

## My Statement on Dale Pfau

During The Almanac's Portola Valley Town Council election forum on Sep-29-2022, disparaging comments about me were cited from Dale Pfau's emails. These emails became public record because of the lawsuit brought by Lloyd Day ("Rusty") et al against the Town and the volunteer Wildfire Preparedness Committee (WPC).

I was crestfallen to hear Dale Pfau had written that he "is skeptical of anything MJ says".

But I was not surprised. When I first joined the WPC, four females individually warned me that "Dale doesn't work well with strong women". These were former or then-current committee members. Let's add three more female volunteers to that list. Also for months, a member of the committee had confided to me about Dale's bullying phone calls and emails.

So, I was glad that Mayor Craig Hughes revealed what was in the public record. Because for people who care about the character of our Town's leadership, we now know Town Council candidate Dale Pfau from his own words.

I also take issue with Dale Pfau's claim that members of the WPC had "hijacked its charter". In Mar-2022, the WPC voted to move evacuation from the WPC to the Emergency Preparedness Committee (EPC of which Dale is Chair), so that the [WPC could focus on wildfire mitigation](#).

Dale Pfau said evacuation would extend EPC meetings beyond one hour, which was a problem because their members "**have real jobs**" ([video is here](#)). Most WPC members were offended, especially because at that time, the EPC was all males.

Subsequently, the EPC concluded that the Town's evacuation plan had historically rested with them, and the EPC accepted responsibility for the traffic study, where it did not lose a step.

In Portola Valley, residents, volunteers, and town staff are passionate about what they do. We all care. The Town's leadership has greatly helped me try to do a good job and be productive. But my and others' reputations have been harmed by Dale Pfau who, on the record, has deflated, demeaned, and devalued fellow volunteers.

Our Town needs thoughtful, respectful leadership.