

PORTER RANCH
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 9 2008
Shepherd of the Hills Church
Porter Ranch, California

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mel Mitchell called the meeting to order at 6:13 PM and welcomed everyone who joined the meeting. Mel encouraged all the new stakeholders to sign up to receive emails and phone calls from the PRNC about notifications of meetings.

2. ROLL CALL

Board members present: Paula Cracium, Becky Leveque, Mel Mitchell, Vasdev Singh, Ali Dabirian, Irwin Cohen, Mandhata Chauhan, Chris Cooper, Bright Aregs, and Ron Nagai. Sue Hammarlund was in Louisiana as a part of the Red Cross. About 30 stakeholders attended part or all of the meeting.

3. MOTION TO APPROVE PROPOSED AGENDA

Mel Mitchell moved to approve the proposed agenda; seconded Bright Aregs seconds the motion.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

4. MOTION TO APPROVE THE August 12, 2008 MINUTES

Ali Dabirian presented the minutes for both months. Paula seconded the August minutes.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

5. MOTION TO ACCEPT THE TREASURER'S REPORT.

Chris moved to approve the Treasurer's Report seconded by Becky Leveque.

\$7,904 checks were written this quarter which included the computers for Castlebay from Best Buy and the 4th of July event at Shepherd of the Hills
The PRNC Visa currently has \$196.25 which is used to pay for the food provided
\$79,108.17 in total funds are left for the remainder of the year.

Chris moved to approve the report. Becky seconded. Irv Cohen asked for more detail about the calendar software. Becky explained that it was an addition to the PRNC website which allows stakeholders to view all of the PRNC events in a calendar form.

VOTE to accept the Treasurer's Report: Unanimous in favor.

6. DISCUSSION/MOTION, VAS SINGH TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF A \$1000 FOR THE CONGRESS OF NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL'S ANNUAL MEETING ON OCTOBER 11, 2008, THAT WILL HELP UPGRADE THE CONGRESS FOR ALL THE ATTENDING PARTICIPANTS AND TO ARCHIVE THE SEMINARS AND SESSIONS WITH VIDEOTAPE FOR THOSE BOARD MEMBERS AND STAKEHOLDERS WHO CANNOT ATTEND

Vas Singh made the motion, Ron Nagai seconded.

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Vas explained that this year the Congress of Neighborhood Councils has been combined with the Mayor's Budget Day. This event is to take place on October 11, 2008. At the Congress, stakeholders and board members will discuss city-wide topics, City Councilmen and Commissioners will have open forums. Albert Abrams introduced himself as a member of the Planning Committee for the event. Al asked the PRNC to participate to make the workshops videotaped because it was money well spent and the PRNC would get recognition for their donation. Becky Leveque asked if the PRNC would contribute would the City pay less. Melvin said that the City has a fixed budget of \$25,000 and Vas added that the proposed budget for the Congress was \$49,000.

Paula stated that the videotaped information would be beneficial towards the stakeholders. Al said that the Congress is used as a first step to increase knowledge of stakeholder benefits. Irwin Cohen asked if DONE was suppose to increase knowledge of stakeholder benefits and Melvin replied that DONE does that through the Congress. Paul Drogichen commented that he doesn't agree with the method set up that even if people don't put the money up for the Congress they can attend. He suggested that the Planning Committee should police the vote to assess what it would cost. Irwin Cohen said that he was opposed to the idea of spending any of the \$50,000 tax payer dollars on this event instead he suggested that the board members donate their time.

Mel Mitchell said that the Congress was a great networking idea. Ron Nagai said that he attended almost all of the Congresses of Neighborhood Councils and that it was a great experience and wanted to know who else would be attending. Becky said that she would be in favor of the donation if at least 50 other neighborhood councils participate. Bright asked what \$49,000 was going to be used for because this Congress was going to occur at City Hall which is a free facility. Al responded that most of the cost would go to the videotaping. Bright said that he saw problems with the budget but would support the allocation of 1000 dollars. Mel then called for a vote.

VOTE: 7-3 Chris, Becky and Irwin voted against the motion.

7. MOTION TO RENEW THE 6-MONTH CONTRACT WITH MOORE BUSINESS RESULTS FOR PRNCE PUBLIC REALTIONS SERVICES FOR THE FIXED FEE AMOUNT OF \$3000

Mel made the motion and Paula seconded the motion.

Mel told the board that he had received an email from someone who asked if they could compete for the contract. Mel asked if we are obligated to competition. Irwin Cohen said that we can't deny the right to bid, but we don't have to accept. Bright suggested that the bidder should give a proposal. Mel said the problem was that the bidder did not show up at this meeting. Bright said that maybe he could submit a bid in six months when the contract would expire.

Mel Mitchell made the motion and Paula Cracium

VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

General Meeting/Open Discussion

Los Angeles City Councilman Greig Smith will install the new PRNC Board and discuss current City Council Activities affecting Porter Ranch Limekiln Canyon

Councilman Greig Smith installed the new PRNC board.

Councilman Greig Smith began his discussion of Porter Ranch as one of the best neighborhoods in the city.

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Highlights

1. There have been some complaints about the money spent on the movies in the park. The Councilman said that the money for the movies comes from the Arts fee that the local businesses pay.
2. Due to the City's deficit large amounts of jobs have been cut in Police, Fire and Parks
3. The State government has cut 600 jobs in Los Angeles

The Councilman then opened the discussion up for stakeholder involvement.

A few stakeholders complained about the area in front of Fire Station 28 on Corbin where the center divider has a lot of debris. The Councilman said the best way to fix that would be by adopting a street.

Also some stakeholders complained about mason at night by the Renaissance. The stakeholders stated that cars have been parking there in the late hours of the night and a few houses have been burglarized.

Miscellaneous

Vas Singh said that he received an email from DONE asking for two representatives to come to a meeting. Vas volunteered to be the representative for the meeting.

Paula made a motion to adjourn and Ron seconded it.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM