



PORTER RANCH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

General Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 3, 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 6:04 p.m. and explained procedures. Mr. Mitchell honored and there was a moment of silence for former Board Member and Treasurer Paul Drogichen who passed away April 28th.

2. Roll Call

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

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: 38 Stakeholders and guests. Board Members absent: Ali Dabirian (Secretary) excused).

3. Secretary, Ali Dabirian - Motion to approve unapproved Minutes: August 10, 2010; September 7, 2010; October 5, 2010; November 9, 2010; February 1, 2011; March 1, 2011; March 15, 2011 (the Joint Meeting with the NWNC); and April 5, 2011. [This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #6.] Mr. Dabirian was not present.

MOTION (by Ms. Cracium, seconded by Mr. Pope): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its August 10, 2010 General Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED without any objections.

The following correction to the September 7, 2010 General Board Meeting Minutes was requested:

Page two, Item #7: "Chappell" should read "Shapell".

MOTION (by Ms. Cracium, seconded by Mr. Rippey): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its September 7, 2010 General Board Meeting as corrected.

MOTION PASSED without any objections.

The following correction to the October 5, 2010 General Board Meeting Minutes was requested:

Page three, Item #12: "Chappell" should read "Shapell".

MOTION (by Mr. Aregs, seconded by Ms. Cracium): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its October 5, 2010 General Board Meeting as corrected.

MOTION PASSED without any objections.

The following clarifications to the November 9, 2010 General Board Meeting Minutes were noted by the Minutes Writer as needed:

Guillermo Seta's name is spelled with one "t," not two.

Page three, Item #10. d.: "Wilbur Working Group, who will hear the plans" should read "the Wilbur Working Group, which will hear the plans."

MOTION (by Ms. Cracium, seconded by Ms. Hammarlund): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its November 9, 2010 General Board Meeting as clarified.

MOTION PASSED without any objections.

MOTION (by Mr. Singh, seconded by Mr. Aregs): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its February 1, 2011 General Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED without any objections.

MOTION (by Mr. Chauhan, seconded by Mr. Pope): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its March 1, 2011 General Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED without any objections.

MOTION (by Mr. Singh, seconded by Ms. Cracium): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its March 15, 2011 Joint Town Hall Meeting with the Northridge West Neighborhood Council as written.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Mitchell noted that the NWNC will be making corrections; he recommended Tabling this Minutes approval until after the NWNC votes on it.

MOTION (by Mr. Rippey, seconded by Mr. Pope): to **TABLE** approval of the Minutes of its March 15, 2011 Joint Town Hall Meeting with the Northridge West Neighborhood Council.

MOTION to TABLE PASSED without any objections.

The following clarifications to the April 5, 2011 General Board Meeting Minutes were noted by the Minutes Writer as needed:

Page one, Item #2: ““Basically, Councilman Smith is recommending that the LADOT immediately implement the Alternative Striping Proposal as presented to the joint NC meeting on March 15, 2011” should read “He stated that “Councilman Smith is recommending that the LADOT immediately implement the Alternative Striping Proposal as presented to the Joint Neighborhood Councils Meeting on March 15, 2011.””

MOTION (by Ms. Cracium, seconded by Mr. Pope): The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its April 5, 2011 General Board Meeting as clarified.

MOTION PASSED without any objections.

4. **Treasurer**, Maha Batta - Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented at the May 3, 2011 meeting.
[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #2.] Ms. Batta described five Demand Warrants totaling \$28,782 submitted before the deadline. Total expenses were \$29,213 of \$32,877 available; \$3,664 remains available to spend before the June 15th deadline. DONE (the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment) returned three “with some demands” she described; “DONE will pay upon completion.” The first three quarters’ Budget Reconciliations [July 2010-March 2011] were completed with no complaints from DONE.
5. **Update**, Maha Batta - funding status of PRNC 2011 projects
This Item was combined with Item #4.
6. **Update**, Pat Pope - proposed LAFD Reorganization
[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #10.] A “Truck 28 closing” flier was distributed. Mr. Pope described L.A. Fire Dept. equipment and staffing losses due to City Budget cuts. He introduced Fred Lopez, Captain, Fire Station 28, L.A. Fire Dept. (818.756.9728; Fred.Lopez@LACity.org), who asserted that Porter Ranch is being hit hardest by Fire Dept. budget cuts of any area in the City. The “ready reserve” ambulance will be “empty” or unstaffed. Porter Ranch has the largest natural gas storage facility in the country. Captain Lopez and other attending Firefighters reminded that people need to be more self-reliant and prepared for emergencies. Resources are re-aligned during brush fire alert days. There was extensive discussion regarding Fire Dept. staffing and equipment deployments and potential changes.

Board Member Maha Batta left at this time.

Firefighters and others encouraged contacting City Council District 12 [818-756-8501; Greig.Smith@LACity.org; Mitch.Englander@LACity.org; <http://CD12.LACity.org>] and other officials to “keep Truck 28 open.” They and www.PRNC.org have information.

7. **Update**, Mandhata Chauhan - PRNC City Services Committee
Mr. Chauhan reported that he attended a meeting regarding the setting up of the DWP Ratepayers Advocate Oversight Committee. The DWP will simplify invoice design and give it more information, and will be digging to clean out sanitary system drains and pipelines.

8. **Update**, Bright Aregs - Porter Ranch beautification projects
Mr. Aregs reported that projects depend upon what the PRNC budget will be. He will contact CD12 Deputy Megan Cottier regarding information about who has jurisdiction over Limekiln Canyon Park and how to get improvements made there.

9. **Committee Reports**

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #3.] Mr. Chauhan will bring information regarding the DWP Ratepayer Advocate to the June 7th General Board Meeting. Mr. Rippey reported regarding petitions for the City to install “Porter Ranch” signs that “six petitions are done . . . three are outstanding” and that “hopefully we’ll send in the application by June 1st . . . we’ll have 500 signatures . . . we have 420 now.” Mr. Mitchell announced that at the June 7th Meeting there’ll be a presentation regarding the Hidden Creek Estates housing development at the west end of Sesnon near Brown’s Canyon.

Stakeholder Glenn Bailey reported regarding a proposed policy of the City Board of Recreation & Parks Commissioners regarding the placement and camouflaging of cell phone towers in City parks.

10. **Community speakers**

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #4.] Megan Cottier, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Greig Smith (818-756-8501; Megan.Cottier@LACity.org), described a successful Limekiln Canyon cleanup and presented an appreciation plaque to the Wal-Mart Manager for his and his employees’ support and volunteerism. She distributed a flier about and announced a “Citrus Sunday . . . fresh fruit drive to benefit struggling . . . families . . . Sunday, May 15, 2011.” She distributed a flier about and announced the “[L.A.] Fire Department to hold public Town Hall Meeting . . . to discuss new deployment proposal on Wednesday May 11” at Shepherd of the Hills Church. The Councilman’s Neighborhood Services Guides are available.

Board Member Vas Singh arrived at this time.

Jeanine Angeles, LAPD Devonshire Division Senior Lead Officer (office 818-363-1726; cell and text phone 818-325-7749; 30392@LAPD.LACity.org), reported that Devonshire Division “crime is way down.” She described the benefits of signing up for www.Nixle.com and Devonshire Division e-mail and/or text alerts. If someone is using firecrackers call the Police [non-emergency, 1-877-ASK-LAPD; emergency, 911]. If possible, discreetly take a picture of graffiti and report it, then call 311 to remove it. A “S.O.L.I.D. Devonshire All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Breakfast Honoring Armed Forces Day Saturday May 21, 2011 Held at Devonshire Area Police Station” flier was distributed.

Bill Larson, L.A. City Deputy Attorney, Nuisance Abatement Division (310-445-1714; http://www.atty.lacity.org/our_office/CriminalDivision/CNAP/index.htm), spoke about a sober living home with up to 100 residents near the corner of Rinaldi and Aliso; his Office is “working on” it. He encouraged letting him know if you see others. The proposed Community Care Facilities Ordinance addresses this.

Stakeholder Jason Segan encouraged getting involved with the State Redistricting Hearing Thursday and Friday May 26-27, 9:00-5:00 p.m., probably at the CSUN Performing Arts Center. You can comment and get information at www.WeDrawTheLines.com.

Presentation:

Oakridge Estate Park Advisory Board about the Oakridge Estate.
Mr. Mitchell announced that the presenter was unable to attend.

MOTION (by Mr. Aregs, seconded by Mr. Pope): to **ADJOURN** the Meeting.

MOTION PASSED without any objections.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 8:26 p.m.