



PORTER RANCH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

General Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 2, 2012

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

1. Welcome and Introductions, and Roll Call

President Mel Mitchell called the Meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and welcomed new Board Members Sean O'Rourke and Ethan Turer. Board Members introduced themselves: Mel Mitchell (President), Paula Cracium (Vice-President), Pat Pope (Secretary), Maha Batta (Treasurer), Sue Hammarlund, Becky Leveque, Sean O'Rourke, Dick Rippey, Vas Singh and Ethan Turer. Bright Aregs arrived later. Board Members absent: Mandhata Chauhan (excused). One Board Seat was vacant. Also attending: 47 Stakeholders and guests.

Ten of the 12 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.

2. PRNC Board Oath of Office

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Capt. Cooper's and Chief Elder's remarks in Item #10.*] State 27th District Senator Fran Pavley led the Board in reading aloud the Oath of Office. Photos were taken and the new Board was seated.

3. Minutes Approval

MOTION (by Mr. Pope, seconded by Ms. Cracium): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its September 11, 2012 General Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote.

4. Treasurer

Ms. Batta distributed and reviewed the "PRNC Treasurer's Report 2012-2013" "Expenses," "Credit Cards" and "Checks" as of October 2, 2012. "Remaining Funds" equals \$31,796. Purchase Card expenditures this quarter equals \$5,619, "most toward the election." Website maintenance was \$1,181. Total expenditures were around \$10,000. Almost \$27,000 remains unallocated.

Board Member Bright Aregs arrived at this time.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Batta, seconded by Mr. Mitchell): the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the October 2, 2012 Treasurer's Report as presented.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Mitchell encouraged trying to retrieve funding not rolled over from last Fiscal Year and to allocate all of this year's funding.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with 10 in favor; one abstained.

5. **Motion**, Dick Rippey [see below].

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Rippey, seconded by Ms. Hammarlund): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council allocates \$200 for the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) Training Session and Planning Meeting.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Rippey described VANC and the event on Thursday, November 8th at 5:30 p.m. at CBS Studios in Studio City. The funding would be for supplies and food. Mr. Mitchell noted that the City is considering another transfer tax.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a unanimous hand vote of all 11 Board Members present.

6. **Motion**, Becky Leveque [see below].
[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #10.*]

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Leveque, seconded by Mr. Pope): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council allocates \$300 to purchase products for the SOLID Annual Pasta Dinner.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Leveque distributed fliers about the 17th Annual event October 19th at St. Nicholas Church and explained that SOLID (Supporters of Law Enforcement in Devonshire) raises funds for the LAPD Devonshire Division for equipment used in their work and for the Station. Mr. Mitchell added that the PRNC has always supported this.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a unanimous hand vote of all 11 Board Members present.

7. **Motion**, Becky Leveque [see below].

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Leveque, seconded by Mr. Mitchell): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council allocates an amount not to exceed \$700 for bookmarks for the Porter Ranch Community School Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Leveque explained that the 2,500 bookmarks would be made from a heavy card stock for the October 5th event and have the PRNC name.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a unanimous hand vote of all 11 Board Members present.

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

MOTION (by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Rippey): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council will file a Community Impact Statement with the City of Los Angeles regarding Council File 11-0983 for the official naming of our community as Porter Ranch.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Mitchell described the importance of the Community Impact Statement. Mr. Rippey described the Council File process and that 540 Stakeholders signed a petition in support of the naming. The Council File expires May 24, 2013 and will be considered by a Committee. Mr. Aregs volunteered to help. Mr. Pope was concerned that Stakeholders in the same 91326 Zip Code but outside the PRNC boundary south of the 118 Freeway may also want a Porter Ranch sign. Mr. Mitchell added that the City currently considers Porter Ranch to be part of Northridge.

MOTION PASSED by a unanimous hand vote of all 11 Board Members present.

Mr. Rippey will work on the Community Impact Statement.

9. **Discussion** - PRNC Bylaws, to change the term limits and the rules to run for office. [This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #10.] Ms. Cracium recommended and it was agreed to TABLE this Item until the November 13th General Board Meeting.

10. **Community speakers**

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #5.] Danny Del Valle, LAPD Devonshire Division Senior Lead Officer (office 818-363-1726; mobile/text phone 818-634-0362; 27677@LAPD.LACity.org, or DelVallesw.45@att.net for urgent), reported that Grand Theft Auto is still happening; "if you see suspicious activity, definitely report it." "Lock it, hide it, keep it" and don't keep valuables in your vehicle, especially in sight. Also, temporary parking along 200 feet of the east side of Mason will be allowed by Porter Ranch Community School. City Councilman Mitch Englander introduced a Motion to temporarily suspend the installation of a bike lane there and to allow vehicle parking.

Matt Margolis, Constituent Services Advocate for U.S. 27th District of California Congressman Brad Sherman (818-501-9200; Matt.Margolis@mail.house.gov; www.BradSherman.House.gov), described available constituent services. Youth internships are available. Stakeholders described help they have received.

[This Agenda Item was continued after Item #8.] Captain Christopher Cooper, Disaster Preparedness Officer, L.A. City Fire Dept. (Christopher.Cooper@LACity.org, 818.756.9674), spoke about and distributed fliers regarding the "Alert LA County Mass Notification System." Richard Elder, Chief, Battalion 15-C, L.A. City Fire Dept. (818.756.8615; Richard.Elder@LACity.org), reported that "enhanced staffing" has been "staged . . . in the Porter Ranch area" due to windy conditions. He encouraged having a Porter Ranch CERT [Community Emergency Response] Team ready. Chief Elder described annual brush clearance work; call them for an inspection. He reminded that one cigarette butt flicked out of a car or over a fence can start a brush fire.

[*This Agenda Item was continued after Item #2.*] Senator Pavley (818.876.3352; <http://sd23.senate.ca.gov>; www.FranPavley.com), running for re-election in the newly-redistricted 27th District, described the new State Senate boundaries due to the recent redistricting. The 27th District has 931,000 people; Congressional Districts average 702,000. She described her government representation and teaching experience. The Senator encouraged having a PRNC representative on her Valley Advisory Committee, which focuses on energy, transportation and education. She encouraged supporting Proposition 30, believing it will help education and reduce the State's "structural deficit." Senator Pavley has helped begin work "to make the pension system more sustainable . . . legislators get no pension" and authored a Bill to streamline CEQA. The Senator spoke and answered questions about many issues.

State 27th District Senate Candidate Todd Zink (www.ToddZink.com) would like to help constituents connect more with local government. He served as a Marine leader in Afghanistan and is a Deputy District Attorney in the San Fernando Valley. Mr. Zink believes he can improve public safety and education and would like State agencies to be incentivized for performance. He would encourage businesses to stay or relocate here and encourage charter schools development. Mr. Zink spoke and answered questions about many issues.

11. Committee Reports

There were no reports at this time.

12. PRNC Executive Board Elections

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #9.*]

President: Mr. Mitchell nominated Ms. Cracium, who accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations for President. Ms. Cracium was elected President by a unanimous hand vote of all 11 Board Members present.

Vice-President: Ms. Cracium nominated Ms. Leveque, who accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations for Vice-President. Ms. Leveque was elected Vice-President by a unanimous hand vote of all 11 Board Members present.

Secretary: Ms. Cracium nominated Mr. Pope, who accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations for Secretary. Mr. Pope was elected Secretary by a unanimous hand vote of all 11 Board Members present.

Treasurer: Ms. Leveque nominated Ms. Batta, who accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations for Treasurer. Ms. Batta was elected Treasurer by a unanimous hand vote of all 11 Board Members present.

MOTION to ADJOURN (by Ms. Hammarlund).

MOTION PASSED without any objections.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.