



## PORTER RANCH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

### General Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 14, 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 6:05 p.m.

#### 2. Roll Call

Board Members introduced themselves: Mel Mitchell (President), Paula Cracium (Vice-President), Maha Batta (Treasurer), Mandhata Chauhan, Sue Hammarlund, Becky Leveque, Pat Pope, Dick Rippey and Vas Singh. Board Members absent: Bright Aregs (excused). One Board Seat is vacant. Also attending: approximately 75 Stakeholders and guests.

Nine of the 10 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. Minutes Approval

**MOTION** (by Mr. Pope, seconded by Ms. Cracium): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its June 12, 2012 General Board Meeting as written.

**MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote; Ms. Batta abstained.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Pope, seconded by Mr. Singh): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its July 10, 2012 General Board Meeting as written.

**MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote; Ms. Leveque and Ms. Batta abstained.

#### 4. Appointment of Becky Leveque as Assistant PRNC Treasurer.

Ms. Leveque volunteered to serve as the Assistant Treasurer and has completed Treasurer training.

#### 5. Treasurer

Mr. Mitchell distributed and reviewed the "[PRNC] Budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 APPROVED August 14, 2012" for the first quarter Jul.-Sep. 2012. Included were "Purchase Card" and "Checks" Reports. "Remaining Funds" as of August 14th equals \$33,413. He described recent financial work; the PRNC is almost caught up and about to file paperwork. Unallocated funds of "close to \$10,000 . . . went back to

the City of Los Angeles” from last year’s Budget. Funds encumbered for projects this Fiscal Year must be allocated from this year’s Budget. The City allocated \$37,000 to each Neighborhood Council. This Fiscal Year Budget “was approved in concept” at the July 10<sup>th</sup> General Board Meeting and needs to be ratified.

6. **Motion** [see the below Motion].

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Ms. Batta): the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council ratifies its Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Budget as presented.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a hand vote of all nine Board Members present.

7. **Motion** [see the below Motion].

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Ms. Hammarlund, seconded by Mr. Rippey): the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council allocates \$500 in funding for the Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair to be held on Saturday, October 6, 2012, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m,

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Mitchell noted that the PRNC has for years funded the event. Ms. Hammarlund described the event.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a hand vote of all nine Board Members present.

8. **Motion** [see the below].

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Mr. Richardson’s comments in Item #11.]

**MOTION** (by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Rippey): the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council to send a letter to Councilman Englander and staff thanking them for facilitating the repair of Wilbur, Rinaldi, Sesnon and other streets in Porter Ranch.

**DISCUSSION:** Stakeholders and Board Members expressed appreciation for this and other services.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a hand vote of all nine Board Members present.

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

Adam Pilder, YMCA Director of Development, distributed a “Two Thousand Bountiful Tables” flier describing the Thanksgiving Baskets program and described their services, including fitness and scholarships for needy children. He described the Thanksgiving Baskets program. Last year they distributed 1,400 baskets; this year’s goal is 2,000 at ten different sites around the northwest Valley. They again are partnering with PALS and other groups. He requested volunteers to sort food and fill baskets.

**MOTION** (by Ms. Hammarlund, seconded by Ms. Leveque): the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council supports the North Valley Family YMCA Thanksgiving Baskets program to put together food baskets for struggling families in need, not to exceed \$1,000.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Pilder noted that food can be separately purchased and donated, including canned food. The PRNC would be recognized. Mr. Pope indicated that the PRNC will link the YMCA to its website [[www.PRNC.org](http://www.PRNC.org)]. Stakeholder Dave Hasson, a YMCA Board Member, encouraged allocating the funds. Mr. Pilder explained that families register to receive a basket and that a check can be written to “YMCA” with the note “Thanksgiving baskets.”

**MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote with no objections.

#### **10. Committee Reports**

There were no Committee reports at this time.

#### **11. Community speakers**

Mr. Mitchell requested volunteers to be the PRNC Budget Representatives; Ms. Leveque, Ms. Batta and Mr. Singh volunteered.

The Board discussed and had a consensus to sponsor and allocate \$350 in funding for the Chatsworth-Porter Ranch Chamber of Commerce Family Festival [[exec@ChatsworthChamber.com](mailto:exec@ChatsworthChamber.com); [www.ChatsworthChamber.com](http://www.ChatsworthChamber.com)] Saturday, September 15th at Porter Ranch Drive and Rinaldi.

Mr. Singh announced that Grayce Liu is the DONE [L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment] Interim General Manager.

Steve Gaur and Tina Backstrom, LADOT Bikeways Group Engineers, described the proposal for restriping Wilbur between Rinaldi and Tampa to create bike lanes to help separate and keep safe drivers and bicyclists. They described specifics of the lanes and parking; Mr. Gaur said “essentially there’s no impacts.” Parking in Palisades Park “will be retained.” Space for the bike lanes will be taken from a “no-parking” lane. Left-turn lanes will be kept. There already are signs saying “bike route.” Mr. Mitchell reminded that this is not an Agenda item; the presenters were only giving a City Bicycle Plan update. Ms. Backstrom encouraged feedback to [www.BicycleLA.org](http://www.BicycleLA.org), [Tina.Backstrom@LACity.org](mailto:Tina.Backstrom@LACity.org) or [Steve.Gaur@LACity.org](mailto:Steve.Gaur@LACity.org). Mr. Gaur noted that all such actions are with City Council approval.

Erik Richardson, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander (818-756-8501; [Erik.Richardson@LACity.org](mailto:Erik.Richardson@LACity.org)), reported that the City Council banned storefront medical marijuana clinics. Because of the Councilman’s efforts, CD12 was the only City Council District without such clinics. The Councilman’s legislation is at <http://CD12.LACity.org>. There will be an Open House with the DWP Ratepayer Advocate on Thursday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church 9501 Balboa Blvd.

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #9.] Courtney Hamilton (Courtney@HowardBerman.com) invited everyone to a Congressional Candidates Forum tomorrow.

Mr. Pope announced that all the LAPD “Basic Car” Meetings will be combined this month on Thursday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> at St. John Eudes Church [9901 Mason Ave. at Lassen].

Mr. Pope talked with Town Center Property Manager Madison Hindman regarding getting stray shopping carts at Town Center cleaned up.

Don Lombardo, Renaissance at Porter Ranch Homeowners Association, described pedestrian and vehicle safety walking, parking and driving concerns at the new Porter Ranch Community School. Dave Anton, Renaissance President, believed there’s a need for additional parking and suggested to Principal Mary Melvin that a stop sign or traffic signal is needed at Via Palladino and Sesnon Blvd. Mr. Mitchell noted that he had discussed this with Hannah Lee, Associate Planning and Transportation Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander (818-756-8501; Hannah.Lee@LACity.org). Mr. Anton offered to help create a plan, if there was not already one, to address this. Mr. Hasson said that it was already agreed at a previous planning meeting to install a stop sign or crosswalk at Via Palladino and Sesnon Blvd. Mr. Lombardo reported that a meeting is set for next week about the concerns. Ms. Leveque, who has worked since the beginning in 2005 to bring the School to Porter Ranch, reminded that “the drop-off area was meant to be a valet service . . . the idea was for the kids to walk to school . . . it wasn’t designed to have every parent walk their child into the classroom.” Everyone agreed that they understood that today was the first day of school at a new School and that it remains to be seen what, if any, problems continue.

Stakeholder Kendy Kim announced that the next State Election ballot will have Proposition 37 to increase packaged food labeling regarding genetically modified (GMO) foods.

PRNC 2012 Candidates Forum for Election Saturday, September 8, 2012, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Shepherd of the Hills Church. Mr. Rippey described the Election process and that one-half of the PRNC Board is up for re-election on Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. The vote-by-mail option ended August 9<sup>th</sup>. Candidates spoke regarding why they would like to be or continue as a PRNC Board Member. Eight Candidates were present and spoke: Sue Hammarlund, Becky Leveque, Phillip Minton, Alba Monroy, Sean O-Rourke, Pat Pope, Calvin Abbasi and Paula Cracium. Mr. Rippey announced a Candidates Meeting August 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Granada Hills Charter High School.

Mr. Mitchell declared the Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.