



**TOWN OF PORTOLA VALLEY**  
**Water Conservation Committee Special Meeting**  
**Monday March 21, 2016**  
**2 PM 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 2:07 PM

**Roll Call:**

Committee Members:

Present: Al Sill, Judith Murphy, Rebecca Flynn, Whitney Lane, Loverine Taylor, Brandi de Garreaux, Maryann Derwin

Absent: Mia Giovanni, Delle Maxwell

Visitors: Jeremy Dennis

**Oral Communications:**

Judy: there are a number of good water conservation books available in our library:

- Rain Gardens, Dunnett and Clayden
- Life after Lawns, Bogh and Schnetz
- Creating Rain Gardens, Woelfle-Erskine and Uncapher

Loverine: one of her sons has successfully installed a graywater system at his home

Brandi: sustainability movie "Just Eat It" playing Tuesday night

Jeremy: hello, happy to be here

Rebecca: she is applying for CalWater's lawn removal rebate program (no longer administered by "Lawn Be Gone", now "Droplet"). Also applied for state rebate for turf removal. Droplet training does not cover sheet mulching and guidelines for planting natives are incorrect. She did receive reimbursement from CalWater for her big leak (50% of amount used and 50% of penalty).

Brandi: town also got reimbursement for the leak it had.

Maryann – Hetch Hetchy doing well. Water board will reevaluate at end of April. Snopack good, but won't reach 150% that would be needed for complete recovery.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the February 1 meeting were approved as written.

**Old Business:**

**Updates from Cal Water:**

Brandi and Jeremy will meet with CalWater (Dawn) on Wednesday. They are looking for an update on installation plans for smart meters and/or end-point meters. Cal Water has new system and format for bills. Currently, we cannot get Bear Gulch consumption data broken out for PV only. Perhaps we will be able to again at some point in the future.

**Status of Green Building Ordinance:**

The GBO was presented to the ASCC on March 14. It was well received with only minor comments. Next step is presentation to the Planning Commission and then the Town Council.

**Update from Smart Irrigation Controller Subcommittee:**

A workshop on smart irrigation controllers has been scheduled for August 27. We still need to have our interviews with Maryann and Jon Richards on their actual experiences with smart controllers.

Brandi mentioned that we should also consider holding a graywater workshop at some point. Maryann recommends a tour of Santa Clara's water reclamation plant.

**Feedback on Water Conservation Workshop (February 20<sup>th</sup>):**

The workshop was excellent. It was well attended and had good, practical information. Brandi will check on presentation material to see if we can post it on the web site.

**Earth Fair Preparations (Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>):**

No real progress yet. We will need one table for Conservation, one for water conservation, plus a third table to make sure that we have enough room. Lots of questions to consider:

- Do we have a banner?
- Will we sponsor any sort of contest? (for example - Who took out the biggest lawn?) Possible ideas for a prize: rain barrel, smart irrigation controller, L2L graywater kit.

Whitney will help out with the preparations.

**New Business:**

## **Review of Annual Report Presentation to Town Council:**

AI reviewed the slides to be used for the Annual Report presentation to the Town Council on Wednesday evening.

## **Discussion on Budget for 2016/2017 Fiscal Year**

We brainstormed on items to include in the 2016/2017 fiscal year budget proposal. They included:

- flow meter / end point installation program \$ ??
- speakers \$1200
- plant give away for events \$600
- drought action day (maybe do one in October?) \$2500

Last year's budget was \$5500. We will finalize the budget request in our committee meeting in April so that Mia can get it turned in on time.

## **Other Business:**

none

## **Announcements:**

**c. Film Series – Just Eat It: Tuesday, March 22nd at 7 pm (Community Hall)**

[www.portolavalley.net/filmseries](http://www.portolavalley.net/filmseries)

**d. Water Conservation Award Showcase: Tuesday, March 22nd**

<https://www.usgbcncc.org/water2016/attend>

**e. Silicon Valley Water Awards: Wednesday, March 23rd**

<http://www.waterawards.org/>

**f. Going Native Garden Tour: Saturday/Sunday, April 9th/10th**

<http://gngt.org/GNGT/HomeRO.php>

**g. Sustainable Silicon Valley Water Symposium – Resilience & Reuse: Monday, May**

**23rd** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/spring-water-symposium-resilience-and-reuse-tickets-22237961341>

## **Next Meeting – Date/Time and Topics:**

April 18 2:00pm to 4:00pm

Planned Topics:

- Budget
- Earth Fair
- Update from Maryann

**Adjournment: 3:53 pm**