



PORTER RANCH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

General Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 1, 2012

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, Becky Leveque, Pat Pope, Dick Rippey and Vas Singh. Bright Aregs arrived later. Board Members absent: Sue Hammarlund (excused).

Nine 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. No Board seats were vacant. Also attending: 31 Stakeholders and guests.

3. Minutes Approval

MOTION (by Mr. Dabirian, seconded by Ms. Cracium): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its April 3, 2012 General Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote.

Ed Heddington, GHNNC Board Member and 38th State Assembly District Candidate (www.Edward2012.com) briefly described himself as a Candidate in the June 5th primary election.

4. Treasurer

Ms. Batta indicated that around \$10,000 in funds are available through the end of this Fiscal Year [June 30th].

5. Discussion and Motion [see below].

Mr. Rippey reported that the City Council has not yet voted to approve 2012 Neighborhood Council elections. DONE [the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment] has not responded to multiple e-mails and their "schedule shows the [PRNC] does not have to have an election this year."

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Rippey, seconded by Mr. Dabirian): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council encumbers an amount not to exceed \$3,000 for expenditures for the 2012 PRNC Board Election.

DISCUSSION: If the PRNC does not have an election, the funds will be swept back into the City's General Fund. There was extensive discussion regarding whether to encumber funds, in what amount, possible outreach use of the funding, and timing.

Board Member Bright Aregs arrived at this time.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with eight in favor; one abstained (Aregs).

6. Discussion and Motion [see below].

Vicky Briskman, Treasurer, Chatsworth Neighborhood Council, described the event.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Singh, seconded by Mr. Dabirian): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council allocates an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for the Valley Family Festival to be held on Saturday, June 2, 2012, 3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., at Northridge Park, 10058 Reseda Blvd., Northridge, CA 91325.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Briskman indicated that other Neighborhood Councils have allocated funds for the event. Erik Richardson, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander (818-756-8501; Erik.Richardson@LACity.org), named other community organizations that are funding the event.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote.

Mr. Richardson reported that the CD12 website [<http://CD12.LACity.org>] shows proposed legislation of Councilmember Englander. The FireStat Program will be funded for the Fire Dept.

Jarrold DeGonia, Deputy for L.A. County District Five Supervisor Michael Antonovich (818-993-5170; www.Antonovich.com), has replaced the retired Millie Jones. He reported that the Supervisor "has no position" regarding the Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project; the Supervisor is "more concerned with the transmission lines."

7. Discussion and Motion [see below].

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Singh, seconded by Ms. Leveque): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council allocates an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for the 2012 Congress of Neighborhoods to be held on September 22, 2012.

DISCUSSION: Stakeholder Glenn Bailey explained previous and this year's Congress funding.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote.

8. **Discussion and Motion** [see below].

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Cracium, seconded by Mr. Dabirian): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council allocates an amount not to exceed \$700 to purchase PRNC pens as promotional items.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Cracium explained that 500 pens would be purchased for events outreach.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote.

9. **Discussion and Motion** [see below].

Mr. Pope explained that the Motion is to induce people to attend Neighborhood Watch Meetings by providing emergency supplies.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Pope, seconded by Mr. Rippey): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council allocates up to \$200 for earthquake and promotional handouts for the monthly Neighborhood Watch meetings of LAPD Basic Car 17A23 (western Porter Ranch and Chatsworth).

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote.

10. **Discussion and Motion** [see below].

Ms. Leveque described how the Devonshire Station would use the equipment.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Leveque, seconded by Ms. Batta): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council allocates an amount not to exceed \$2,500 to assist the LAPD Devonshire Division in the purchase of three Flat Screen Televisions, that are Smart Board friendly, to be placed in the Commander's Office, the Lobby and the Officers Workout Facility in the Devonshire Division Station.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Pope described Smart Board operation.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote.

11. **Discussion and Motion**, Susan Hammarlund - approve the grant for Castlebay Lane Elementary School per the PRNC April meeting.

Mr. Mitchell said and it was agreed that no Motion was needed; the grant paperwork is being processed.

12. **Discussion and Motion** [see below].

Ms. Cracium distributed "Imagine: Job & Resource Fair" (www.ImagineJobFair.com; 818.831.9333) brochures for and described the June 4-5 event at Shepherd of the Hills Church. Around 100 employers and 6,000 prospective employees are expected to attend.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Pope, seconded by Mr. Singh): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council allocates all remaining PRNC budget funds for this Fiscal Year to support the two-day Job Fair to be held at Shepherd of the Hills Church on June 5-6, 2012.

DISCUSSION: It was understood that no additional PRNC funds may be available.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a hand vote; Ms. Cracium recused.

13. Update - Patrick Pope - "Envision Our LAFD Summit."

Mr. Pope reported that the City Fire Dept. is upgrading their technology, including with the AVL (Automatic Vehicle Locator), which helps dispatchers know where equipment is. More information will be on the www.PRNC.org website.

14. Update

PRNC letters to be sent about the request for street parking at Holleigh Bernson Park and support for Councilman Mitchell Englander's opposition to the LAPD policy of not impounding vehicles driven by unlicensed drivers.

Mr. Mitchell reported that letters that the PRNC previously approved for drafting will soon be sent.

15. Discussion and Motion to send a congratulatory letter to Castlebay Lane Elementary School Principal Victoria Littlejohn for being honored as the Principal of the Year.

[This Agenda Item was addressed after the Presentation.] It was agreed that no Motion is needed. Mr. Mitchell will send the letter and have it posted on the PRNC website.

16. Nomination: Porter Ranch senior: N Vly Regl Chamber Senior Event on June 1. Mr. Mitchell explained that the PRNC already allocated funding and will nominate Stakeholder Irv Cohen.

17. Committee Reports

There were no Committee reports at this time.

18. Community speakers

Stakeholder Dave Hasson, Chair, Oakridge Estate Advisory Board, described how the Estate will also serve Porter Ranch and encouraged allocating funds if available.

Mr. Mitchell agreed to Agendize this for a future General Board Meeting. Ms. Cracium indicated that Job Fair fliers are available and announced a May 12th Shepherd of the Hills Car Show.

Presentation: Wal-Mart's application to the City Office of Zoning Administration (ZA) for a Conditional Use Permit to sell a full line of alcohol with refrigeration at Wal-Mart #2526 at 19821 Rinaldi Ave, Porter Ranch.

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #13.] Mr. Mitchell described the issue. Victor Franco of lobbyist and public advocacy firm Ek & Ek; Fernando Reyes, Wal-Mart Store Manager (818.832.0643; LReyes.S02526.us@Wal-Mart.com); and Lisa Kolub, Attorney, described the application. Ms. Kolub said the alcohol sales “would take up a very small part of the store . . . customers have asked for it.” There would be “no external modifications . . . the alcohol would be located in the back of the store with the other food items . . . Wal-Mart would provide a roving security guard to patrol the parking lot . . . that would be 40 hours for the next three years” in addition to Shapell’s security. They will check IDs and work with the Police. There would be a “prohibition of single sales” and other restrictions. Mr. Reyes reviewed security and staff training measures; they are coordinating with LAPD Captain Pitcher.

Mr. Pope said that Mr. Franco and Mr. Reyes “have been very responsive” to concerns, including regarding auto burglaries in the parking lot and heavy traffic in the lot that blocked and delayed response to the infamous pepper spray incident. Mr. Franco clarified that Shapell is responsible for security in and owns the parking lot and said that Captain Pitcher volunteered to share security information with the store and mall security staff.

Stakeholders expressed security concerns based upon recent personal experiences. Ms. Kolub noted that “there are cameras all over the store.” Mr. Hasson described Wal-Mart’s community activities and reminded that some problems are common to all retailers. Ms. Kolub indicated that security staff is scheduled for Thursdays-Sundays plus 10 other hours, around 12:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m., “when the most cars are there,” based upon what the need is. Mr. Franco confirmed that “there are no firearms and no ammunition at the store.” Stakeholders expressed concern that Shapell could install more and easier-to-see signs indicating that no overnight camping is allowed in the parking lot.

MOTION (by Mr. Pope, seconded by Mr. Rippey): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council supports Wal-Mart’s application to the City Office of Zoning Administration (ZA) for a Conditional Use Permit to sell a full line of alcohol with refrigeration at Wal-Mart #2526 at 19821 Rinaldi Ave, Porter Ranch.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote.

It was agreed to Adjourn the Meeting at 8:16 p.m.