



PORTER RANCH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

General Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

at Shepherd of the Hills Church, 19700 Rinaldi St., Porter Ranch, CA 91326

1. Welcome and Introductions

President Mel Mitchell called the Meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Board Members introduced themselves: Mel Mitchell (President), Paula Cracium (Vice-President), Maha Batta (Treasurer), Ali Dabirian (Secretary), Mandhata Chauhan, Pat Pope, Dick Rippey and Vas Singh. Becky Leveque arrived later. Board Members absent: Bright Aregs and Sue Hammarlund (both excused). No Board seats were vacant. Also attending: 33 Stakeholders and guests.

Eight of the 11 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting. The PRNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is seven, so the Board could take such votes.

3. Secretary, Ali Dabirian - Motion to approve unapproved Minutes.

MOTION (by Mr. Dabirian, seconded by Mr. Rippey): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its September 6, 2011 General Board Meeting as written.

Board Member Becky Leveque arrived at this time.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with six in favor; Ms. Batta, Ms. Cracium and Mr. Pope abstained.

Mr. Mitchell indicated that the September 17, 2011 Planning Retreat Minutes will be available at the November 1, 2011 General Board Meeting.

4. Treasurer, Maha Batta - Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented at the October 4, 2011 meeting.

Ms. Batta distributed and reviewed the October 3, 2011 "[PRNC] Budget for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Approved August 9, 2011" including "Credit Cards" and "Checks" expenditures. First quarter expenses were around \$4,100. All Demand Warrants from the prior fiscal year have been issued, including for the library and the school. Annual category allocations were revised.

MOTION (by Ms. Batta, seconded by Ms. Leveque): the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the October 3, 2011 Treasurer's Report as presented.

MOTION PASSED by a unanimous voice vote of eight; Mr. Pope was unavailable for this vote.

5. Update, Dick Rippey - PRNC Elections in 2012

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #8.] Mr. Rippey described that the PRNC has five Board Members who will be up for re-election. The L.A. City Clerk is "planning on running elections in 2014" but the PRNC can have its own "selection" in 2012. He said "the difference between an "election" and a "selection" is [elections have] a secret ballot." There was consensus to have an election with an IEA (Independent Election Administrator). Mr. Mitchell said the PRNC will confirm its election plans with DONE (the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment), BONC (the L.A. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners) and the City Attorney.

6. Committee Reports

There were no reports.

7. Community speakers

Mr. Mitchell announced after Item #3 that Dave Beauvais, Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council President, and the San Fernando Valley Historical Society will present about the Oakridge Estates project at the November 1st PRNC General Board Meeting.

8. Discussion – projects, events and funding developed during the PRNC Planning Retreat on September 17, 2011.

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #5.] Mr. Mitchell earlier described the recent Retreat. He distributed "PRNC Planning Retreat Notes" and led a review of projects identified at the Retreat as follows:

1. Invite the City Street Services Department to speak at a monthly PRNC meeting.
2. Budget the amount of \$3,000 this fiscal year for "Porter Ranch" signs to be installed throughout the community.
3. Set up and maintain a Facebook account for the PRNC to expand outreach efforts.
4. Appropriate PRNC funds for the Public Art Project/SFV that is sponsored by the Museum of the San Fernando Valley.
5. Organize an Open House event at a Porter Ranch Fire Station in the spring of 2012.
6. Organize projects and events to involve Porter Ranch kids.
7. Organize a cleanup event in Limekiln Canyon.
8. Organize a dedication ceremony event for the new equestrian center being built in Aliso Canyon.

9. Invite the new principal of Castlebay Elementary School to meet the community at a PRNC monthly meeting.
10. Explore building a "Pocket Park" in Porter Ranch (location to be filled in by Ali) similar to the one on Reseda and Rinaldi.
11. Organize a monthly event to collect stakeholder names, phones and emails at local Porter Ranch retail establishments (Whole Foods, Ralphs, Wal*Mart, etc.). Involve kids from the community and offer community service credits for their efforts.

Ms. Leveque reported that she's "been working together with the [City] Council Office" and with local businesses to assist on City Street Services sidewalk repairs on Rinaldi between Tampa and Wilbur. Erik Richardson, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander (818-756-8501; Erik.Richardson@LACity.org), described sidewalk and street repair and maintenance opportunities and possible strategies. He distributed a list indicating the above PRNC project numbers one, seven and eight that CD12 can assist with at this time as follows:

1. Invite the City Street Services Department to speak at a monthly PRNC meeting: Keith Mozee, Superintendent and Chief Coordinator, L.A. Bureau of Street Services (213-847-3200; Keith.Mozee@LACity.org).
7. Organize a cleanup event in Limekiln Canyon: Chamber of the San Fernando Valley is holding a cleanup on Saturday November 5 for Limekiln Canyon: a) Looking for partners, funding, and volunteers; b) Semee Park in Councilmember Englander's office is in charge (818-756-8501; Semee.Park@LACity.org).
8. Dedication for Aliso Canyon equestrian facility: Expected to open summer of next year.

Mr. Richardson added that Wilbur north of Rinaldi is a high maintenance priority, possibly in 2012. The Corbin lines will soon be repainted. Councilmember Englander got a Motion passed to issue 12 new School District Police cars. Holleigh Bernson Park exercise equipment will be installed by Spring 2012. The Councilmember is sponsoring an October 12th Job Fair with major companies interviewing at the Balboa Sports Complex and an October 26th 3:00 Business Roundtable. Mr. Mitchell announced the October 29th Mayor's Budget Day; Ms. Batta and Mr. Singh will represent the PRNC.

Stakeholder Nancy Hall described that the catch basin near Pauma Valley and Doral overflows after heavy rains; Ms. Leveque volunteered to work with her on it. Mr. Pope described Porter Ranch Fire Station Spring 2012 Open House event planning considerations and requested feedback. Stakeholder Dave Hasson encouraged waiting until Spring and having the event in Holleigh Bernson Park. There was extensive discussion regarding possible event focus, timing, location and logistics.

Mr. Hasson, Ms. Leveque, Mr. Mitchell, PRNC Webmaster Wendy Moore and Mr. Rippey volunteered to assist. Mr. Pope will work with the Fire Dept.

Kim Thompson, Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council President and Community Representative for the Valley Academy of Arts and Sciences (formerly known as "Hospital High") on Balboa, described the formation of the Academy, which "serves a lot of kids in this area" and announced and invited everyone to the October 27th 5:00 Grand Opening; "it'll be a red carpet event."

Stakeholder Irv Cohen wants it ensured that Porter Ranch students will be able to attend the upcoming new Porter Ranch Community School and also Castlebay Lane Elementary School. Mr. Mitchell responded that "the School District is making those decisions right now." Ms. Leveque pointed out that "there may not be enough Porter Ranch children to fill those schools." There was discussion regarding how the Porter Ranch community can or should be involved in school attendance decisions. Mr. Mitchell and Ms. Leveque agreed to write a letter to Tamar Galatzan, L.A. Unified School District 3 Board Member (213-241-6386; Tamar.Galatzan@lausd.net) and Linda del Cueto, District 1 Superintendent (818.654.3600; district-1@lausd.k12.ca.us; http://www.lausd.net/District_1/Superintendent%20Office.htm) expressing the PRNC's support for ensuring that Porter Ranch students will be allowed to attend the two schools.

MOTION (by Mr. Pope, seconded by Mr. Rippey): to **ADJOURN** the Meeting.

MOTION PASSED.

Mr. Mitchell declared the Meeting **ADJOURNED** at 7:54 p.m.