2) formation of CERPP in Town; 3) organizational structure; 4) purpose of CERPP; 5) organizing neighborhoods and divisions; 6) communication system; 7) family service radios; 8) division radios and aerials; 9) communicating with the Town; 10) communications training; 11) territory covered by the Fire District and resources; 12) assistance and training from the Fire District; 13) CERPP's training exercises for fires and earthquakes; 14) CERPP committees; 15) classes conducted by CERPP; 16) trauma kits; and 17) training neighborhoods.

Michelle Green, Alpine Hills CERPP division leader, described her division area and participation in drills. Responding to Councilmember Derwin, she discussed how she organized her area, outreach to neighbors, presentations to neighbors, form for homeowners, training/drills in her division, and keeping people interested. Responding to Councilmember Driscoll, she said a volunteer effort depended on fired-up volunteers. From the Town, she asked for credibility within the community. It was all about publicity and communication. Mayor Toben said division leaders should be given more exposure in the PV Post. Advancing emergency preparedness had a lot to do with the network that reminded people what they could do. Only 3% of households in the country were prepared for a natural disaster. If it was 20% in this community, he would be impressed. When exercises were held in the Woodside Highlands where he lived, 10% of the hillside residents participated, and that was pretty good. It was remarkable that 12 years ago, there was no CERPP. Given the magnitude of the impending disaster, there was still a ways to go. Councilmember Richards said he really appreciated what the CERPP members did. He had been a neighborhood leader for many years, and it was really tough.

Dave Howes, Brookside CERPP division leader and EPC, described his division area and neighborhoods. He asked the Town to figure out a way to use "Portola Way" rather than "CERPP." It appeared easier to get people to volunteer for Town committees. CERPP was a little diluted, and it was difficult to get people involved. In Alameda, their CERT program put 1,000 people through their training. Their biggest strength was that they had someone on duty running the program five days/week. The two drills/year helped. It let the neighborhood leaders go through the neighborhood process, go over charts, figure out who was involved and who wasn't, etc. Even getting people involved with the drills was difficult, but he thought they were helpful.

Councilmember Driscoll noted that the Emergency Preparedness Committee was part of the Town. The Town needed to find some way to minimize the separateness of CERPP. Perhaps the Town could designate CERPP as the emergency organization. Mayor Toben said that was effectively being done in the Safety Element.

Marianne Plunder, EPC, said when the Woodside Fire Department had the money for a full-time staff member, that person was the manager of CERPP and there was a lot more happening. Mayor Toben agreed that if there was one paid staff person, it made a world of difference. One idea was to consider

some pooled funding for the creation of a staff position involving Woodside, Portola Valley and the Fire District. There might also be some contributed money that enabled that function to be professionalized and thereby ramped up. He did not think it necessarily needed to be a full-time position. He agreed there needed to be an impetus that kept the volunteers gratified and energized. Mr. Howes said the new Town website was a huge improvement. One of the CERPP committee members helped with the part that dealt with emergency preparedness. That was a move in the right direction.

Mr. Boice continued his presentation and discussed: 18) his division area; 19) survey after an emergency; 20) 8 block leaders; 21) quick tasks; 22) drill assessments; 23) children's shelter; 24) equipment; 25) list of residents and communication capabilities; 26) water and electricity shutoffs for each house; 27) website; and 28) operating manual. He said people were not used to doing things for themselves. CERPP brought people together. He said things that were needed included increased participation at all levels, expanded training, understanding the level of training, and assistance with recruiting. Referring to the website, he said giving people information was not enough. Mr. Howes added that ID cards for people who had gone through training was being discussed. Mr. Boice described the system he used to keep a record of all the classes people took. It helped let people know where they were and what they should be doing to increase their level of training.

Mayor Toben said the Town was very fortunate to have the benefit of skilled and dedicated volunteers. The Town would need CERPP, and it was indispensable for the community. He asked the Director of Emergency Operations to give some serious thought to the notion of support to CERPP. These volunteers couldn't be expected to continue to devote their lives to maintaining a level of readiness. Some serious thinking needed to be given to ways to offer new kinds of support that would sustain these people and also handle some of the blank spots on the maps. The weaker divisions needed to have their readiness increased while sustaining the caliber of the readiness of the stronger divisions. Ms. Howard noted that the Council would be hearing from the Emergency Preparedness Committee again on 4/14/10.

(6) Proposed Conceptual Changes to Solicitation Ordinance [9:10 p.m.]

Mayor Toben said some members of the community and staff had expressed concern about the current solicitation ordinance. There were instances where commercial solicitors came to Portola Valley, failed to go through the permitting process, or went through the process and disregarded the "Do Not Contact" list. The Town Attorney's memo was dated 3/16/10, and Ms. McDougall's memo was dated 3/24/10.

Councilmember Driscoll said his experience included people coming to the door attempting to sell a subscription to *The Watchtower*. It was a financial transaction, but it was a religious solicitation. Responding, Ms. Prince said once any request for money/contribution was part of the process, it became solicitation. If someone came and offered a pamphlet that shared their faith or political perspective, that was protected first amendment free speech and no permit could be required. Responding to Mayor Toben, she said the Watchtower Bible case that was cited in Ms. Sloan's memo of 4/2/09 was not directly on point, but it contained language that said once money became involved, the local agency had the authority to put time/place/manner restrictions on solicitation and require permits. First amendment law solicitation was very complex. If there were donations involved, the Jehovah's Witnesses, for example, would need to obtain a permit. Councilmember Driscoll felt they would have the assumption that since they were a religious organization, they would not need a permit. Ms. Prince noted that one of the difficulties with the entire permitting process was that it was difficult to get people to come in for permits in the first place and difficult to get people to behave accordingly. Setting this up and doing some outreach was a good first step.

Councilmember Driscoll said the onus was being put on the residents to know the rules. After the ordinance was adopted, a simplified version might be attached to the Post to let people know what their rights were and how to respond.

Responding to Councilmember Wengert's question about the order the material was presented in the packet, Ms. Sloan said she and staff had conversations, but it was hard to coordinate the different issues. She felt it would be most helpful to address Ms. McDougall's questions first and then decide how the ordinance should be revised.

Referring to Ms. McDougall's memo of 3/24/10 (p. 3), Mayor Toben said the first issue was whether to involve law enforcement in the solicitation permit process. Responding to Councilmember Wengert, Police Commissioner Davis said Capt. Mark Hanlon thought there was some merit in showing the force of the deputies' during the issuance. Many locations used the Sheriff or their police force to issue the permits. Lt. Schumaker was neutral on the idea. But, he [Davis] did not support the idea and thought it would be a distraction from the Sheriff's service. Capt. Hanlon said the deputies worked for the Town. Whatever the Council decided, the Sheriff's office would go with it. In Belmont in 1972-1984, the deputies were plagued with solicitors. In Town, he thought there were probably 2-3 groups/year if that. The time spent involved in this process from the deputies' perspective didn't seem to be overwhelming. Secondly, he felt a law enforcement presence somewhere in the process—not processing paperwork—would assure that the applicant understood the terms of the solicitation application. It would also send the message that the law enforcement representative was engaged in this process and was aware of the terms for conducting business in Portola Valley. That presence sometimes went a long way. The person who would be carrying this out was Lt. Schumaker as bureau commander. He and his sergeants would make this happen if the Council chose to do that. Responding to Councilmember Driscoll, he said if there were 15-20 solicitors every month, that would be a burden on the Sheriff's Dept. Responding to Councilmember Driscoll, Ms. McDougall confirmed there were 2-3/year.

Mr. Davis said there was a broader set of problems. The "Do Not Contact" list was a false sense of security on the part of the residents. It was not legally or mechanically enforceable. It triggered complaints from residents. It also made no distinction between those people who were under the first amendment rights and those who were true solicitors. He felt it should be done away with. The problem was that very few people came in for a permit. They fell into two categories: those who were honest individuals who wanted to follow through with the nature and spirit of the permit and those who were going through it mechanically. There was also the time schedule. Legally, the Town had to issue permits within a brief period. Staff might end up waiting for a deputy to come into Town Hall or have to set an appointment. He did not support involving the Sheriff's office. But, he did endorse all the other aspects of Ms. McDougall's proposal such as a public education campaign. He also thought there should be a sign for use by residents that indicated "No Solicitors by Ordinance so-and-so" that referenced the ordinance. The person who was handed the "Do Not Contact" list couldn't argue he lost it, didn't read it, etc. He thought that would provide a little more teeth.

Mayor Toben said he was not satisfied with the record on this issue. There was no log of complaints, and he did not know if there were ten irritated residents per year, 100 or 1,000. There was no sense of the number of outfits that had come through that hadn't gone through the permit process and were operating without the benefit of a permit. There was also no sense of the rate of compliance by those who obtained permits. There was no record on which to take a strong stand.

Ms. Sloan said if someone complained, updating the ordinance that was on the books was discussed, but it always got pushed to the bottom of the pile. Responding to Ms. Sloan, Ms. Howard confirmed that the Town had a permit form that people came in and signed even if it wasn't enforceable. Everyone agreed that the ordinance on the books needed to be updated, and Ms. Sloan brought forth an ordinance for the Council to consider. In addition to that, the staff had other concerns about the way the process worked and had submitted some recommendations for consideration. Some of these ideas could be incorporated in the ordinance, or the revised ordinance could be considered as drafted. She agreed there was a relatively small number of people coming in and asking for a permit.

Councilmember Wengert said the "Do Not Contact" list was clearly a problem. It created a false expectation

amongst residents that if they were on the list, they would be protected from all forms of solicitation. Mayor Toben said the question was whether that problem could be fixed and maintain the list. He was worried what signal it would send to residents to abandon the list without offering any form of protection. There could be ways of revising the way it was implemented that might make it a better device. If someone wanted to be on the list, they should immediately get an email that said being on the list meant protection from commercial solicitors, but it would not protect you from individuals who came door-to-door to present their political or religious viewpoints. Also, the permit should say that if you contacted someone on the Do Not Contact list, you would face immediate revocation of your permit and not be considered for a permit in the future. He would prefer to try those methods before eliminating the list.

Councilmember Wengert said it was important to consider what percentage of the people followed the rules, had a permit, and responded to the list or prohibitions. The issue people were reacting to was when ten people got out of a van at 7:00 p.m. on a Friday night and fanned out. They did not have a permit and had a very specific agenda in mind. The Do Not Contact list could create the impression that there was something the Town wasn't doing by allowing that van to stop in a neighborhood. She did not want the Town to take on a burden that was impossible to police by representing that the Do Not Contact list would have some ability to stop that activity. She was not suggesting abandoning the list as a first step, but she did not want staff to field 25-30 calls when those incidences occurred.

Mr. Davis said one of Capt. Hanlon's concepts was to set the system up so that the deputies could collar the culprits and reduce the probability of them being able to use the argument that they didn't know. He [Davis] supported a new ordinance that was enforceable and spelled out infractions. It should demonstrate that Portola Valley was a bad place to solicit when you contacted those who didn't want to be solicited. Responding to Mayor Toben, he confirmed that he preferred residents post a "No Solicitation by Ordinance No. xyz" on their property. As a service to the residents, he wanted to provide them with a sign published by the Town that had the ordinance number on it that people would feel comfortable attaching to their homes. That would take care of the solicitor problem but would not take care of the people exercising their first amendment rights.

Mayor Toben said for many households, the No Solicitors by Ordinance No. xyz would be unsightly, unfriendly and inappropriate. The alternative should be to have your name on a No Contact list.

Councilmember Driscoll felt the number of solicitors who had come to his door was substantially larger than the number who had applied for a permit. Most of the time, they seemed to be completely stunned that there was a No Contact list because they never went to the Town to get a permit. He did not look forward to putting a big sign on his house, but a discreet sign over his doorbell would be acceptable. He did not mind having a No Contact list for those solicitors who came in for a permit. It served as a warning that you would not be welcome at those properties.

Councilmember Derwin said she would not post a sign on her house. When she saw them, she felt hostile towards the inhabitants. She liked the Do Not Contact list and thought it should be tied to a better ordinance. It should explain what you were getting and what you weren't getting by being on the list.

Councilmember Richards said he would not put a sign on his house. He would be interested in a Do Not Contact list if it was workable and wasn't a burden to the staff. Personally, he had not had any trouble with solicitors. There were perhaps 3-4/year at most.

Councilmember Wengert said she would not have a Do Not Solicit sign on her property. But, she suspected that those on the list would not object to a sign. Whether one could substitute for the other was a question, but to run them in parallel was redundant and did not make a lot of sense. For those who didn't want a sign, she did not think the Do Not Contact list would substitute adequately for that in terms of stopping the actions the Town was trying to stop.

Mayor Toben said it appeared that a majority of the Council was not prepared to eliminate the Do Not Contact list. There also did not appear to be any resistance to allowing people to put No Solicitation signs on their property. That might be encouraged as a way of giving greater traction to the notion of deterring unwanted solicitors and also clarifying the distinction between a solicitor and a contact for pure first amendment purposes. The direction to staff was to explore how the Do Not Contact list could be more effective.

Councilmember Wengert said the educational campaign would go a long way to address comments on the forum. A description of the first amendment rights and a clear understanding of what was allowable anywhere in the country—including Portola Valley—was important. Mayor Toben noted that there was also a section in the CA Penal Code that created an exception to trespassing laws to ensure that people had a right to come on your property and ask you to sign a petition. Councilmember Wengert said something could also be posted on the website that might cut down the number of complaints.

With respect to the permit issuance process, Councilmember Driscoll said it appeared to be a very infrequent thing. He did not think involving the deputies should be a requirement. If a deputy was in Town and handy at the time a solicitor came in for a permit, it might be a desirable practice to give the deputy a call and have him give that official visibility. If a deputy was not available, it should not be mandatory to have him present.

Councilmember Derwin said she could be persuaded to go with law enforcement involvement—especially if it was only 2-3 groups/year. But, she did not agree with Councilmember Driscoll's suggestion. It should either involve law enforcement or not.

Councilmember Wengert did not want to involve law enforcement because there were so few instances. The people who were coming in for a permit were most likely the more responsible people involved in the process. She did not think it would capture the problem that the Town was trying to solve, which was to stop the bigger groups of people who came roaring in for pure solicitation. If there were complaints about those taking out the permits, she might be persuaded otherwise.

Councilmember Richards concurred. Additionally, for those people who came in for a permit, it might offer them some respectability. In this day and age, there might be more and more people trying to make a living doing this as a last resort.

Ms. McDougall said one of the benefits of involving the Sheriff's Dept. was that they were the eyes and ears and knew what was going on. If they were involved in permit issuance, they would know when a permit had been issued. More importantly, they would know when one had not been issued. If they ran across groups undertaking solicitation, they would know whether a permit had been issued. Mayor Toben said if they got a call from a resident who was upset about a solicitor, the deputy could simply ask the person if they had a permit.

Mayor Toben said there was not a sufficient record documenting a serious problem that would justify the added presence the Sheriff would lend. He was not persuaded that the current process should be altered. With respect to the public education campaign, Councilmember Wengert suggested using the Town website, which people could instantly access. Mayor Toben felt they should be able to search on "solicitation" and learn what was permissible and what was not. He also felt that when some of these rogue outfits were identified, the Sheriff needed to be right on it.

With respect to the ordinance, Mayor Toben said the revised ordinance (Section 5.40.090(C), p. 4) embedded the requirement of compliance with the No Contact list. He suggested adding that a violation of this provision could lead to a revocation of the solicitation permit and some refusal to grant permits within 1-2 years. Ms. Prince pointed out that the next section (5.40.100) indicated that the Town Manager could

revoke the permit. Mayor Toben said it should be added to section 5.40.090(C).

Under permit exemption (Section 5.40.040, p. 2), Councilmember Derwin said Ms. Sloan's memo contained a paragraph about an exception for gathering signatures. She thought that could be added as well as something about census workers. Ms. Sloan said Mayor Toben emailed a suggestion to add a third exemption for door-to-door contact involving only requests for signatures such as political petitions. She did not think it was necessary to add census workers, which was a federal activity and did not happen frequently. Mayor Toben said the word "solicitation" in Section 5.40.040(i) on p.2 should be changed to "door-to-door contact". Solicitation was defined previously to mean an approach for an exchange or contribution. Door-to-door contact distinguished that activity from solicitation.

Referring to Section 5.40.070 on p. 3, Ms. Prince confirmed for Councilmember Derwin that staff indicated the permit was usually issued the same day. The suggestion was to change 14 days to 3 days for a little leeway. Responding to Mayor Toben's question on Section 5.40.090(D), p. 4, she confirmed that there might be a legal problem with limiting a permit issuance to no more than one time in any six-month period for any one organization. The intent was to limit the number of times any given group could come into the neighborhood. However, courts looked at whether there was an easier way to regulate the activity. The Do Not Contact list was an easier way of trying to address that problem. She said she would review it further. In Section 5.40.090(F), she said the section was meant to address aggressive contact as well and the situation where someone came for religious or political purposes but did not leave when asked nicely to do so. She said she would bring back the revised ordinance.

COUNCIL, STAFF, COMMITTEE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

(7) False Security Alarm Research [10:00 p.m.]

Ms. Howard said during the budget process and the negotiations with the Sheriff's Department, the Council expressed some concerns about the cost of false alarms. A false alarm ordinance was discussed along with the idea that it might be a potential revenue source. Ms. Brown researched what other communities were doing with false alarms. Ms. Brown reviewed the staff report of 3/24/10. She noted that the numbers given in the report represented all alarm calls (not just false alarms) and were only representative of crime-related calls--not all the calls the Sheriff's office received.

Lt. Schumaker said the 59% cited in the staff report for false alarms could be broken down. Last year, everything that was done in Portola Valley by the Sheriff's department equated to 3,003 calls with 387 burglaries, which averaged out to 400 for the last three years. That was about 11-12% of the total related calls. Deputies responded to 1.1 alarm calls for any 24-hour period. It was a small percentage of what the Sheriff's office did in Town. Responding to Mayor Toben, he said right now the Sheriff's Dept. did not have a good way of capturing false alarms. The majority were alarms where there was no crime activity. There were more alarm calls during the winter that were storm related. But, it was good to know that the alarm was working and was a deterrent. Responding to Councilmember Derwin, he said a false alarm was generally defined as an alarm that went off with no criminal activity.

Mayor Toben noted that the Council had questioned whether people could be charged for alarms going off erroneously. It appeared not to be a significant problem. He said staff was not supportive of a fee-based alarm ordinance but wanted to monitor repeat offenders and work in coordination with the Sheriff's Office to identify those property owners.

Councilmember Wengert said it was interesting to learn what neighboring municipalities were doing, which was mixed. In light of what Lt. Schumaker said, it did not appear to be a huge distraction for the Sheriff's Office. She supported the staff's recommendation. Councilmembers concurred. Councilmember Driscoll said it would be helpful to have better reporting when the Sheriff's Office upgraded their reporting system.

(8) Reports from Commission and Committee Liaisons [10:10 p.m.]

(a) Planning Commission

Councilmember Richards said the Commission discussed a site development application for a project on Golden Oak. They also approved map modifications for a project on Alpine Road. The Commission continued the discussion of the updated geologic maps, related zoning code provisions and Resolution 500 and focused on what should be allowed in fault setbacks.

(b) Cultural Arts Committee

Councilmember Derwin said the Committee discussed: 1) use of the foyer for rotating art exhibitions; 2) having an art show/year in the Community Hall for community participants; 3) a concert series in the summer using local talent; 4) a movie night; and 5) putting up a sign to direct people to the Historic Resources at the Town Center.

Councilmember Driscoll said a subgroup of the Committee met with a number of private citizens to discuss where at the Town Center to put the four pieces that contained tiles made by children 30-40 years ago. A consensus had not been reached. Councilmembers Driscoll and Derwin described alternative locations discussed. Councilmember Driscoll said a letter(s) with recommendations would be forthcoming.

(c) C/CAG -Resource Management and Climate Protection Committee

Councilmember Derwin said there was a presentation by Ecology Action, a conservation awareness organization founded in 1970, that was participating in the San Mateo County Energy Watch Program. There was also discussion about the Climate Action Plan Template and Tool Effort, which Ms. de Garneau was involved in. The template could be used by all the cities in the County. There was also discussion about measuring the cost of transportation in towns.

(d) Firewise Advisory Committee Meeting

Councilmember Derwin said the Committee was starting to get some numbers about the fire prevention budget, expenditures, where the money was coming from, etc.

(e) ASCC

Councilmember Derwin said the ASCC continued its discussion of the wireless communication facility at Golden Oak and Peak Lane. They discussed the appropriateness of the location, the use of a "tree" pole, fencing, co-locating, landscaping, etc. They also discussed: a) re-issuance of an expired CUP for a wireless antenna at the Priory; b) an ambitious remodel on Ramoso Rd; c) a cottage on Cervantes; and d) accuracy of story poles for a project on Westridge.

(f) Geologic Safety Committee

Councilmember Driscoll said a subset of the Committee spoke to the Ranch Board about a portion of the property that might be available for trenching at some future date. There was not a clear idea about where the money would be coming from and how much it would cost. The Committee would come up with some estimates.

(g) Emergency Preparedness Committee

Councilmember Driscoll said the Committee discussed the presentation to the Council.

(h) Conservation Committee

Councilmember Driscoll said the Committee went through all the properties that belonged to the Town and discussed which ones should be designated as open space preserves. A recommendation would be forthcoming. They were also asked to determine whether a palm tree was an appropriate planting on a property just outside the Portola Valley boundary on Los Trancos Road. He described the project, which had been referred to the Town for comment from the City of Palo Alto. He said the Committee also discussed a project on Ash Lane that included an olive grove.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS [10:35 p.m.]

(9) Town Council 3/12/10 Weekly Digest

(a) Ethics Training

Councilmembers discussed options for obtaining the training.

(10) Town Council 3/19/10 Weekly Digest

(a) Encroachment Permit for 4860 Alpine Road

Referring to the e-mail correspondence between the Town Attorney and Rick Friedman, Ms. Sloan said her office was working with the Friedmans' attorney and the insurance carrier.

ADJOURNMENT: 10:37 p.m.

Mayor

Town Clerk