



PORTER RANCH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

General Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 1, 2011

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 6:10 p.m. and explained procedures.

2. **Roll Call**

Board Members introduced themselves: Mel Mitchell (President), Paula Cracium (Vice-President), Maha Batta (Treasurer), Bright Aregs, Mandhata Chauhan, Becky Leveque, Pat Pope, Dick Rippey and Vas Singh.

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. No Board seats were vacant. Also attending: approximately 33 Stakeholders and guests. Board Members absent: Ali Dabirian (Secretary) and Sue Hammarlund (both excused).

3. **Secretary**, Ali Dabirian - Motion to approve unapproved Minutes.

Mr. Mitchell explained that Mr. Dabirian could not attend; approval of the Minutes of the February 1, 2011; November 9, 2010 and August 10, 2010 General Board Meetings was POSTPONED.

4. **Treasurer**, Maha Batta - Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented at the March 1, 2011 Meeting.

Ms. Batta reported that \$39,338 in funds is available through the June 30th end of the fiscal year. She and Mr. Pope will get more signatures supporting the City installing Porter Ranch signs. Mr. Rippey relayed that Castlebay Lane Elementary School Principal Vivian Ihori requested the PRNC to fund seven projectors costing \$1,200 each. Mr. Mitchell encouraged more project idea submissions. Stakeholder Dave Hasson suggested installing "Porter Ranch" street signs on major streets. No Motion was made.

5. **Motion**, Maha Batta – see below.

Mr. Mitchell described that some Budget funds were shifted as a result of input at the February 15th Community Meeting.

MOTION (by Ms. Batta, seconded by Mr. Singh): to approve the revised PRNC 2010-2011 Budget discussed at the PRNC Planning Retreat on February 5, 2011.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

6. **Presentation:** PRNC 2011 Bylaws Ad Hoc Committee - revised PRNC Bylaws in accordance with the BONC Bylaws Template.

Mr. Cohen said Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Rippey greatly helped revise the Bylaws. "The changes were mainly for clarification . . . to enhance the Council's ability to conduct its business . . . we made no substantial changes." It was agreed that the title of page 10, Article XI, Section 4 will be "Dispute Resolution." There was extensive discussion regarding groups represented on the Board; Mr. Pope was concerned about the page two, Article V, Section 1 phrase "no single stakeholder group shall comprise a majority on the Board."

There was very extensive discussion, regarding page four, Article V, Section 7 regarding Board Member absences, regarding Board Members' responsibility to attend Board Meetings, the minimum number of Meetings that should be attended and how to count absences.

There was discussion regarding page six, Article VII, Section 1 regarding standing committees. It was agreed that "committees shall meet at least twice a year."

MOTION (by Ms. Cracium, seconded by Mr. Singh): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council accepts the PRNC Bylaws as revised at this Meeting.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with six in favor and two opposed.

Mr. Mitchell explained that Stakeholders have 14 days to comment, then the Bylaws will be forwarded to DONE (the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment) for final approval.

7. **PRNC Committee reports**

Land Use Chair Mr. Aregs reported that he met with the Limekiln Canyon Librarian and will meet with a second landscaper about bids for a library landscaping project. Mr. Cohen offered to help.

8. **Presentation,** Porter Ranch members of the Wilbur Working Group Committee - status of the Wilbur Avenue re-striping plan.

Mr. Mitchell described some issue history. Then-LADOT General Manager Rita Robinson spoke at the October 5th PRNC General Board Meeting about it. The PRNC, the Northridge West NC, the Ridgegate Homeowners Association and the Belcourt Homeowners Association met four times about it in Meetings coordinated by Mitch Englander, Chief of Staff for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Greig Smith (818-756-8501; Mitch.Englander@LACity.org). The DOT will present a revised plan at a future joint PRNC-NWNC Meeting. Stakeholder Guillermo Seta noted that the City

decided that the bike lanes would stay and that the Wilbur Working Group, which was “formed by the City . . . dissected every single opportunity . . . to improve the traffic situation . . . according to what can be done with the traffic and engineering requirements . . . adding the lanes back . . . from Rinaldi to Devonshire.” There was discussion regarding logistics, requirements and safety of the restriping arrangement.

Don Ward, NWNC Board Member, observed that “people use Wilbur as their personal speedway . . . [there’s] drag racing in the middle of the night.” He suggested a configuration that he believes “keeps our neighborhood safer and calmer.” He’s asking that the traffic-calming measures be continued north to Devonshire. Pamela Bolin, NWNC Treasurer, announced that, on behalf of NWNC President Tom Johnson, she requested to reserve Nobel Middle School for a Tuesday, March 15th 6:00-9:00 p.m. joint PRNC-NWNC Meeting. She’s also an L.A. Community College District Candidate and encouraged voting on March 8th.

Mr. Rippey reported that, at the last NWNC General Board Meeting, “Porter Ranch was demonized, villianized . . . they’re giving out some . . . statistics that I questioned . . . they really slammed us.” Glenn Bailey, Chair, L.A. City Bicycle Advisory Committee (818-453-3407; GlennBaileySFV@yahoo.com), reported that the City also did not advise the Bicycle Advisory Committee that they were going to re-stripe Wilbur Ave. “It wasn’t just the Neighborhood Councils that weren’t notified . . . the Committee voted to approve” the south-of-Devonshire configuration and the changes north of Devonshire. There was continued extensive discussion regarding the restriping arrangement and how much the NCs can influence the DOT decision.

Mr. Bailey reported that the DOT plans to remove the parking lane on the east side of Wilbur between Devonshire and Chatsworth adjacent to the Belcourt community. Megan Cottier, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Greig Smith (818-756-8501; Megan.Cottier@LACity.org), reported that the PRNC, the NWNC, CD12 and DONE are working on the March 15th Joint Meeting structure and leadership.

9. Community speakers

Ms. Cottier reported that CD12 “was not notified by the [DOT] of its plans . . . Councilman Smith introduced a Motion for City agencies to notify the Council District Offices before taking such actions.” She reminded to vote in the March 8th elections. There’ll be cleanups just west of Tampa on both sides of Rinaldi on April 9th, including graffiti removal, tree planting and trash cleanup; lunch will be provided. Meet at the Korean Church across the street; bring sunscreen, a hat, gloves, water and other personals. Also, the Community Care Facilities Ordinance, Council File #11-0262, may be heard by the City Council at the end of March.

MOTION (by Mr. Rippey, seconded by Ms. Leveque): to **ADJOURN** the Meeting.

MOTION PASSED without any objections.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 8:25 p.m.