

PRNC Meeting Minutes: May 18, 2004, 7pm

The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council (PRNC) held its monthly meeting on May 18th. Captain Joseph Curreri of LAPD's Devonshire Division was the guest speaker. The PRNC's featured business of the month was SDK Accountancy represented by Mr. Scott D. Kozara, CPA. The Board of Directors also made a number of announcements and took action on the design competition for the PRNC logo. The community also provided their input into the design of the proposed pocket park at the northwest corner of Reseda Boulevard and Rinaldi Street.

Captain Joseph Curreri received a warm welcome from the stakeholders of the PRNC. Captain Curreri's presentation was very informative and included the status of new police stations, crime statistics, tips on avoiding distraction crimes, half-cent sales tax initiative for more police officers; Volunteer Surveillance Team activities, need for Neighborhood Watch, and other "news we can use." The PRNC expressed their support of the Police Department and demonstrated that support with a strong showing at the Supporters of Law Enforcement in Devonshire's (S.O.L.I.D.) Pancake Breakfast on May 8th.

Mr. Scott Kozara, CPA and Principal of SDK Accountancy, was the "Featured Business of the Month" speaker. SDK Accountancy provides a wide range of services including: financial statement preparation; financial planning; income tax planning and tax return preparation; bookkeeping; payroll services; budgeting; and cash flow analysis. SDK Accountancy offers a free one-hour consultation. Please call Mr. Kozara at (818) 576-9779 or e-mail him at sdk@sdk1.net.

Some of the announcements that were made included Sparkle 2004 (Porter Ranch Clean-up Day in October - more information next month); the Traffic Safety Fair at Woodley Park on May 22nd; Salute to Recreation Family Festival at Northridge Park (10058 Reseda Boulevard) on June 4th, 5th, and 6th (for information, please call (818) 756-8060); S.O.L.I.D. Car Show on Saturday, July 10th, at the First Presbyterian Church of Granada Hills located at 10400 Zelzah Avenue (for information, please call (818) 756-9011, extension 2000).

A special announcement was made regarding the PRNC's participation in the Adopt-A-Fire Station campaign. Ms. Harriet Oppenheim and Ms. Elaine Woo were recognized for their financial contributions that kicked off the campaigns for Fire Stations #28 (Corbin Avenue) and #8 (Tampa Avenue). Please call Ms. Pam Birnkrant, Chairperson, for more information at (818) 831-2330.

Mr. Mel Mitchell, Chairperson of the Land Use Committee, announced the PRNC's efforts to install a traffic signal at the Porter Ranch Branch Library. He also mentioned the Committee's review of the Specific Plan and the recently proposed "Inclusionary Housing Ordinance." He encouraged the PRNC's stakeholders to participate in the Land Use Committee's activities.

The Board of Directors voted to have a design competition to develop a PRNC logo. Contestants must be a PRNC stakeholder or a student at CSUN, Granada Hills Charter High School, or Chatsworth High School. Prizes and design competition rules will be discussed at the PRNC's June 15th meeting.

The proposed pocket park at the northwest corner of Reseda Boulevard and Rinaldi Street was also discussed. Subsequent to the PRNC's April 20th meeting, the City's Department of Recreation and Parks invited more input from the PRNC. At the PRNC's May 18th meeting, the PRNC's stakeholders voted to have a curved two-foot high wall around the front of the park without any bollards so long as the wall was adequately reinforced. The center of the wall will have a marble fascia with "Welcome to Porter Ranch" lettering on the sides facing Reseda Boulevard and Rinaldi Street. A PRNC insignia will be placed on the corner of the wall facing the intersection. The stakeholders approved most of the building materials and the crepe myrtle

trees. The stakeholders voted to eliminate the cedar and liquidambar trees and replace them with white birch trees and an evergreen variety like a camphor tree.

The Board and stakeholders also discussed the Granada Hills community's opposition to the LAUSD's purchase of the Granada Hills Hospital site. The loss of another local emergency room was one of the main concerns. Those PRNC stakeholders opposed to the LAUSD purchase signed a petition and requested Councilmember Smith to continue his efforts to bring back a hospital emergency room to the area.

Another topic of discussion was the City's proposed "Inclusionary Housing Ordinance." This proposed ordinance, if passed, will supersede the Specific Plan and will require low-income housing in all new rental and for-sale homes in Porter Ranch as well as the rest of the City. The PRNC plans to have someone from both sides of the issue at the next meeting.

The next PRNC meeting will be held on June 15th at the Shepherd of the Hills Church located at 19700 Rinaldi Street. Our guest speaker will be Mr. John Kirk Mukri, General Manager of the Department of Recreation and Parks. He will be speaking on his vision for the northwest San Fernando Valley as it relates to his Department and maintenance of the City's parks in Porter Ranch. Please plan to attend another very informative meeting and make your opinions known.