



PORTER RANCH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

General Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 8, 2013

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

1. Welcome and Introductions

Vice-President Becky Leveque called the Meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. She explained that President Paula Cracium was unable to attend.

Board Members introduced themselves: Becky Leveque (Vice-President), Pat Pope (Secretary), Sue Hammarlund, Mel Mitchell, Sean O'Rourke, Vas Singh and Ethan Turer. Bright Aregs and Dick Rippey arrived later. Board Members absent: Paula Cracium (President) and Maha Batta (Treasurer). All 11 Board Seats are filled. Seven 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 39 Stakeholders and guests who introduced themselves and said what part of the neighborhood they live in.

2. Minutes Approval

MOTION (by Mr. Pope, seconded by Mr. Mitchell): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its September 29, 2012 Retreat and November 13, 2012 and December 4, 2012 General Board Meetings as written.

MOTION PASSED without any objections; Mr. Turer abstained.

3. Treasurer's Report (Maha Batta)

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #15.*] Ms. Leveque noted that there was no Treasurer's Report and that Ms. Batta was not present.

4. Recommendations for Board of Neighborhood Commissioners Working Group.

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #13.*] Ms. Leveque requested volunteers; Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Singh, among others, volunteered.

5. Approval [see below Motion].

Mr. Pope explained the Motion.

MOTION (by Ms. Leveque, seconded by Mr. Rippey): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council will write a letter of recommendation supporting Captain Chris Cooper as an LAFD Battalion Chief.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with no objections.

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

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Pope, seconded by Mr. Aregs): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council will purchase CERT training materials, vests and helmets, not to exceed \$1,500.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Pope explained that Porter Ranch Community School Principal Mary Melvin “would like all of her staff trained.” Others can also attend. There is no limit to the number of attendees. The date is to be determined, starting around 6:30 or 7:00 p.m. for three hours.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with no objections.

Captain Stacy Gerlich, LAFD Disaster Preparedness Section CERT Program Coordinator, described the City Fire Dept., and how volunteers are needed and can participate. She reminded that, in a natural disaster, we will be on our own for two to three weeks.

7. **Report on the Bylaws Revision Committee and purpose one item to be voted on at the February Meeting.** (Ethan Turer)

Mr. Turer described possible PRNC Bylaws revisions, including about term limits on page five, Article five, Section four. Grayce Liu, Interim General Manager, DONE (L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment; 213.978.1551; Grayce.Liu@LACity.org; www.empowerla.org), said that around 45 of the 95 Neighborhood Councils have term limits. There was extensive discussion among Board Members and Stakeholders about the merits of the possible term limits Bylaws revision. Ms. Liu indicated that, since March 5, 2010, all NC Board Members are considered new Board Members. Also, any PRNC boundary adjustment proposal would also have to be approved by the adjacent NC and BONG [the L.A. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners].

8. [See the below Motion.] (Dick Rippey)

MOTION (by Mr. Rippey, seconded by Mr. Mitchell): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council will submit a Community Impact Statement in support of Grayce Liu being made permanent General Manager of the L.A. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote.

9. **Discussion on Porter Ranch HOA's.** (Sean O'Rourke)

Mr. O'Rourke will report on this at the February 5th General Board Meeting.

10. Update on Facebook. (Sean O'Rourke)

Mr. O'Rourke noted and encouraged "liking" the PRNC Facebook page Facebook.com@PorterRanchNeighborhoodCouncil, which had an "increased following by 300% since the end of November." He will link it to Twitter.

11. Update on stationary and business cards. (Patrick Pope)

Mr. Pope will report on this at the February 5th General Board Meeting.

12. Lead Areas (Board)

Ms. Leveque indicated that there was no report.

13. Community speakers

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #2.*] Dario Del Core, LAPD Devonshire Division Senior Lead Officer (east of Tampa Ave.; 818-756-9011, x1727, cell 818-634-0577; 27286@lapd.lacity.org) (Senior Lead Officer Danny Del Valle covers west of Tampa), distributed a crime statistics chart and reported that residential burglaries, mostly daytime, are a challenge east of Tampa in ungated communities. He encouraged installing a club on steering wheels and not leaving anything visible in vehicles. Also, register for a Neighborhood Watch and e-policing notices through http://www.lapdonline.org/e_policing. Call 1-877-ASK-LAPD if you see suspicious activity; if it's a crime in progress, call 9-1-1.

Board Member Bright Aregs arrived at this time

Officer Del Core reminded to never confront a suspicious person. If you're in an "active shooter" situation you can help by helping move people away from "the threat area." His next Basic Car Meetings will be January 17th, then Thursday, February 21st at 7:00 p.m. at St. Euphrasia Church [11766 Shoshone Ave., Granada Hills; 818-360-4611], then on second Tuesdays.

Semee Park, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander (818-756-8501; Semee.Park@LACity.org; <http://CD12.LACity.org>), reported that the Councilman's proposed Street Bond Measure is "a very innovative solution" to "provide \$300 million annually over 10 years" to "fix all City streets in 10 years" and "ensure maintenance in perpetuity." She reminded that the Councilman has opposed every tax and DWP rate increase proposal that the City Council has considered while he's been a Councilman. The City Building and Safety Dept. "found more than 100 violations" at the unlicensed boarding house in Northridge where four murders recently occurred. They are "working with Contract Administration" to determine which companies are cutting into City streets making private repairs and installations. CD12 has "received more street repair funding than any other District in the City."

Board Member Dick Rippey arrived at this time

Grayce Liu, General Manager, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) (213-978-1551; Grayce.Liu@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org), reported that she submitted a Budget to the City Council to keep each Neighborhood Council's (NC's) funding for the next fiscal year 2013-2014 at \$37,000. BONC [the L.A. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners] requested to return funding to the original \$50,000. BONC is working on a proposal to revise the City Charter regarding the NC system, including the Stakeholder definition. DONE is considering eliminating Demand Warrants and creating imprest checking accounts; ideas are welcomed.

14. Committee Reports

Ms. Leveque indicated that there was no report.

15. Public Comments

Mr. Mitchell volunteered to Chair the Bylaws Revision Committee. Mr. Turer volunteered to follow up on September 29th Board Retreat ideas.

16. Future Meetings / Guests

None were mentioned.

Ms. Leveque declared and it was agreed to adjourn the Meeting at 8:28 p.m.