

PORTER RANCH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Unadopted Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 10, 2007
Shepherd of the Hills Church
Porter Ranch, California

1. MEETING OPENING

1.1. Welcome and introductions

Becky Leveque called the meeting to order at 6:14 pm.

1.2. Roll Call

Board members present: Paula Cracium, Pat Pope, Sue Hammarlund, Becky Leveque, Vasdev Singh, Ali Dabirian, Paul Drogichen, Mel Mitchell, and Bright Aregs. Excused absences: Ron Nagai; Chris Cooper

1.3. Approval of Proposed Agenda

Pat Pope moved to approve the proposed agenda; seconded by Sue Hammarlund. The agenda was approved by consensus.

1.4. Presentation and Approval of June 2007 Minutes

Pat Pope moved to approve the Minutes for the June 5, 2007; seconded by Paul Drogichen. VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

2. OTHER ACTION ITEMS

3.

2.10 Treasurer's Report

Paul Drogichen provided a Treasurer's Report that summarized current available funds and spending as of July 10, 2007. Mr. Drogichen reported that DONE is changing how funds will be expended in the future. Mr. Drogichen provided reports that showed the 2006-2007 Actual versus Budget YTD PRNC funds and a first Draft of the PRNC 2007-2008 Actual versus Budget YTD funds. Carol Knee, a stakeholder asked a question regarding funding for education; Paul Drogichen and Becky Leveque provided detailed information about how PRNC funds have been spent. Two stakeholders asked questions about equipment purchased by PRNC for Fire Station 28 that were responded to by Mr. Drogichen and Becky Leveque.

Paul Drogichen moved to accept the Treasurer's report as written; seconded by Mel Mitchell.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

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2.20 Accept the proposed 2007-2008 Budget

Paul Drogichen discussed the draft 2007-2008 budget in detail. There was further discussion regarding the budget that was initiated by a stakeholder's misapprehension of the Neighborhood Council's charter.

Paul Drogichen discussed how 2007-2008 funds have been allocated and stated that he had been instructed by DONE to allocate funds only after a purchase has been made. Discussion followed about outreach plans for the upcoming election. Mr. Drogichen noted plans to provide a cover for the children's play area at Holleigh Bernson Park. There was further discussion resulting from a stakeholder's question about when playground covers will be installed.

Paul Drogichen moved to approve the draft budget for the 2007-2008 fiscal year as written; seconded by Sue Hammarlund.

Pat Pope questioned the allocation made to the Community Projects and Beautification budget line item. Sue Hammarlund discussed how the budget was allocated in past years with regard to the Education line item.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor. The motion passed.

3. OLD BUSINESS

3.1 Status of treadmill for LAFD Station 28

Becky Leveque reported that the treadmill has been received by the fire station.

3.2.1 Status of washer and dryer for LAFD Station 28

Becky Leveque reported that the washer/dryer will be installed at Fire Station 28 by the end of this week.

3.2.2 Status of play area at Holleigh Bernson Park

This was discussed earlier in the meeting (see Item 2.20).

3.2.3 Status of letter for Vas Singh and copy for PRNC records

Ron Nagai, who is to write a letter of commendation for Vas Singh, was not in attendance at today's meeting.

Sue Hammarlund stated that she is gathering information to write a letter regarding the addition of a proposed left turn lane.

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Mel Mitchell reported receipt of an invitation to attend the upcoming Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Council meeting; Bright Aregs and Paula Cracium agreed to attend.

Mel Mitchell reported receipt of an invitation to respond to some questions regarding the LA/DWP MOU. Pat Pope will represent PRNC with regard to the LADWP MOU.

Becky Leveque reported repairs on Wilbur, and that an additional lane will be added from Nordhoff to Lassen.

Bright Aregs noted a need to paint lane markers in Porter Ranch; Becky Leveque stated that an invitation will be extended to attend the next meeting to Bill Robertson.

Newbar Constantian reported that Darby north of Braemore will be paved; a representative will be invited. Jim Kocinsky stated that DOT should be asked to provide a timetable for proposed work.

Becky Leveque introduced Captain Cooper, who extended thanks to the Neighborhood for contributions to Fire Station 28. At Pat Pope's request, Captain Cooper described the activities of the Brush Patrol, which provides an additional layer of safety with regard to high fire hazard days. Captain Cooper also described how LAFD personnel are deployed. Carol Knee asked Captain Cooper to address the issue of speed bumps and brush clearance. Captain Cooper expressed distaste for the speed bumps, but stated that there is nothing that can be done regarding speed bumps, and that the reduce speeding and may reduce accidents. With regard to brush clearance, Captain Cooper stated that brush clearance this year has been effective, and attributed the effectiveness of the brush clearance to homeowners. Captain Cooper advised stakeholders to contact Fire Station 28 (818 756 9728) or Fire Station 8 (818 756 8038) to obtain contact information for the City agency that ensures that City-owned areas are cleared of brush. Captain Cooper noted that the Fire Department's main purpose is to protect lives first and property second. Captain Cooper invited stakeholders to visit the Fire Station.

Becky Leveque announced that there was no crime reported in the Porter Ranch area in the most recent two weeks. That could be attributed to the effectiveness of the Neighborhood Watch and police activity.

Vasdev Singh reported that DONE plans a mini-congress to be held possibly on October 27, 2007 from 9 am to 1 pm at the LA Convention Center (parking is free). The issues to be discussed are land use, transportation, public safety, infrastructure, how to encourage more non-board member participation and involvement, how to encourage involvement by young adults and youth in the

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Neighborhood Councils, youth leadership and youth jobs. Mr. Singh stated that DONE has invited Neighborhood Councils to propose other topics and reported that a planning meeting will be held on July 30 that is also open to the public. This information will be posted on the PRNC web site.

Dan Revetto, representing a group of stakeholders, the Northridge View Homeowners Association, asked for assistance resolving public safety issues. Mr. Revetto noted that a letter had been sent to Councilman Smith requesting that a wrought iron fence along Stewarton Drive needs maintenance and repair, also requesting repaving of streets, and maintenance of Palisades Park. Dr. Lally Medina Coey suggested that the Stewarton Drive wrought iron fence be painted with a rust resistant coating to allow it to continue to provide safeguards and protection of citizens. Nina, a stakeholder, provided pictures that proved the need for repairs to the street on which she lives. Dr. Arastu, Paisley Court resident, noted a need for repairs to the street, emphasized that the damage to the street could eventually result in a landslide. Mr. Arastu also described the need for beautification. Carol Knee stated that S&S Construction was required to maintain the area at Stewarton, until it was noted that the area is actually owned by the City. Ms. Knee stated that the Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks has been, at best, lax in providing maintenance to the area in question. Alison Rousseau addressed the issue of the lack of maintenance to the landscaping, noted that the area is a fire hazard and that homeowners in the area have difficulty obtaining fire hazard insurance. Ms. Rousseau provided a cost estimate for landscaping to Becky Leveque. Gil Rousseau, a stakeholder, described the homeowners' fruitless efforts to obtain assistance from Recreation and Parks or from Councilman Smith's office. Mr. Rousseau asked for the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council's assistance. Sue Hammarlund asked if the homeowners would be willing to paint the fence if PRNC provided paint. Ms. Hammarlund asked if an opinion from a geologist had been obtained. Dr. Arastu stated that he had spoken with a geologist. Pat Pope suggested a community event be organized; this item will be agendaized. Mel Mitchell, responding to the request for assistance, noted that PRNC's efforts will be required on a long-term basis. A Task Force will be formed to investigate this issue. Paula Cracium asked that a report from GeoSoils be obtained. Becky Leveque, Sue Hammarlund, Ali Dabirian, Vasdev Singh, and Sue Hammarlund will meet with the homeowners at 11829 Stewarton Drive, at 8am on Saturday, July 14, 2007. This information will be posted on the PRNC web site.

4. **NEW BUSINESS**

Mel Mitchell described the process by which PRNC elections take place, noted that Board members are elected to four-year terms and that PRNC elections occur every two years. Mr. Mitchell opened the PRNC Executive Board elections.

Sue Hammarlund nominated Becky Leveque for President; Ms. Leveque stated that she will not run.

Becky Leveque nominated Mel Mitchell; Mr. Mitchell accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations.

Becky Leveque took over as presiding officer.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

Mel Mitchell took over as presiding officer.

Pat Pope nominated Paula Cracium for Vice President; seconded by Sue Hammarlund.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

Mel Mitchell nominated Paul Drogichen for Treasurer; seconded by Bright Aregs.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

Bright Aregs nominated Pat Pope for Secretary; seconded by Paula Cracium.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

There being no further business, Pat Pope moved to adjourn at 8:24 pm.