

PORTER RANCH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 6, 2007
Shepherd of the Hills Church
Porter Ranch, California

Becky Leveque called the meeting to order at 6:20 pm. 106 stakeholders attended the meeting.

A stakeholder, Mr. Nuzbak, asked for support for creating a dog park in the Porter Ranch area. Becky Leveque asked Mr. Nuzbak what was needed to designate a dog park and provided Mr. Nuzbak with a Service Cabinet Request form. Ms. Leveque promised to refer the request to the Council District office.

Becky Leveque reported that some of the trees planted in Holliegh Bernson Park will be removed because they were blocking the Fire Department's helicopter staging area.

Ron Nagai, reporting on the Beautification Committee's activities, described the proposed Porter Ranch Gateway. Mr. Nagai reported that a youth group organized by the Los Angeles Conservation Corps is being contracted to help keep Porter Ranch area sidewalks cleared. Mr. Nagai also reported on a proposed effort to post signs designating the Porter Ranch area and answered stakeholders' questions about community beautification, signage and history. Becky Leveque reported a community clean-up due to take place later in March and asked stakeholders to advise her of any areas in need of cleaning between Aliso and Browns Canyons, north of the 118 freeway.

Mel Reiter, Editor/Publisher of the Valley Voice, discussed his publication's unique ability to present information to the Porter Ranch Community and invited stakeholders to contribute their input.

Becky Leveque introduced Dario Del Core, LAPD Senior Lead Officer for the Porter Ranch area. SLO Del Core reported on criminal activity in the area, noting that a gang-related homicide had occurred recently in Devonshire Division and that the suspect in that killing is "on the run." SLO Del Core provided a list of emergency contact phone numbers to stakeholders and advised stakeholders of ways to reduce the possibility of property loss.

Becky Leveque welcomed Fire Station #28 personnel.

Becky Leveque introduced Christine Ward, Field Representative for 38th District Assemblyman Cameron M. Smyth.

(Taken out of order) Sue Hammarlund introduced Dan Cooper, LAFD, who advised stakeholders of the equipment and personnel available to assist in emergency situations. Capt. Cooper thanked Becky Leveque for her assistance in returning an area formerly used as a helicopter staging area by the Fire Department to its former use. Capt. Cooper discussed Fire Department preparedness in Santa Ana conditions, in response to a question from a stakeholder.

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A. Special Guests

a. Shift Happens

Mark Bentien, Southern California Earthquake Center

Mr. Bentien discussed the Earthquake Country Alliance. He reported that 2007 is the 150th anniversary of the last big earthquake on the San Andreas Fault in Southern California and emphasized the need for preparation and proactive ways to protect stakeholders' lives and property. Mr. Bentien provided materials to stakeholders that will assist in disaster preparedness. Mr. Bentien discussed some preconceptions and fallacies that people have regarding earthquakes, and stated that the "Big One" will probably last two to three minutes. Mr. Bentien compared the "Big One" to the 1994 Northridge earthquake, when the actual shaking lasted only 10 seconds. Mr. Bentien gave information on California fault lines and noted a prediction that the earthquake resulting from movement along the San Andreas fault line will probably happen within the lifetimes of some present at the meeting. Mr. Bentien reported that there is the possibility that Southern California will experience cutoffs from major freeways, rail transport, power lines and discussed what stakeholders can do to be prepared before, during and after an earthquake. Mr. Bentien emphasized that the formation of a Community Emergency Response Team is crucial, and discussed ways to secure items in homes and workplaces. Mr. Bentien listed seven steps to increase earthquake preparedness. Mr. Bentien introduced Carol Parks

b. Carol Parks, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, City of Los Angeles

Ms. Parks advised meeting attendees that a disaster will occur in Los Angeles, and encouraged stakeholders to prepare themselves and family members. Ms. Parks advised that a Preparedness Fair will occur in September 2007 and spent time discussing what her office does and how stakeholders can take advantage of the agency's expertise.

c. Fire Captain Stacy Gerlich from CERT (Community Emergency Response Team)

Sue Hammarlund introduced Captain Stacy Gerlich, who is responsible for CERT training. Capt. Gerlich described the training, noted that one training had just finished at Castlebay Lane Elementary School, discussed how Fire Department personnel are deployed in an emergency situation, described how the CERT training personnel and urged stakeholders to contact her office.

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d. Dan DiSimile, local businessman

(Taken out of order) Becky Leveque introduced Dan DiSimile, businessman and stakeholder, who was gracious enough to assist Porter Ranch in resolving a dilemma regarding the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council mail contact information. Mr. DiSimile, a Certified Financial Planner, provided copies of his business card and resume, discussed his career choice regarding becoming an independent financial planner and invited stakeholders to contact him with any questions they may have about life decisions. Mr. DiSimile discussed recent occurrences in the stock market, real estate and real estate financing trends. Mr. DiSimile advised against unrealistic expectations with regard to real estate investment.

B. Meeting Opening

a. Call to Order/Welcome and introduction of special guests

(Taken out of order) Becky Leveque called the meeting to order and noted that a quorum was not established, due to Board members working at the election.

b. Roll Call

Board members present: Pat Pope, Paul Drogichen, Paula Cracium, Ron Nagai and Sue Hammarlund. Mel Mitchell, Bright Aregs, and Vasdev Singh were unable to attend. Chris Cooper arrived later.

c. Approval of Proposed Agenda

The agenda was approved by acclamation.

Paula Cracium moved to table all non-financial business items until the next meeting; seconded by Sue Hammarlund.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor. The motion passed.

d. Presentation and Approval of February Minutes

This item was tabled.

e. Treasurer's Report

(Taken out of order) Paul Drogichen provided copies of the Treasurer's Report and listed expenditures to date. In answer to Becky Leveque's question, Mr.

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Drogichen explained that, under the current rules, PRNC is not in danger of losing any funds. Mr. Drogichen reported that a new DONE director and deputy director has been appointed.

Ron Nagai moved to approve the Treasurer's report; seconded by Paula Cracium.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor. The motion passed.

C. Other Action Items

- a. Motion to approve co-sponsorship of the North Valley Citrus Day

Paula Cracium moved to provide \$500 to purchase items for Citrus Day out of the Outreach budget line item; seconded by Chris Cooper.

VOTE: 5 in favor; 1 abstention. The motion passed.

- b. Motion to support expansion of Porter Ranch Country Club

Ron Nagai moved to begin discussion on this item; the item will remain tabled until the next meeting.

Jim Kocinsky complained about the Porter Ranch Country Club's contributions to the community and lack of community involvement.

- c. Motion to approve expenses for outreach

Paula Cracium moved to approve expenses for the businessmen's lunch held the week before, up to \$360; seconded by Ron Nagai.

Vote: Unanimous in favor. The motion passed.

- d. Motion to approve printing CERT manual for Porter Ranch Class—not to exceed \$300 to be taken from Police, Fire and Safety budget line item

Pat Pope moved to approve printing copies of the CERT manual for the Porter Ranch CERT training class; seconded by Chris Cooper.

Ron Nagai asked where the manuals will be stored. Becky Leveque stated that each CERT training attendee was given a copy. Mr. Nagai asked if the manual was available on the Internet and was told that the manual is available on the CERT website.

VOTE: unanimous in favor. The motion passed.

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D. Old Business

Items D.a through D.f were tabled.

- a. Report on Aliso Canyon
- b. Status of the School in Porter Ranch (K-8 Span)
- c. Update on Cell Phone Towers
- d. CERT Graduation
- e. Status on retirement celebration for LAFD Captain Casper and SLO Rick Gibby
- f. Report on Beautification Meeting

- g. National Clean-Up Day/Porter Ranch

Chris Cooper announced that 75 people have committed to walk Aliso Canyon on the National Clean-Up Day on from 9am to 12 pm on March 10, 2007; there will be another Clean-Up Day on March 17, 2007. Mr. Cooper presented details on plans for the two days of Clean-Up efforts, including participation by Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Fire Explorers, and Police Explorers. Mr. Cooper discussed plans for approximately 70 Fire Explorers to rappel off of the Braemore Street Overlook to clear trash from the hillside. Chris Cooper noted that expenses for safety equipment and refreshments for the participants will amount to no more than \$400.

Ron Nagai moved to allocate up to \$400 to be taken from the Beautification budget line item to cover expenses; Paula Cracium seconded.

Chris Cooper listed the benefits to the community; there was discussion about opportunities for outreach and to invite participation by the community. Chris Cooper ... and noted that the Council office has been instrumental in assisting him, noted outreach already done.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

Agenda items D.h and D.i were tabled.

- h. Outreach Committee
- i. Applications for new Board member

E. New Business

The meeting was adjourned by common consent at 9:15 pm.