

Paula Cracium, President Patrick Pope, Vice President
Eric Nam, Secretary Sean O'Rourke, Treasurer 1, Armando Nunez II, Treasurer 2
Becky Leveque, Susan Hammarlund, Alex Kim, Ashiley Lee, Cindy Lee and Cheri Derohanian

General Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

Porter Ranch Community School Multipurpose Room, 12450 Mason Ave., Porter Ranch

1. Welcome

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

Reminder to sign in and that it is completely optional and not required for attendance.
Ms. Cracium noted the above

2. Roll Call

Board Members who were present introduced themselves: Paula Cracium (President), Pat Pope (Vice-President), Eric Nam (Secretary), Sean O'Rourke (Treasurer 1), Alex Kim, Cindy Lee, Cheri Derohanian, Ashiley Lee and Becky Leveque. Absent was Susan Hammarlund. Board member Armando Nunez II (Treasurer 2) arrived at 6:12 p.m. The PRNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needed to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is seven. Please see <http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/PorterRanchNC-Bylaws.pdf>, so the Board could take such votes. All 11 of the 11 Board Seats were filled either by appointment or election. Also in attendance were approximately 30-35 stakeholders and guests.

3. Motion – Secretary, Eric Nam: Motion to approve January minutes. Seconded by Pat Pope.

The January minutes were approved as amended.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll vote of seven of the eight eligible voters present with all seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Kim, Lee, C., Leveque, Nam, O'Rourke, Derohanian and Pope). One Abstention (Lee, A.). Presidents/Presiding Officers can choose whether or not to vote; if they don't a vote can still be unanimous.]

4. President's Comments and Updates - President, Paula Cracium

President, Paula Cracium briefly explained the function of a Neighborhood Council's and that it is an advisory board to the City Council on issues that directly impact the residents in the community. Ms. Cracium then asked each board member to introduce themselves.

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5. Community / Governmental Updates and Announcements

Colin Crews, field deputy from Council District 12 began by speaking about Mayor Garcetti's push to have all buildings retrofitted in the event of an earthquake or other natural disasters.

However, in doing so, Mayor Garcetti is asking that businesses be given incentives i.e. tax breaks so that the retrofitting not become cost prohibitive. Mr. Crews also announced that the LAFD would be holding their annual "*Battle Of The Badges Blood Drive*" which is being held on, February 9, 2015 from 7:00 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. at Fire Station 87 - Community Room, 10124 Balboa Boulevard, Granada Hills. Mr. Crews then went on to remind everyone about the upcoming "*Conversations With The Council*" being held on Wednesday, February 25, 2015. Part of the meeting will be devoted to the Neighborhood Prosecutor Program. Patti Peteque, LAPD SLO introduced herself as having taken over for former SLO Danny Del Valle who would be undergoing back surgery and likely be out for the next 8-12 months recovering. However, SLO Peteque says SLO Del Valle would return but in the meantime she would be taking over.

Neighborhood Prosecutor Alin Sahagian came by the PRNC to introduce herself and let everyone know what it is that she does. She currently works of the LAPD Devonshire Division and helps residents with the quality of life issues in their community. She also spoke about the upcoming "*Town Hall*" being hosted by Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer, on Wednesday, March 11, 2015 @ 6:30 p.m. at the Granada Hills Women Club located at 10666 White Oak Avenue, Granada Hills, CA 91344.

Lydia Grant, Board Commissioner, Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) stated that they oversee all neighborhood councils and there are currently 96 in existence with a potential 97th in the works. She is always available to talk with board members as well as stakeholders and can be reached at (818) 470-6629. She also wanted everyone to know that this week's LANCC meeting has been move to LA City College Science & Technology Building, Room 130 located at 855 N. Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles @ 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 7, 2015. Ms. Grant also informed everyone that BONC had sent out thirteen RFP's, ten of which were city approved webmaster's for the various neighborhood councils. She also stated that there will be a regional grievance panel put into motion soon so that if an issue can not be resolved at the neighborhood council level that it may be brought forth to this committee. She also reminded everyone about the upcoming Congress of Neighborhood Councils and that volunteers are needed. This year's theme is "*It Starts With Us*".

9. 6:15pm –School Board Member Tamar Galatzan. Ms. Galatzan introduced herself and then began speaking about PRCS and surrounding schools in the area. She said that PRCS opened in 2012 with 720 students compared to the 1,000 students currently enrolled. She also stated that there is an overlap in the boundaries between PRCS and Frost Middle School with parents

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primarily choosing for their children to attend PRCS. However, Ms. Galatzan did indicate that Frost Middle School was equally as good for residents to enroll their children in. She understands that PRCS is currently full with students and the school board is working on a short and long term solution to alleviate the overflow and wait list. Some ideas that are being thrown around are possibly bringing portables onto campus or even acquiring another adjacent property. The school board hopes to have answers to some of these inquiries by or around April 2015.

10. 6:25 PRCS Principal Mary Melvin regarding new School boundaries

Ms. Melvin introduced herself and began by thanking the surrounding schools in the area for their support some of those school principals were in attendance. She also thanked Council District 12's office for their support as well. She wanted to let everyone in attendance to know that even if the boundaries change they will do their best to accommodate enrollment requests. She also stated that if a household has a child already enrolled in PRCS and would like to enroll another child at PRCS, that those applications are given priority. PRCS believes in keeping families together. Early enrollment for PRCS will begin on March 9, 2015.

6. Treasurers' Report -- Treasurer 1, Sean O'Rourke

Discussion – Treasurer 1, Sean O'Rourke Motion to approve treasurer's report. Seconded by Armando Nunez, II.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll vote of seven of the ten eligible voters present with all seven in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Kim, Lee, C., Leveque, Nam, O'Rourke, Pope and Nunez). One Abstention due to ineligibility (Derohanian). Presidents/Presiding Officers can choose whether or not to vote; if they don't a vote can still be unanimous.]

7. Motion – Treasurer 1, Sean O'Rourke: Motion to approve MER for January

Funding Motion: (by Mr. O'Rourke, seconded by Mr. Nunez) The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approves its January 2015 Monthly Expenditure Report.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll vote of seven of the ten eligible voters present with all seven in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Kim, Lee, C., Leveque, Nam, O'Rourke, Pope and Nunez). One Abstention due to ineligibility (Derohanian). Presidents/Presiding Officers can choose whether or not to vote; if they don't a vote can still be unanimous.]

13. Report – Sue Hammarlund Report - 2015 Citrus Sunday will be held on Sunday, May 17th. We will need volunteers and Board Members to help staff it. The location is to be determined. Saturday, May 9th will be a free fruit tree give-a-way, location TBD. The next

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meeting at CD 12 with the other Councils is set for Feb. 17th at 4:30pm. More info will be forthcoming at our March meeting.

This report was tabled as Ms. Hammarlund was not in attendance.

14. Motion – Secretary, Eric Nam: Motion to approve the purchase of four wireless microphones, a receiver unit, and a digital wall clock to be used at PRCS MPR for our PRNC meeting and other PRNC events and activities. Total cost not to exceed \$1,200. Mover may amend this motion as necessary.

Discussion – Mr. Nam moved to amend the motion to read as follows:

“Motion to approve the purchase of four wireless microphones, four receiver units, and a digital wall clock to be used at PRCS MPR for our PRNC meeting, PRNC events and activities and PRCS activities. Total cost not to exceed \$1,300”

Discussion – Mr. Nam stated that he currently has a verbal agreement with Guitar Center to receive the wireless microphones at \$239.00 each. Sean O'Rourke also inquired as to whether the proposed equipment would be compatible with the existing mixer. It was stated the PRCS Plant Manager would hook all of the equipment up for the PRNC. **Mr. O'Rourke seconded the motion.**

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll vote of seven of the ten eligible voters present with all seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Kim, Lee, C., Leveque, Nam, O'Rourke, Pope and Nunez). One Abstention due to ineligibility (Derohanian). Presidents/Presiding Officers can choose whether or not to vote; if they don't a vote can still be unanimous.]

15. Motion – Treasurer 1, Sean O'Rourke: Motion to hire temp help to assist treasurers. Not to exceed \$1000 for the remainder of the year.

Mr. O'Rourke requested that this item be tabled.

16. Motion – Alex Kim: Motion to co-sponsor LAUSD DISTRICT 3 School Board Candidates Forum with Northridge West NC. The event will be held at on 2-17-2015 at the Elks Lodge at 20925 Osborne Street - Cost be \$100. for refreshment at the forum. Pat Pope seconded the motion.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll vote of seven of the ten eligible voters present with all seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Kim, Lee, C., Leveque, Nam, O'Rourke, Pope and Nunez). One Abstention due to ineligibility (Derohanian). Presidents/Presiding Officers

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17. Public Comment

Mr. Carl Petersen just wanted to announce that he is currently running as a candidate in the upcoming March election for the school board in the 3rd District.

Mr. Filiberto Gonzalez who is a former city commission also took the time to announce his candidacy for the upcoming March election for the school board in the 3rd District. Mr. Gonzalez says he is fed up with what passes as acceptable and states that he is willing to lead and be an advocate for parents and that he is prepared to find a solution to the issues at roll.

11. 7pm -City Controller, Ron Galperin

Mr. Galperin introduced himself and that he loves coming out to speak at Neighborhood Council meetings and that is where he first got started. He stated is job is to oversee the coming and going of money in the City of Los Angeles, collections. He encourages for all residents of Los Angeles to become engaged and to be a watchdog in their community. The City of Los Angeles currently has approximately 40,000 people on its payroll. Mr. Galperin then presented an overview of a website that has been compiled to let individuals see where money is being spent and on what. Anyone may view the website at <https://controllerdata.lacity.org/checkbook/2014>.

The websites shows specifically what is bought and the quantity; to whom it was bought for; and its purpose. It also shows audits and reports, where there is excessive spending and how cuts can be made, and where good ideas can be put in to action. Another area of interest to some would be the "*Special Fund Report*" where there are approximately 1,000 funds that are considered to be "special" i.e. Recs and Parks, clean water.

Each of the special funds have rules and must spend the money given according to those rules. There is also money in the special funds that has been allocated but is currently not being utilized. All reports on the website are available for viewing at any time and it allows and individual to receive a visual of exactly how much money is being spent whether via charts, and/or graphs and even shows the expenditures of what each neighborhood council spends. All data for a specific vendor can be broken down into 3 months, 6 months, 1 year or even the last 3years.The "*Virtual Checkbook*" also allows a resident to search by department and see what payments are being made i.e. operation, not including payroll. Mr. Galperin would also like to compile a list of all the properties that are owned by the City of Los Angeles and make use of those assets. Mr. Galperin emphasized that in order to control efficiency in the City of Los Angeles are to lead by example, conduct audits, make the right recommendations and to have good working relationships with other city agencies. Another key point made by Mr. Galperin

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was audits and that recommendations made be implemented and that actual responses to those audits become part of the final audit.

12. 8PM –Update regarding striping of Tampa

Colin Crews, Field Deputy Council District 12 informed everyone that striping on Tampa Avenue was underway and that the travel lanes were unaffected. Parking on the eastside of Tampa Avenue near the library was eliminated and this was primarily done to deter jaywalking.

However, parking on the westside of Tampa Avenue was not affected. Mr. Crews said that there also may be some type of restrictive parking put up near the trailhead that would allow approximately 15 cars to park. It was also requested by the PRNC that other restrictive parking be put into place near the library to allow individuals to only park for up to and including 4hours. Mr. Crews said that he would follow up with DOT Transportation Engineer, Mr. Ken Firoozmand. Also established was an ad hoc committee to address the signage issue along Tampa Avenue. Ms. Becky Leveque stated she would chair the committee and board member Cheri Derohanian volunteered to be on this committee to offer assistance.

18. Future meetings – March 5, 2015 meeting will consist mostly of Budget/Funding matters. Mr. Nam also wanted to let everyone know that the Land Use Committee would be meeting at PRCS on February 22, 2015 @ 6:00 p.m.

19. Motion to adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.