

PORTER RANCH
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Unapproved General Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 1, 2010

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

1. Welcome and Introductions

President Mel Mitchell called the Meeting to order at 6:17 p.m. and explained procedures.

2. Roll Call

Board Members introduced themselves: Mel Mitchell (President), Maha Batta (Treasurer), Bright Aregs, Sue Hammarlund, Becky Leveque, Dick Rippey and Vas Singh.

Seven of the 11 Board Members were present at this time. A quorum is seven or more, so the Board could make Motions and take votes. Absent: Paula Cracium (Vice-President), Ali Dabirian (Secretary), Mandhata Chauhan and Pat Pope. Also attending were approximately 22 Stakeholders and Guests.

3. President, Mel Mitchell - Motion to approve proposed agenda.

Mr. Mitchell explained that this Item is not needed.

4. Secretary, Ali Dabirian - Motion to approve unapproved Minutes.

Mr. Mitchell explained that Mr. Dabirian was not present and it was agreed to postpone this Item until the next [July 6th General Board] Meeting.

5. Treasurer, Maha Batta - Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented at the June 1, 2010 meeting.

Ms. Batta explained that \$2,000 is allocated for the July 4th event. \$10,408 is available through the [June 30th] end of this fiscal year; the balance is \$6,013. Petty cash was returned to DONE as requested. Webmaster Wendy Moore noted that a \$4,200 invoice for her services, submitted in January and including for a \$250 newspaper ad, is due. Ms. Batta said that former Treasurer Chris Cooper is still generating the reports. An accountant was hired through an agency to assist for 10-12 hours per month; NC funding is being used to pay him and the agency override fee. The agency contract with the City is due to expire on June 30th.

6. Update, PRNC Outreach Events.

New School Groundbreaking Ceremony - Saturday, June 5, 2010, 10:00 a.m. Mr. Mitchell and Ms. Leveque described the Valley Region Span K-8 School #2 ceremony [at 12450 Mason Ave.] and some project history. Mr. Mitchell distributed and explained that event flyers can have only up to two languages and that "the majority of non-English-speaking people in Porter Ranch are Korean." There was extensive discussion regarding outreaching to the local Korean community.

Stakeholder Jeff Moore expressed that having Korean language on the event flyer encourages working together and supports the School.

Mr. Mitchell mentioned “Movies in the Park” “Monsters vs. Aliens” and encouraged Board Members to attend at Holleigh Bernson Park Saturday June 12th.

7. **Motion**, Becky Leveque – [See below Motion.]

MOTION (by Ms. Leveque, seconded by Mr. Aregs): to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$1,500 for the new Porter Ranch Valley Region Span K-8 School #2 Groundbreaking Ceremony on June 5, 2010.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Leveque described what would be purchased. The event cost is \$7,000-\$10,000, a “very conservative” cost for this kind of event. The project cost around \$6 million under budget. The LAUSD told local organizations that the LAUSD would provide many things for the Ceremony.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote.

8. **Motion**, Becky Leveque – [See below Motion.]

MOTION (by Ms. Leveque, seconded by Ms. Hammarlund): to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$1,000 to purchase equipment for the LAPD Devonshire Division Equipment Purchase List.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote.

9. **Community speakers** [This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #6.]

Danny Del Valle, LAPD Devonshire Division Senior Lead Officer (818-634-0362, cell 818-634-0362; 27677@LAPD.LACity.org, or DelVallesw.45@att.net for urgent), praised the PRNC for its community help and presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the PRNC for Halloween event help. Violent crime is down and property crime is up, though lower on the Porter Ranch side of the Division. He reminded to lock doors and windows and secure homes, and described a trend of “distraction burglaries.” Leave a radio or TV on to make it appear that someone’s home. Graffiti is “a constant problem,” though Division “gang activity has gone down.” If someone’s aggressively panhandling or doing suspicious activity, call 9-1-1. If no one is threatened, call 877-ASK-LAPD. If you see speeding drivers, call the Traffic Division. Patrols have been added in shopping centers; put valuables in the trunk, don’t leave them visible. Side-view mirrors and third-row SUV seats have been stolen. He encouraged attending the Basic Car Meeting, usually on fourth Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. at St. John Eudes Church, 9901 Mason Ave. at Lassen, except this month when there’ll be a Town Hall Meeting June 24th. Officer Del Valle encouraged visiting www.LAPDOnline.org for e-policing and current crime trends information.

Rick Donnelly, of Hillcrest Christian School, mentioned that the School is looking for a site.

Hiral Bhakta, Sylmar Neighborhood Council Vice-President of Administration, said he's doing a "good will tour" to "build a communication stream" between NCs. He described networking and collaborating to "make the Valley . . . a stronger community for all of us" and offered his assistance. He suggested that the PRNC could provide a website language translator. Mr. Mitchell offered that a PRNC Board Member will attend an SNC Meeting.

Vivian Ihori, Castlebay Lane Elementary School Principal, described that students did a Memorial Day observance. She expects around 100 students to transfer to the new [Valley Region Span K-8 School #2] School; Castlebay Lane keeps growing.

PRNC Planning Forum

Mr. Mitchell described NC accomplishments, listed many Standing Committees and relayed that a Stakeholder suggested a Healthcare/Recreation Committee. Ms. Hammarlund encouraged combining some Committees and suggested asking Stakeholders through the [www.PRNC.org] website what their priorities are and to "plan July's [6th General Board] Meeting to focus on" that. Ms. Leveque suggested helping to purchase solar-powered vehicle speed monitors. There was extensive discussion regarding how to structure PRNC work. Mr. Aregs described Land Use Committee work and efforts. Mr. Mitchell "would like to focus on projects" such as speed signs, tree well cleanup and NC advertising, and increase the Stakeholder database. Stakeholder Saul Daniels suggested getting NC Election voters contact information from the City Clerk's Office. Vivian Ihori suggested that student artwork could help beautify the community. There was discussion regarding possibly revising the PRNC logo, and extensive discussion regarding potential projects, events and outreach ideas, such as a "Porter Ranch Day."

Mr. Mitchell declared and the Meeting was **ADJOURNED** without any objections at 8:38 p.m.