



PORTER RANCH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

General Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 13, 2012

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

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

President Paula Cracium called the Meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Board Members introduced themselves: Paula Cracium (President), Becky Leveque (Vice-President), Pat Pope (Secretary), Maha Batta (Treasurer), Bright Aregs, Sue Hammarlund, Mel Mitchell, Sean O'Rourke, Dick Rippey and Ethan Turer. Board Members absent: Vas Singh. All Board Seats are filled. Ten 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. Also attending: approximately 54 Stakeholders and guests.

2. **Minutes Approval**

MOTION (by Mr. Pope, seconded by Mr. Rippey): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its October 2, 2012 General Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote.

3. **Treasurer**

Ms. Batta reminded Board Members to submit complete packages of documents to facilitate Budget Reconciliations.

4. **LAPD Senior Lead Officer** - Holiday security in Porter Ranch.

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Mike Feuer spoke during Item #13.*] 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 Devonshire Division crime is down 3% from last year; burglary theft from vehicles is down 11%; Grand Theft Auto is up 47%. He reminded to keep valuables and holiday packages out of sight; "lock it, hide it, keep it . . . if criminals see packages . . . they're going to break the windows." Stakeholder Deborah Violante was concerned about people living in trailers on public streets including Tampa Ave. Officer Del Valle described an increased Police presence, including around Porter Ranch Town Center, of Officers in bicycle and horse-mounted patrols, Cadets and air support. He cautioned not to confront anyone acting suspicious and/or panhandling. Ms. Cracium added that Wal-Mart has been proactively working with the LAPD to protect the community.

5. **Update, OK Help campaign**

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #15.*] Ms. Cracium described the use of large "NO," "YES" and "HELP" signs that City Council District 12 will make available for Stakeholders to display in emergencies, noting that "we'll be on our own" after a major earthquake. She described the formation and helpfulness of the Neighborhood Watch.

Mr. Pope will work with Captain Christopher Cooper, Disaster Preparedness Officer, L.A. City Fire Dept. (Christopher.Cooper@LACity.org, 818.756.9674), to organize a CERT [Community Emergency Response Team] class.

6. Update, DWP and Gas Company

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #3.*] Mr. Rippey reported that the Gas Company may install five-foot high meter equipment at the end of Tampa Ave.

7. Update, stationary and business cards

Mr. Pope explained PRNC Board Member business card options. He will get more information for the January General Board Meeting.

8. Update, Porter Ranch Community School

Mr. Mitchell described traffic issue work by the School, City Council District 12 and the LAPD. City Councilman Mitch Englander got a Motion passed to temporarily suspend until around March the planned bike lane construction and to allow parking on the east side of Mason Ave. Ms. Leveque described Porter Ranch Development Company gifts to volunteers and the community, including School ribbon-cutting ceremony bookmarks.

9. Update, holiday party

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #13.*] Ms. Leveque described the December 4th Holiday Party at Porter Valley Country Club, “a small meet and greet with light snacks.” She noted that Cupid’s Bakery supplied cupcakes for this Meeting.

10. Area Leads

Ms. Cracium distributed copies of two versions of a “City of Los Angeles Bureau of Street Services Neighborhood Council Request Form” and a “[PRNC] Pavement Assessment” map and requested that the form be posted on the [www.PRNC.org] PRNC website. She explained that the forms must be submitted to the PRNC for submission to the City and that this is for the Bureau “to be responsive to Neighborhood Councils.” Ms. Cracium will have PRNC Leads posted on the website. There was discussion of how work can be assigned.

11. Discussion -- Community Impact Statement regarding Council File #11-0983.

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #12.*] Mr. Rippey read the Community Impact Statement filed with the City of Los Angeles regarding Council File 11-0983 for the official naming of Porter Ranch. He will “send it to as many people as [he] can.” If the City Education and Neighborhoods Committee approves it, the City Council will then vote on it.

12. Discussion - PRNC Bylaws, change the term limits and rules to run for office.

Ms. Cracium relayed a request to form a group to review Bylaws adherence. [See Item #14.]

13. Community speakers

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #8.*] Semee Park, Field Deputy, spoke for Erik Richardson, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander (818-882-1212; Erik.Richardson@LACity.org). Ms. Park reported that the City Council voted to ban the commercial sale of dogs and cats. She described how the Office of

Public Safety was folded into the LAPD. The Councilman proposed to establish FirestatLA for increased Fire Department efficiency.

[*This Agenda Item was continued after Item #11.*] Former State 42nd District Assemblyman Mike Feuer is now a Candidate for L.A. City Attorney [<http://votemikefeuer.com>] and spoke of his qualifications and goals. He described legislation he authored and supported, and answered questions.

[*This Agenda Item was continued after Item #4.*] Victor Franco of lobbyist and public advocacy firm Ek & Ek thanked the PRNC for motivating and facilitating their working relationship with the LAPD. Fernando Reyes, Wal-Mart Store Manager (818.832.0643; LReyes.S02526.us@Wal-Mart.com), indicated they are hiring “50% additional [security] staff” especially for peak shopping hours, and will be “using barricades as crowd management tools.” They’re working with the Fire Department to ensure “contingency plans” are in place. Mr. Reyes and Officer Del Valle described increased safety and security measures being taken. Ms. Cracium clarified that the LAPD will be helping to cover all of Town Center, not only Wal-Mart. Mr. Reyes stated that only the Salvation Army is allowed to solicit donations; 90% of solicitors are seeking signatures, not money. If you see suspicious activity in or outside the store, contact an employee to contact a manager.

Jeanine Angeles, LAPD Devonshire Division Senior Lead Officer (office 818-363-1726; mobile/text phone 818-325-7749; 30392@LAPD.LACity.org), announced the December 15th Toy Drive.

14. Committee Reports

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #15.*] Ms. Cracium requested, and Mr. Rippey and Mr. Turer volunteered to review the PRNC Bylaws in regard to Board operations.

15. Public Comments

Stakeholder Kendy Kim encouraged everyone to be informed about genetically modified (GMO) foods. Ms. Cracium announced a Rim of the Valley Corridor Resource Study Meeting November 14th and that the Metrolink Toy Express will stop at the Chatsworth Station November 16th.

16. Future Meetings / Guests

Ms. Cracium will Agendize discussion of the Neighborhood Watch and CERT for the January 8th General Board Meeting.

MOTION to ADJOURN (by Ms. Cracium, seconded by Mr. Rippey).

MOTION PASSED without any objections.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.