

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, Cindy Lee, Cheri Derohanian and David Balen

General Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 14, 2015

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

1. Welcome -- President Paula Cracium called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

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

2. Roll Call – Secretary Pro Tem Michelle Ritchie

Board Members who were present introduced themselves: Paula Cracium (President), Pat Pope (Vice-President), Sean O'Rourke (Treasurer 1) Armando Nunez II (Treasurer 2) Becky Leveque, Susan Hammerlund, Alex Kim, Cindy Lee, Cheri Derohanian, and David Balen. Board member Eric Nam (Secretary) was absent.

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 50 stakeholders and guests.

6. President's Comments and Updates - President Paula Cracium

Ms. Cracium welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded everyone that the PRNC Board are elected officials and are there for the community of Porter Ranch to have access to City officials and its services.

1. Board shirts and nametags - Tabled

2. PRNC banner update - Tabled

3. Motion – Secretary Eric Nam: Motion to approve September minutes. Becky Leveque seconded the motion.

The September minutes were approved as amended.

MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of nine of the ten eligible voters present with nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Pope, O'Rourke, Nunez, Leveque, Hammarlund, Kim, Lee, Derohanian

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and Balen). Presidents/Presiding Officers can choose whether or not to vote; if they don't a vote can still be unanimous.]

4. Treasurers' Report -- Treasurer 1 Sean O'Rourke

Mr. O'Rourke advised everyone the PRNC account had been compromised over the last month. However, the issue has been resolved and the PRNC funds are once again available as of today's meeting.

5. Motion – Treasurer 1 Sean O'Rourke: Motion to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report for August. Armando Nunez seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of nine of the ten eligible voters present with nine in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Pope, O'Rourke, Nunez, Leveque, Hammarlund, Kim, Lee, Derohanian and Balen). Presidents/Presiding Officers can choose whether or not to vote; if they don't a vote can still be unanimous.]

Motion – Treasurer 1 Sean O'Rourke: Motion to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report for September. Pat Pope seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of nine of the ten eligible voters present with eight in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Pope, O'Rourke, Nunez, Leveque, Hammarlund, Lee, Derohanian and Balen). One abstention (Kim) Presidents/Presiding Officers can choose whether or not to vote; if they don't a vote can still be unanimous.]

7. Community / Governmental Updates and Announcements

John Lee, Board of Directors Devonshire PALS. briefly talked about the \$4.5 million dollars that was raised to build a youth center near Porter Ranch. The current location of the youth center is located at Parthenia and Wilbur. The youth center has been open for the last six years on average sees 160 kids every day. The reason for establishing a youth center was to foster a relationship between the LAPD and the kids in the local area. Some of the events that are put onto through are field trips, some of which include trips to the beach and some behind the scene opportunities for the kids (i.e. jobs). Since the youth center has gone in, crime in the area has continuously dropped. The youth center is always in need of monetary donations as well as volunteers. The youth center is open Monday – Friday from 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

John Lee, Chief of Staff from Councilman Englander's offices just wanted to give a quick update as to the RV parking issue up off of Rinaldi and Tampa and the affect it was having on the surrounding HOA's in the area. Mr. Lee stated that although the City wished to show

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compassion to the individuals who reside in their RV's and/or cars they do understand the dilemma of the HOA's in the area. Councilman Englander's office has agreed to put signs up in the area that "No Overnight" parking for oversized vehicles will be allowed in the area between the hours of 10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m. The motion itself should work itself through the City Council by the end of November. However, Mr. Lee said that he did not know when the actual signage would go up in the area.

On another note, Mr. Lee advise the PRNC Board and its stakeholders that the debris on the freeway coming into Porter Ranch will no longer be an eyesore to the community. Mr. Lee said that the Council District 12 office has negotiated with Shapell and Toll Brothers to adopt a mile long portion of the freeway for regular beautification clean-ups.

Board member Alex Kim stated that he was very disappointed and felt that Shapell should be doing more in the community. At this time, Sean O'Rourke took the opportunity to state that Shapell has done more than its share in the community and said that the right approach should be one of in which residents of Porter Ranch partner with Shapell and work together to improve areas that need cleaning up.

Kevin Taylor, West Valley Representative for Mayor Eric Garcetti's wanted to take a quick moment to introduce himself to the PRNC Board and stakeholders. Mr. Taylor stated that he is a former member of the Reseda Neighborhood Council and for anyone who has questions for him to please email him at Kevin.Taylor@lacity.org

Mr. Taylor announced that the Northridge Neighborhood Walk was happening this Saturday, October 17, 2015 beginning at 9:00 a.m. beginning at CSUN. This event consists of volunteers going door-to-door in the Northridge area and informing residents about their city government and resources available to them. Mr. Taylor also spoke about the Clean Streets LA Team and that they are in need of volunteers. The Clean Streets LA Team is to improve the quality of life in communities by helping to keep it clean. Anyone interested in signing up can do so at www.cleanstreetsla.org

9. Motion – Alex Kim: Motion to co-sponsor the Solid pasta dinner for \$1000 – we will have proper recognition for PRNC contribution including having PRNC Banner placed at the dinner. Cindy Lee seconded the motion.

Paula Cracium and Becky Leveque recused themselves and left the room.

Although the PRNC Board wished to support this event the timeframe was not feasible as the event was in two days from today's meeting. Sean O'Rourke stated there was no way a check could be issued in such a short time.

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Motion was withdrawn.

8. Motion – Vice President Pat Pope: Motion to submit a Community Impact Statement in support of LA City Council File 14-0054-S1, asking the city to increase enforcement to suppress dangerous automobile street racing in Los Angeles. David Balen seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of nine of the ten eligible voters present with nine in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Pope, O'Rourke, Nunez, Leveque, Hammarlund, Kim, Lee, Derohanian and Balen). Presidents/Presiding Officers can choose whether or not to vote; if they don't a vote can still be unanimous.]

Paula Cracium left the meeting at 7:35 p.m. Vice-President Pat Pope chaired the meeting when Ms. Cracium left.

14. Special Guest Speaker: Deputy Chief Bob Green-Operations-Valley Bureau

Deputy Chief Green introduced himself and stated that has been with the LAPD for the last 35 years and that prior to be reassigned to the Valley Bureau that he had been assigned to the South Bureau for the last 10 years. Deputy Chief Green said that he tries to get to as many community meetings as possible. Chief Green then said he would be willing to answer any questions that the PRNC Board had in addition to any of the stakeholders in attendance. Chief Green then took questions on a variety of questions such as street racing in the area, driving and texting, vehicles with ads on them, and panhandling. Any matters which Chief Green could not address at this meeting he asked that individuals give their information to his assistant for a follow up.

Two subject matters which Deputy Chief Green wished to touch on were homelessness and human trafficking. Homelessness is currently at an all-time high in the City of Los Angeles. A 2014 ruling by the Los Angeles Superior Court allows individuals to sleep in their cars. The ruling has proven to make the LAPD's job that more challenging when dealing with these individuals. Chief Green then spoke about human trafficking in the Valley. He advised everyone that the gangs in South Los Angeles (Bloods and Crips) come to the Valley because it is considered “neutral” territory. This allows gang members to come to the Valley and prey upon underage girls. Chief Green says that they abduct these underage girls and get them hooked on narcotics and then turn them out for prostitution.

Chief Green wrapped up his presentation by stating that anytime the Senior Lead Officers (SLO) are not doing their job that he wished to be informed so that he can then follow up. Deputy Chief Green can be reached at 213-410-0569.

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10. Motion - Cheri Derohanian: Motion for \$250.00 for 100 "Good Samaritan Kits" which cost \$2.50/each. These are a good community service item. Each kit contains basic toiletries, snacks, survival wrap/heat reflective blanket, and most importantly, shelter addresses/ information for San Fernando Valley and Los Angeles area. Armando Nunez seconded the motion.

This item was tabled for a later meeting until more information could be obtained by Ms. Derohanian.

11. Motion - Cheri Derohanian: Motion for \$100.00 for our NC to help sponsor the 11/12/15 VANC Meeting/training seminar, includes information on how to prepare CIS, (Community Impact Statements), and other important NC processes and procedures. Sean O'Rourke seconded the motion.

The motion was amended to read as follows:

"Motion for \$250.00 for our NC to help sponsor the 11/12/15 VANC Meeting/training seminar, includes information on how to prepare CIS, (Community Impact Statements), and other important NC processes and procedures"

MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of nine of the nine eligible voters present with nine in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Pope, O'Rourke, Nunez, Leveque, Hammarlund, Kim, Lee, Derohanian and Balen). Presidents/Presiding Officers can choose whether or not to vote; if they don't a vote can still be unanimous.]

12. Motion - Cheri Derohanian: Motion for PRNC board members, and all Porter Ranch Stakeholders, bring 4 cans of food, to the 11/4 meeting (i.e. Yams, cranberry sauce, boxes of stuffing, canned veggies, canned fruit, and if anyone wants to contribute gift card of any dollar amount from Ralph's, Walmart, that shelter could purchase turkeys or other needs perishables).

This item was just an announcement and not a motion.

13. Committee and Focus Group updates:

- **Land Use Committee – Eric Nam** - Mr. Nam was absent
- **Budget Advocates- Becky Leveque/Armando Nunez** - Glenn Bailey stated that there are currently 36 representatives from the neighborhood councils with Becky Leveque and

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Armando Nunez being the PRNC representatives and that there are 12 regions. The purpose of the Budget Advocates was to advise the Mayor on funding issues in the next year's fiscal budget. Mr. Bailey also advise everyone that the Regional Budget Day was set to occur on Saturday, October 17, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the Marvin Braude Center in Van Nuys.

- **Youth Ambassadors Ad Hoc Committee-Becky Leveque/Cheri Derohanian - Tabled**

- **Focus Areas**
 - **Beautification (Clean Ups, Trees, Parks, etc.)-Sue Hammarlund/ Alex Kim-** Mr. Kim stated that he was disappointed with Shapell and Toll Brothers and he feels that the clean up on the South Side of Rinaldi was done poorly.
 - **Elections - Armando Nunez (2016 Election Chair) –**
 - **Election period begins December 27th and ends April 9th -** Mr. Nunez stated that the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council elections are set to happen on April 9, 2015 and would be held at the Shepherd of the Hills Church Porter Ranch. Discussion was brought up about possibly having the elections at Porter Ranch Community School since the community is recognizing the school as the place wherein the PRNC meets. Mr. Nunez said he would check into it. Ms. Leveque stated she did not know if it would be possible as it would involve having to bring campus staff in on the weekend in order to give the residents access to the campus. Mr. Glenn Bailey advised everyone that the candidate filing window was extended to a 45-day period instead of only 30-days.
 - **Events-Cheri Derohanian/Sue Hammarlund/Becky Leveque -** Ms. Derohanian stated that there was nothing to report at this time although this committee has already met 3 times.
 - **Senior Adult Involvement-Becky Leveque/Sue Hammarlund/Alex Kim -** Ms. Leveque stated that she had nothing to report at this time.
 - **Report from Short Term rentals Listening Sessions – Cindy Lee -** Ms. Lee stated she had nothing to report at this time.
 - **Updates from the 10/03/15 Valley Disaster Preparedness fair, - Cheri Derohanian -** Ms. Derohanian just wanted to say thank you to David Balen, Becky Leveque and Alex Kim for manning the PRNC booth and was pleased to announce that the PRNC was able to acquire 50 new email sign-ups.

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15. Public Comment

Mr. Jeffrey Mausner, Chairman, Tarzana Neighborhood Council, Animal Welfare Committee was in attendance tonight to ask that the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council form its own Animal Welfare Committee. There are many issues that the West Valley Animal Shelter faces including but not limited to killing healthy adoptable animals and a shortage of staffing and volunteer positions. Mr. Mausner is hoping to establish a foster program that would allow animals inside of the neighboring nursing homes. Mr. Mausner also asked that the PRNC appoint Ms. Cathy Serksnas to head up such committee.

Ms. Cathy Serksnas stated she is a Porter Ranch resident and lives in Sorrento. She stated she has been volunteering for the last 10 years and hopes that the PRNC will form such a committee. She is willing to volunteer her time and is looking to increase the number of volunteers. She also asked that anyone will to foster animals to please get in contact with here. Sue Hammerlund agreed to meet with her about forming a committee.

Cheri Derohanian left the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

16. Future meetings

November 4- City Attorney Feuer – Confirmed
December 2 Holiday party – Updates forthcoming

17. Motion to adjourn – Pat Pope adjourned the meeting at 8:46 p.m.