



## PORTER RANCH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

### General Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 9, 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 6:02 p.m.

#### 2. Roll Call

All eleven Board Seats were filled. No Board Seats were vacant. Nine of the 11 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting and introduced themselves: Paula Cracium (President), Becky Leveque (Vice-President), Pat Pope (Secretary), Sean O'Rourke (Treasurer), Sue Hammarlund, Mel Mitchell, Dick Rippey, Vas Singh and Ethan Turer. Board Members absent: Maha Batta. Bright Aregs was not present. He was attending another meeting on PRNC business and was excused by the President. 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: 28 Stakeholders and guests.

#### 3. Minutes Approval

**MOTION** (by Mr. Pope, seconded by Mr. Singh): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its June 4, 2013 General Board Meeting as written.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote (Hammarlund, Leveque, Mitchell, O'Rourke, Pope, Rippey, Singh and Turer). [Presidents/Chairs can choose whether or not to vote; if they don't vote a vote is still unanimous if all Board Members voted the same way.]

**MOTION** (by Mr. Pope, seconded by Mr. Rippey): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its June 15, 2013 Budget Retreat Meeting as written.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Rippey wanted it noted that, at the June 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting, he gave the DONE Financial Training completion deadline as December 1<sup>st</sup>; the deadline is September 1<sup>st</sup>.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote (Hammarlund, Leveque, Mitchell, O'Rourke, Pope, Rippey, Singh and Turer).

4. **Treasurer**, Sean O'Rourke – Motion to approve budget report.  
Mr. O'Rourke explained that, due to a problem the City had, there was no access to PRNC funds. He reviewed budget allocations. There was no Motion.
5. **Treasurer**, Sean O'Rourke – Motion [see below].  
Mr. O'Rourke distributed and reviewed the "[PRNC] Budget for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 as of July 5, 2013."

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. O'Rourke, seconded by Mr. Rippey): the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the new 2013/2014 Budget package as presented.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. O'Rourke noted that \$37,000 annual funding will be available.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote (Hammarlund, Leveque, Mitchell, O'Rourke, Pope, Rippey, Singh and Turer).

6. **Treasurer**, Sean O'Rourke – Motion [see below].  
Mr. O'Rourke explained and reviewed the PRNC 2013/2014 Strategic Plan.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. O'Rourke, seconded by Mr. Turer): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves its new 2013/2014 Strategic Plan.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Ms. Cracium); there were no objections.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote (Hammarlund, Leveque, Mitchell, O'Rourke, Pope, Rippey, Singh and Turer).

7. **Motion** [see below].  
Ms. Cracium explained the Motion.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Ms. Hammarlund, seconded by Mr. Singh): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves Bylaws changes to reflect new Treasurer roles as follows:

- 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."
- b. Section 2, C: Duties and Powers to read: "The Treasurers shall maintain the records of the PRNC's finances and book of accounts. 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."

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

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote (Hammarlund, Leveque, Mitchell, O'Rourke, Pope, Rippey, Singh and Turer).

8. **President**, Paula Cracium – Election of New Treasurer 2  
Mr. O'Rourke nominated Ms. Leveque to be the Treasurer 2.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. O'Rourke, seconded by Mr. Rippey): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves Board Member Becky Leveque as its Treasurer 2.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote (Hammarlund, Leveque, Mitchell, O'Rourke, Pope, Rippey, Singh and Turer).

9. **President**, Paula Cracium – Government Representative Updates  
[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #10.*] Semee Park, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander (818-756-8501; Semee.Park@LACity.org; <http://CD12.LACity.org>), introduced new staff Jessie Levine. Ms. Park reported that the Councilman was voted President Pro Tem of the City Council, which passed a \$7.7 billion Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Budget. Some trees are being trimmed and sidewalks being repaired. The City Planning Dept. is being combined with the Building and Safety Department. The Councilman is working "to streamline the process" of starting a business in Los Angeles. The City is updating its land use planning codes. There will be a Movies Under the Stars July 20<sup>th</sup> at Porter Ranch Community School. The Councilman is "opposed to any entity taking over the Santa Susana Lab land unless they do a full cleanup . . . we're concerned about the safety and the condition of the land". He believes there should be a cleanup "before sale or transfer." Prompted by the restriping of Corbin Ave., the Councilman asked the City Dept. of Transportation to review their restriping policy. CD12 is partnering with the LAPD Devonshire Division for Tuesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>'s National Night Out for a free movie and food. The CD12 Office [9207 Oakdale Ave., Chatsworth, CA 91311; (818) 882-1212] has been turned into a "Community Service Center"; City services representatives are scheduled to be there each month.

[*The following was addressed after Item #15.*] Denise Jones, L.A. Fire Dept. Captain, Fire Station 28, (818.756.9728; Denise.Jones@LACity.org; [www.LAFD.org](http://www.LAFD.org)), announced a July 15<sup>th</sup> Pancake Breakfast honoring the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Engine Company 28.

10. **Treasurer**, Sean O'Rourke – Motion [see below].

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. O'Rourke, seconded by Mr. Pope): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves a Valley Voice ad for \$250.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. O'Rourke explained that, though the ad already ran, the cost was unpaid and must be paid with this fiscal year's funds.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION;** there were no objections.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote (Hammarlund, Leveque, Mitchell, O'Rourke, Pope, Rippey, Singh and Turer).

**11. Update,** Business Cards

Mr. Pope ordered Board Members' business cards.

**12. President,** Paula Cracium – Updates on 2013/2014 Community Assignments –

a. Community Events – Ethan Turer, Sean O'Rourke, Sue Hammarlund, Dick Rippey.

Ms. Cracium reported on the June 15<sup>th</sup> Budget Retreat and reviewed the below Committee memberships. There was discussion about keeping the PRNC logo and imaging consistent. She encouraged Board Members who need to complete Ethics Training to do so. [It's available at <http://ethics.lacity.org/education/ethics2007/?audience=done>]. Mr. Rippey added that the DONE Financial Training completion deadline is September 1st. [It's available at <http://empowerla.org/funding>.] [*The following was addressed after Item #15.*] Mr. Turer wants to discuss outreach and traffic control regarding recent and future July 4<sup>th</sup> Independence Day events at Shepherd of the Hills Church. He noted that, despite traffic control plans, some people stopped on the freeway shoulder to watch the fireworks. Ms. Cracium offered to bring the Church's traffic control plan to present at a mid-year PRNC Meeting.

b. Election Chairs – Ethan Turer, Pat Pope  
See Item #12. a.

c. Community Clean Up Work Days- Sue Hammarlund  
See Item #12. a.

d. Community Tree Replacement – Pat Pope  
See Item #12. a.

e. Emergency Magnets- Sue Hammarlund  
See Item #12. a.

f. PRNC pens – Becky Leveque  
See Item #12. a.

g. City Parking Permit– Vas Singh  
See Item #12. a.

h. Tracking Board - Ethics and Finance Training – Dick Rippey  
See Item #12. a.

**13. Future Meetings** – Aug 13 – Special Guests

Ms. Cracium announced that the next General Board Meeting will be on the second Tuesday, August 13<sup>th</sup>. A possible speaker may be Captain Maureen Ryan of the Valley Traffic Division. [See [http://www.lapdonline.org/devonshire\\_community\\_police\\_station/comm\\_bio\\_view/38759](http://www.lapdonline.org/devonshire_community_police_station/comm_bio_view/38759).] Ms. Leveque reported that Captain Pitcher indicated that “crime is way down” in the area partly because of the increased helicopter presence. Mr. Turer described a Devonshire Station tour he took that helped show “what they can do for our community.”

**14. "Preservation of Santa Susana Field Lab Land as Open Space / Parkland"**

Tom Nachtrab, Santa Susana Mountain Park Association, speaking on "Preservation of Santa Susana Field Lab Land as Open Space / Parkland," [This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #9.] Copies of an SSMPA [www.ssmpa.com; TNachtrab@gmail.com] information handout and sample support letter were distributed. Mr. Nachtrab explained that NASA does not want the property anymore and that it could either be transferred to another federal agency or opened for development. The SSMPA is “asking the National Park Service to be the federal agency” that would take over the land; “all of the property is in Ventura County.” He explained that the land “is a key part of” the Rim of the Valley proposed project expected to have a report available in mid-2014. He indicated that there are toxics in the soil that need to be cleaned up. He said the “issue and goal [is] to protect the Santa Susana Mountains and hills . . . about 3,000 acres . . . Boeing is the current owner of over 2,000 acres . . . the federal government” owns the rest. “The area that NASA has is 450 acres.” He described the importance of the wildlife habitat and that “the official plans say it’ll be cleaned up by 2017”; the SSMPA thinks it won’t be cleaned up until 2020-2022. NASA is “committed to cleaning it up.” Mr. Nachtrab described the support of local Neighborhood Councils.

[This Agenda Item was continued after Item #16.] Most Board Members expressed support for the draft letter; it was stated that the land “would have to be cleaned up before it’s turned over.” There was extensive discussion of the merits of the letter and possible disposition of the land, which the federal government says must be decided by April 14, 2014. Mr. Nachtrab said the SSMPA “regularly sends supporting materials to many government officials at various levels.” Board Members informally voted to write a letter of support turning the land into park land after decontamination. Board Members informally voted to write a letter of support for turning the land into park land after decontamination. Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Pope wanted more information before taking the vote. Ms. Cracium volunteered to draft and send the letter.

**15. The Delta Water Tunnels** -- Dave Pettijohn, Director, Water Resources, LADWP and Alexandra Nagy, Organizer, Food and Water Watch. Copies of DWP information sheets were distributed. Mr. Pettijohn displayed slides describing "sources of water for Los Angeles" and video depicting the year 1850 and recent views of the water system from northern California to Los Angeles. Many levees are old and "built by farmers" without any codes to which to adhere. In northern and central California "the water is 30 feet higher than the farmland" and is only being held back by the aging levees. A large earthquake would cause many levees to fail and much farmland would be "under water"; saltwater would "inundate the entire delta." Water pumps would have to be shut down within three days; the scenario could last "up to three years." A Public Review Draft Plan will be available October 1<sup>st</sup>. The DWP's estimated cost to build the Delta Water Tunnels is \$24.5 billion over 50 years. "Levee maintenance is not part of this program." An estimated \$2.50 - \$3.00 per month would be added to every DWP customer's bill to pay for the project. Construction is expected to take 10 years. Mr. Pettijohn described the "devastating" risks of doing nothing. Los Angeles' water use is "the same as it was 40 years ago even though there are a million more residents."

Ms. Nagy described safety and accessibility concerns. She believed that more should be done to assure local underground and surface water supplies. Already there are seven lawsuits about this issue. She believed the project would take 20-30 years to build, not ten. Ms. Nagy said "the State has refused to do a cost-benefit analysis." Both speakers agreed that desalinization is much more expensive. Efforts by the DWP to capture rainwater runoff were described.

*[This Agenda Item was continued after Item #14.]* Ms. Nagy distributed copies of a draft letter. Ms. Cracium noted that most Stakeholders seemed in favor of the DWP plan. However, the Board might first support a cost-benefit analysis. There was extensive discussion of what the PRNC can or should do about the issue.

**16. Electronic Waste Event** in the City of Porter Ranch, Tricia Flores-Legaspi *[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #14.]* Ms. Flores-Legaspi, of California Recycles [818-886-0800; <http://www.californiarecycles.com>], would like to partner with community organizations to host a toxic recycling event. They also can pickup recyclables.

**17. Motion** to adjourn.

**MOTION to ADJOURN** (by Ms. Hammarlund, seconded by Ms. Leveque).

**MOTION PASSED** without any objections.

The Meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.