

Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council Minutes
Tuesday, January 3, 2006
Shepherd of the Hills Church, Porter Ranch

Call to Order 6:15 p.m. by PRNC President Becky Leveque

Roll Call by PRNC Secretary Patrick Pope:

Pam	Birnkrant	Present
Paula	Cracium	Present
Paul	Drogichen	Present
Matt	Gluck	Absent
Susan	Hammarlund	Present
Becky	Leveque	Present
Joe	Martin	Present
Mel	Mitchell	Present
Ron	Nagai	Present
Tatiana	Oueini	Absent
Patrick	Pope	Present

Meeting Notification Issues

As the meeting began there was discussion about public notice for the current meeting. Becky stated that prior to sending out an e-mail notification she posted the notification at the sites in Porter Ranch 72 hours in advance as required by the by-laws. Manny Durazo from DONE attended the meeting and stated that this met the Brown Act requirements. Ron said that his e-mail notification went to his office, and because of the holiday he was not able to review or add to the agenda until today. Becky apologized, saying that she had been ill all during the Christmas holidays and sent Ron's e-mail to his work e-mail address on the weekend. There was a consensus among the Board members, that there was less than ideal public notice, that January 3 was not an ideal date, but the first Tuesday of the month is our regular day and time. This meeting fell within the Brown Act. Future meetings will be publicized better. Joe moved that the agenda be approved. Sue seconded. The agenda was approved unanimously.

Approval of December 6, 2005 Minutes

Pat moved that the previous month's minutes be approved. Mel seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

PRNC Website

Mel said that Wendy Moore is having a hard time dealing with multiple people giving her inputs for the website. He asked that he and Becky be copied on all inputs to the website. Susan said that Wendy had been slow on some of her requests from the Education Committee. Ron said that we are paying for this service and that we should be getting good turnaround time from Wendy. Pam said that she would work with Wendy to smooth out the process at the next Outreach Committee meeting. All of the Board members that work with Wendy said she was doing an overall outstanding job.

Wireless Service in Porter Ranch

Becky asked Pat to have Cingular speak at a future meeting. Pat said that he spoke to Jim Hollister at Cingular, but since Pat works for Cingular's parent company, Mr. Hollister requested that the President of the council contact him. Becky will contact Mr. Hollister at Cingular

PRNC Election

Manny said that DONE was reorganizing, but he would be the DONE representative for our next election. The League of Women Voters will still administer the election. Paula said that there are many scheduling conflicts that have to be worked out to come up with an election date. Many other Boards across the city need to run elections. We need to work with DONE, the League of Woman Voters, other neighborhood councils, and Sheppard of the Hills to establish an election date. There was a motion by Paula, seconded by Mel to amend the by-laws to allow the election to be between February 15 and March 30 annually. The motion passed unanimously. Mel has checked with DONE and our present Board can stay in place until the next election. Ron asked if the election can be two days. Mel said that was a decision for the Election Committee. We discussed whether or not Board members can be on the Election Committee. The consensus was that they can, but cannot be part of the vote tabulation.

Disaster Training

Manny said that the mayor's office wants Neighborhood Council Board Members to receive advance training in case of an attack or earthquake. The mayor wants this in place by 2007. This skill set would be separate from CERT or the Red Cross. The recent floods in the Southeast portion of the United States show the critical need to be self sufficient for at least 72 hours after a disaster. The city is trying to obtain \$739 million from the Department of Homeland Security to upgrade its emergency response systems. Manny asked which two Board members could meet with the mayor's office about this training. Paul has CERT training, and Sue is a Red Cross volunteer, and will represent PRNC.

Board Retreat

Manny asked the Board to give him two Saturday dates to have the often delayed Board retreat.

Treasurer's Report

Paul reported that we have \$93 thousand in the current budget. Paul reported that DONE is not very speedy in answering his questions. Manny said that he would help Paul deal with DONE. Paul went through various expenditures with the Board in order to classify them. He asked that anyone creating an expense put the committee name on the receipt. If the expense is a meal, Paul asked that a list of who attended the meeting be attached.

Mayor's Survey

Pat will scan the mayor's survey on expenditures for the website, but will check with Manny to see if it is still relevant.

Menorah by Town Center

The lighting of the menorah was well attended on December 28. 600 community members and business people were there. The Board did receive one disturbing e-mail complaint. Joe Martin will forward the complaint to the City Attorney to see if the City wants to track down the complaining party.

Committee Reports

Ron is working on center median design with the city. The design work is free, but sources of funding will need to be identified to build the medians

The Land Use committee met on December 14, 2005. Mel briefly discussed the large parcel on Rinaldi. Mel will publish details of the committee meeting in separate minutes.

The Education Committee will order one more computer for Castlebay.

Becky said that Captain Franklin from Fire Station 28 will get together with Paul to discuss the expense items we have already approved.

Ron and Becky will draft a letter to LAFD Chief Bamattre to insure that we have full time paramedic rescue service in Porter Ranch.

Stakeholder Vasdev Singh suggested that the PRNC website include a "News You Can Use" area for topics like Christmas tree or hazardous waste disposal

Mel asked said that there is a one-day class through UCLA Extension on working with City Planning. It costs \$325 per student. Sue moved that we authorize two Board members to attend, Joe seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Pat moved for Adjournment at 9:00, Mel seconded. The meeting was adjourned.