



PORTER RANCH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

General Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 4, 2013

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 6:03 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Board Members introduced themselves: Paula Cracium (President), Becky Leveque (Vice-President), Pat Pope (Secretary), Bright Aregs, Sue Hammarlund, Mel Mitchell, Sean O'Rourke, Dick Rippey and Ethan Turer. Maha Batta (Treasurer) arrived later. Board Members absent: Vas Singh. No Board Seats were vacant. 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. Also attending: 32 Stakeholders and guests.

3. Minutes Approval

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #4.*] The following correction to the May 8, 2013 Special Board Meeting Minutes was requested: Ms. Hammarlund was absent, not in attendance.

MOTION (by Mr. Pope, seconded by Mr. O'Rourke): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its May 8, 2013 Special Board Meeting as corrected.

MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote with six in favor (Aregs, Leveque, O'Rourke, Pope, Rippey, Turer); four abstained (Batta, Cracium, Hammarlund, Mitchell).

The following correction to the May 7, 2013 General Board Meeting Minutes was requested: Mr. Mitchell corrected the information he gave on page three, Item #9: "Mr. Mitchell . . . is an Oakridge Estate Board Member" should be "Mr. Mitchell . . . has an affiliation with Oakridge Estate."

MOTION (by Mr. Pope, seconded by Ms. Leveque): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its May 7, 2013 General Board Meeting as corrected.

Board Member Maha Batta arrived at this time.

MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote with eight in favor (Aregs, Batta, Leveque, Mitchell, O'Rourke, Pope, Rippey, Turer); two abstained (Cracium, Hammarlund).

4. New voting procedures. (Patrick Pope)

Mr. Pope explained that all votes will be roll call votes.

5. Treasurer - Motion to approve Budget report. (Maha Batta)

Copies of the "[PRNC] Budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013" [as of 6/4/13] and the "PRNC Treasurer's Report 2012-2013 - Purchase Card" and "- Checks" were distributed. Ms. Batta reported that DONE [the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment; www.EmpowerLA.org;

213-978-1551] rejected some PRNC allocations and expenditures. There was discussion of such procedures and extensive discussion of recent expenditures, including the Home Depot \$650 purchase. Ms. Cracium requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

6. **Treasurer** - Motion to approve new 2013/2014 Budget. (Maha Batta)

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Aregs): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves its Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Budget.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote with nine in favor (Aregs, Batta, Hammarlund, Leveque, Mitchell, O'Rourke, Pope, Rippey, Turer); one abstained (Cracium).

7. **Bylaws change to reflect new treasurer roles.** (Paula Cracium)

a. Change- ARTICLE VI, Section 1, Officers of the Board to read: "The Executive Officers of the Board shall include positions entitled President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Two Treasurers."

Ms. Cracium explained that "the Treasurer system is changing . . . [it] will require two Treasurers." She read aloud the proposed Bylaws revisions in this and the below Items 7. b. and c. This will be Agendized for a future Meeting.

b. Section 2, C: Duties and Powers to read: "The Treasurers shall maintain the records of the PRNC's finances and book of accounts. The Treasurer 1 position is responsible for the Budget, Reconciliations, Submittals and coordination with D.O.N.E. Treasure 2 shall manage the P-Card, Receipts and Inventory and shall be responsible to make purchases."

See above Item #7. a.

c. To change the word "Treasurer" to "Treasurers" throughout the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council Bylaws.

See above Item #7. a.

8. **New Officer Elections.** (Paula Cracium)

Ms. Cracium announced that Ms. Leveque resigned as Vice-President and will continue as a non-Executive Board Member. Ms. Batta announced that "as of July 1, 2013 . . . [she] will resign as Treasurer." Ms. Cracium accepted the resignations.

Nominations were made for PRNC Treasurer: Mr. O'Rourke nominated himself. Ms. Batta nominated Ms. Leveque, who declined the nomination. There were eight votes for Mr. O'Rourke (Aregs, Batta, Hammarlund, Leveque, Mitchell, Pope, Rippey, Turer); two abstained (Cracium, O'Rourke). It was announced that Sean O'Rourke will be the new PRNC Treasurer as of July 1, 2013.

Nominations were made for PRNC Vice-President: Ms. Batta nominated herself. Mr. Aregs nominated himself. Mr. O'Rourke nominated Mr. Rippey. Each Candidate spoke about their interest in being the Vice-President. Other Board Members spoke about the Candidates. Ms. Cracium clarified that no promises were made to any Candidate and "no deal was made." There was extensive discussion regarding nominations and future filling of the Treasurer position. Mr. Aregs withdrew himself as a nominee for Vice-President. There were four votes for Mr. Rippey (O'Rourke, Pope, Rippey, Turer); three votes for Ms. Batta (Batta, Hammarlund, Leveque); three abstained (Aregs, Cracium, Mitchell). It was announced that Dick Rippey will be the PRNC Vice-President.

9. Government Representative Updates. (Paula Cracium)

Cindy Wu-Freedman, one of the Neighborhood Councils Budget Advocates (NCBAs) (www.BudgetAdvocatesLA.com) and a Granada Hills South NC Board Member, reported that the Budget Advocates made and the City has reviewed 22 City Budget recommendations. The Budget Advocates are elected by NC Board Members at the annual NCs Congress. She encouraged selecting two PRNC Budget Representatives who would report the Budget Advocates' work to the PRNC.

Mr. O'Rourke met with the Porter Ranch Development Company; they "will be building a new community next to Porter Ranch Community School." Adam Pilder, YMCA Director of Development, thanked the PRNC for its \$1,000 support of the Thanksgiving Baskets program; 2,700 Thanksgiving food baskets were given. He presented a plaque to the PRNC and photos were taken.

- 10. Motion** to approve an amount not to exceed \$3,000 for PRNC election expenses. (Dick Rippey) [Board Members whose terms expire in 2014 are: Maha Batta, Bright Aregs, Mel Mitchell, Dick Rippey and Vas Singh.]
(This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #14.) Ms. Cracium requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item to the June 15th PRNC Planning Retreat, which is open to the public. There was extensive discussion about the remaining funding available and recent and possible community projects.
- 11. Motion** to approve an amount not to exceed \$1,200 for purchase of PRNC pens. (Becky Leveque)
See the above Item #10.
- 12. Motion** to approve an amount not to exceed \$500.00 for a scanner. (Becky Leveque)
See the above Item #10.
- 13. Motion** to approve an amount not to exceed \$1,000 for purchase of PRNC Community/Emergency Contact magnets. (Sue Hammarlund)
See the above Item #10.
- 14. Motion** to approve an amount not to exceed \$1,500 for restriping around Holleigh Bernson Park to provide on-street parking. (Sue Hammarlund)
[This Agenda Item was addressed after the second Item #19.] There was extensive discussion about restriping around Holleigh Bernson Park. See the above Item #10.
- 15. Motion** to approve the proposal from Moore Business Results to provide PRNC Website services, \$5,000 and Public Relations services, \$5,000 for fiscal year 2013-2014. (Mel Mitchell)
See the above Item #10.
- 16. Motion**, PRNC Summer Block Party 2013/2014 budget. (Ethan Turer)
See the above Item #10.
- 17. Update**, Business Cards. (Pat Pope)
[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #20.] Mr. Pope distributed copies of and described, and there was extensive discussion about Board Members' possible business card designs and what information to include on them.

18. Neighborhood Crime Update. (Becky Leveque)

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #16.] Ms. Leveque reported that “violent crime is down in the north Valley . . . crimes to property are still a concern.” She encouraged reporting suspicious activity to the police [1-877-ASK-LAPD if you see suspicious activity; if it’s a crime in progress, call 9-1-1]. Jim Dellinger, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander (818-756-8784; Jim.Dellinger@LACity.org), described decreasing crime in the area and encouraged subscribing to www.Patch.com; choose the option to receive local news.

19. Future Meetings - July 9th, Tom Nachtrab, Santa Susana Mountain Park Association. The subject of the presentation will be: "Preservation of Santa Susana Field Lab Land as Open Space / Parkland."

Ms. Cracium noted the above.

20. Public Comments

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #18.] Stakeholder Erik Bon Nam was concerned about drivers who dangerously drive through the T-Intersection signal on Rinaldi at Aldea, east of Mason. *[This Agenda Item was continued after Item #17.]* There was discussion about the Board Member voting recusal procedure. Ms. Cracium reiterated that if a Board Member has “anything to do with” a funding issue “they need to leave the room” before a discussion begins. Chatsworth Neighborhood Council Vice-President Judy Daniels reminded of the Congress of Neighborhoods on Saturday, September 28, 2013 that is “open to the public, all for free.”

19. Mary Melvin, Principal, Porter Ranch Community School: First Year Report.

[This was the second Item #19.] [This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #18.] Porter Ranch Community School (www.PorterRanchCommunitySchool.org; 818-709-7100) Principal Mary Melvin announced Shapell Homes “will split the cost with L.A. Unified” for developing a better parking arrangement and that the School has “been able to adjust to” the current arrangement. She thanked the PRNC for equipment funding and helping facilitate CERT [Community Emergency Response Team] training, which many parents have completed. The School has “well over 700 children and another hundred on our waiting list.” Ms. Melvin explained the enrollment lottery. The School has a “dual-language” English and Korean language learning program; “it’s been a huge success . . . kindergarten all the way through middle school . . . They’re completely bilingual students, as they are in many European countries.” She added that “nothing . . . has been approved with the City” regarding parking” and that the School “created a Becky Leveque Award” for volunteers.

20. Dave Pettijohn, Director, Water Resources, LADWP and Alexandra Nagy, Organizer, Food and Water Watch: Delta Water Tunnels. (Sean O'Rourke) *[This was the second Item #20.]*

This Item was Tabled.

21. Motion to adjourn

[This Agenda Item was addressed after the first Item #20.]

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

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.