



PORTER RANCH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

General Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

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

1. Welcome

President Paula Cracium called the Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Roll call was taken through self-introductions. Nine of the 11 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting and introduced themselves: Paula Cracium (President), Dick Rippey (Vice-President), Sean O'Rourke (Treasurer 1), Becky Leveque (Treasurer 2), Pat Pope (Secretary), Maha Batta, Sue Hammarlund, Vas Singh and Ethan Turer. Bright Aregs arrived later. Board Members absent: Mel Mitchell. The PRNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is seven (see <http://www.slideshare.net/EmpowerLA/porter-ranch-nc-bylaws>), so the Board could take such votes. All eleven Board Seats were filled. No Board Seats were vacant. Also attending: approximately 85 Stakeholders and guests.

3. Minutes Approval

MOTION (by Mr. Pope, seconded by Ms. Leveque): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its February 4, 2014 General Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of eight of the nine eligible voters present with all eight in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Batta, Hammarlund, Leveque, O'Rourke, Pope, Rippey, Singh and Turer). [Presidents can choose whether or not to vote; if they don't a vote can still be unanimous.]

Approval of the February 11, 2014 Special Board Meeting Minutes was TABLED.

4. Treasurer's Report

Mr. O'Rourke reviewed the latest US Bank Purchase Card statement and recent expenditures.

Board Member Bright Aregs arrived at this time at 6:05 p.m.

Mr. O'Rourke reviewed funding and encumbered funds remaining this Fiscal Year [ending June 30, 2014]. Approximately \$1,700 will be available to allocate after this Meeting. Mr. Pope noted that funds are needed for incoming Board Members' name badges and business cards.

Board Member Mel Mitchell arrived around this time.

5. Motion [see the below Motion].

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. O'Rourke, seconded by Mr. Rippey): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves its updated February 2014 Budget Report.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Ms. Cracium); there was no objection.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of 10 of the 11 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor. [Presidents can choose whether or not to vote; if they don't a vote can still be unanimous.]

6. Community / Governmental Updates and Announcements.

Ron Rubine, Field Deputy for City Councilman Mitch Englander (818-882-1212; Ron.Rubine@LACity.org; www.CD12.org), thanked volunteers for their Aliso Canyon Cleanup help; more than 180 helped. Volunteers are needed for an April 12th Limekiln Canyon Cleanup. The L.A. City Council banned fracking, acidization and other oil extraction methods in the City of Los Angeles.

7. Update: 2014 Election Results

Ms. Cracium reported that five new Board Members were elected and "will be sworn in next month at our April Meeting." She asked the new Board Members to read the Bylaws and complete the DONE Ethics and Funding Trainings. Mr. Turer reported that there were 730 voters at the March 1st Election; two years ago there were 269.

8. Motion [see the below Motion].

Ms. Hammarlund explained that the School wants to train their staff.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Hammarlund, seconded by Mr. Mitchell): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves up to an additional \$500 for CPR training at Porter Ranch Community School for all teachers.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Cracium noted that \$1,000 is already allocated. Mr. O'Rourke described previous Neighborhood Purposes Grants. A Stakeholder encouraged allocating equal funding to both Castlebay Elementary and Porter Ranch Community Schools.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Ms. Cracium); there was no objection.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of 10 of the 11 eligible voters present with seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Aregs, Batta, Hammarlund, Leveque, Mitchell, Rippey and Singh); three opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (O’Rourke, Pope and Turer).

9. **Motion** to approve up to \$1,500 to fund Castlebay Elementary for teachers and aides to be certified in first aid and CPR training.

Ms. Cracium requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

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

Mr. Turer announced the May 18th Citrus Sunday event at Temple Ahavat Shalom.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Turer, seconded by Ms. Leveque): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves up to \$80 to re-design the Citrus Sunday banner and to purchase an additional banner.

DISCUSSION: A Stakeholder described banner expenses, including a discount. The banners will belong to the PRNC.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Ms. Cracium); there was no objection.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of 10 of the 11 eligible voters present with seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Aregs, Leveque, Mitchell, Pope, Rippey, Singh and Turer); three opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Batta, Hammarlund and O’Rourke).

11. **Motion** to approve up to \$400 for Citrus Sunday postcards.

Ms. Cracium requested and it was agreed to WITHDRAW the Motion.

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

Ms. Cracium explained the need for a Sawzall and two batteries “and a quick charger” for on-site use. Funds also are available for Fire Station Eight; she will Agendize it for the April Meeting.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Pope, seconded by Mr. Rippey): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves up to \$500 for batteries for Fire Station 28.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Pope explained that the equipment is for wherever Fire Station 28 goes. Captain Miranda describe the equipment’s use for vehicle accident extractions.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of 10 of the 11 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Aregs, Batta, Hammarlund, Leveque, Mitchell, O’Rourke, Pope, Rippey, Singh and Turer).

Board Member Ethan Turer recused himself from voting and left the room at this time.

13. Motion [see the below Motion].

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Leveque, seconded by Mr. Mitchell): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves a grant of \$1,000 to the Jean Serrati Scholarship for a student at Granada Hills High School.

DISCUSSION: Funding would come from the PRNC “NPG General” budget. Ms. Leveque explained that the college scholarship is for a high Grade Point Average student to be selected by the School and that “they can’t always guarantee” it’ll be a student from Porter Ranch. Stakeholder Irv Cohen believed that such funding should only be allocated for Porter Ranch students. Ms. Leveque noted that “this would be our first contribution to Granada Hills High School.” A Stakeholder suggested allocating funding to things that benefit more people.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Ms. Cracium); there was no objection.

FUNDING MOTION FAILED by a roll call vote of nine of the 10 eligible voters present with one in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Leveque); four opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (O’Rourke, Pope, Rippey and Singh); and four abstained (Aregs, Batta, Hammarlund and Mitchell).

Board Member Ethan Turer returned to the room at this time.

14. Motion [see the below Motion].

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Hammarlund, seconded by Mr. Pope): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves up to \$500 for PRNC board shirts.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Cracium explained that the shirts would be for new Board Members. A Stakeholder believed that funding should be for Stakeholders or that Board Members could use adhesive stickers with name blanks on them on which to write their names. Ms. Cracium and Mr. O’Rourke described the importance of PRNC branding and Board Members’ professional appearance.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Ms. Cracium); there was no objection.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of 10 of the 11 eligible voters present with six in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Aregs, Leveque, O’Rourke, Pope, Rippey and Singh); three opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Batta, Hammarlund and Mitchell); and one abstained (Turer).

15. Motion [see the below Motion].

Ms. Cracium requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

16. Motion [see the below Motion].

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17. Motion [see the below Motion].

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18. Motion [see the below Motion].

Ms. Cracium requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

19. Motion [see the below Motion].

Mr. Aregs described the need for the training.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Aregs, seconded by Ms. Batta): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves up to \$3,500 for the fire department emergency preparedness & response Team (CERT) training taking place here in Porter Ranch.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Cracium noted that there is "\$620 left in the Budget."

FUNDING MOTION FAILED by a roll call vote of 10 of the 11 eligible voters present with four in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Aregs, Batta, Mitchell and Singh); six opposed ("No" or "Nay") (Hammarlund, Leveque, O'Rourke, Pope, Rippey and Turer).

There was a brief recess at this time.

20. Discussion – When we refer to an elected official in our public meetings or in public correspondence that we use their official titles.

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #21.] Ms. Leveque noted this.

21. Presentation – Jim Boyd, Regional President, Toll Brothers, Inc. (the new owners of Shapell's Porter Ranch residential development).

Mr. Boyd described the luxury home-building public company with holdings in 19 states and 50 markets. He said "we've always fulfilled all our obligations" and indicated that their average home price is much higher than their competitors. Toll Brothers has built more than 7,500 homes in California since 1994. The boundaries are Sesnon, Mason, Corbin and Porter Ranch Drive. He said that they are deciding "exactly what we're going to build . . . we're not going to increase the density . . . I'm sure we'll keep the commitments that Shapell [made] . . . the area around the School is already under development." Also, "the horse trails are part of the development . . . and there's equestrian lots . . . we'll work with the City on the names" of the streets to be developed. Mr. Boyd said "we're going to do what the City wants us to do . . . we're evaluating" home designs. "We'll help keep the community involved . . . we're going to be here for hopefully another fifty years . . . we're going to commit to the Toll warranty . . . and the Shapell warranty." Toll Brothers will "continue to operate out of the same office" that Shapell used. Ms. Cracium will link the Toll Brothers website to the PRNC website.

22. Public Comments

Randall Brady announced the May 10th Tampa Festival with band performances of "alternative rock with mellow electronic sounds" and requested PRNC funding for the venue. Typical attendees' ages are "21 to 30." The location is to be

determined. Mr. O'Rourke encouraged Mr. Brady to attend a PRNC Outreach Committee Meeting.

Charlotte Brody of ETI Corral 54 in Chatsworth would like the PRNC to write a letter supporting getting a stoplight installed at the intersection of Reseda Blvd. and Eddleston Lane. An equestrian trail crosses Reseda north of Eddleston where the speed limit is 50 miles per hour. She said "it is very scary to try and cross there" and stopping and slowing cars "scare the horses." Mr. Pope offered to discuss it with City Council District 12.

Stakeholder Christine Cullen was concerned that some Stakeholders' side conversations in this Meeting make it hard for others to hear Board business. Ms. Cracium and Mr. Pope will continue to work on that.

Stakeholder Sandy Minajian, Bellagio Community representative, reported that there've been many vehicle break-ins, packages stolen off front porches and mail stolen. Ms. Leveque reminded that "anything important shouldn't be in your car" and encouraged attending the Police's "Basic Car" Meeting to work with the Senior Lead Officer [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; http://www.LAPDonline.org/Devonshire_Community_Police_Station]. Ms. Cracium encouraged forming a Neighborhood Watch and encouraged considering joining NextDoor.com, which Mr. O'Rourke described.

Mr. Turer, also the Granada Hills High School Safety Club President and Teen CERT Class Coordinator, encouraged referring teens to him for the CERT Class that starts March 22nd.

- 23. Future meetings:** April: Ralph Combs, Manager, Corporate Development, The Termo Company; Termo is proposing to drill up to twelve new oil and gas wells as an extension of our existing operations in the Aliso Canyon Field north of Porter Ranch – PRNC will work to have the opposing positions at the meeting as well. Ms. Cracium noted the above.

24. Adjournment.

MOTION to ADJOURN (by Ms. Cracium, seconded by Ms. Hammarlund).

MOTION PASSED without any objections.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.