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President Gabriel Khanlian; Vice President Vas Singh;  
Secretary Christine Demirtshian; Treasurer Jason Hector, 2<sup>nd</sup> Signer Jennifer Ibrahim;  
Becky Leveque; Hilda Sarkisyan; David Balen; Luis Ramirez; Brandii Grace, Bright Aregs

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**DRAFT MINUTES**

**Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council  
Wednesday, January 11, 2023 6:15 P.M.**

1. Meeting call to order - **President Khanlian**  
President Khanlian called to order the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council on January, 11, 2023 via Zoom webinar at 6:17 p.m. and presided as moderator.
2. Welcome, Discussion of meeting logistic - **President Khanlian**  
President Khanlian informed all in attendance that the meeting is recorded and outlined the responsibilities and protocols for webinars and public comment. Stakeholders were directed to raise their hands to be recognized during public comment and this feature is available at the bottom of the Zoom screen or \*9 by phone.

President Khanlian stated that Agenda materials were emailed to all Board Members prior to the meeting for review and comment.

3. Roll Call and determination of quorum – **Secretary Demirtshian**

Treasurer Leveque called the roll as follows:

1	Gabriel Khanlian, President
1	Vas Singh, Vice President
0	Christine Demirtshian, Secretary
1	Becky Leveque
0	Jennifer Ibrahim, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Signer
1	Dr. Bright Aregs
1	David Balen
1	Brandii Grace
1	Jason Hector - Treasurer
0	Luis Ramirez
1	Hilda Sarkisyan
<b>8</b>	<b>Board Members were present and a quorum was attained.</b>

1 = present 0 = absent

4. Pledge of Allegiance  
Guest speaker Ms. Tatiana Khanlian guided the Council to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. President's Comments and Updates - **President Khanlian**

- President Khanlian wished all Happy New Year 2023;
- President Khanlian thanked the office of Councilperson John Lee for a certificate of recognition on his birthday and screen shared the certificate;
- Vice-President Vas shared that he received a certificate from the Mayor recognizing his participation with the LA Congress of Neighborhoods;
- Per the Bylaws, and COVID restrictions recessing, please keep in mind that the Council will meet in-person once approved by DONE possibly starting in March ;
- Elections are upcoming, and all input and comments are appreciated;
- Ideas and suggestions for events and activities in Porter Ranch are welcome.

President Khanlian solicited additional procedural questions or comments from Board Members. Hearing none, Item 5 was closed.

6. Updates from representatives of **Elected Officials or City Departments**

Janice Sickenius, the new Communication and Field Representative for District 40 encompassing West San Fernando Valley, gave an update. Ms. Sickenius read into the record a communication from Eric at Caltrans that stated that the Reseda off ramp in Phase One is partially completed, now awaiting the decrease of rain. Ms. Sickenius will update the Board once the rains have subsided and information is available.

Board member Brandi asked Ms. Sickenius for her contact info. Ms. Sickenius tried to insert her contact information in Q&A unsuccessfully; however, she will provide contact information to Treasurer Leveque to be distributed.

Glenn Bailey was recognized to speak and stated that the Caltrans website detailed that March 31<sup>st</sup> is the completion date of the Reseda off ramp work.

Vice-President Vas asked for an update on the Chatsworth sinkhole. Ms. Sickenius stated that there is no update at this time and all staff is grateful that the recovery was safe.

Julie Korenstein was recognized to speak and stated that once the Reseda sinkhole is repaired, caution should be practiced in that off ramp area.

Colin Crews, CD12 Field Representative for Councilperson John Lee's Office, updated the Council on upcoming events:

- The Council has been in recess until last Tuesday;
- The Councilperson now serves as chair of Public Works, Neighborhood Enhancement, Land Use, and Public Safety Committees. Full committee and subcommittee assignments are upcoming.



- CA 27, has relocated an office in Santa Clarita; however, we still have all of Porter Ranch in our district;
- \$500,000. has been provided for immediate needs to repair the sinkhole in Chatsworth. The hole is 50 feet deep and no one was injured. Deputies are on site for public safety and our office is assisting in all ways;
- Councilperson Lee has supported the following bills:
  - The Military Licensing Relief Act, that was passed and supported by President Biden last week;
  - The Inflation Reduction Act, to reduce inflation, not to exceed 4.5%;
  - The Self Awareness Act;
  - Tax Collectors Act.

Mr. Crews stated that his office is available to assist the PRNC with concerns or inquire about funding that have been directed to local government projects.

Mike Beneditto was recognized to speak and asked for an update on public meetings in person. Mr. Crews had no update at this time.

Board Member Grace inquired about the military spouse license law and if it pertains to lawyers due to BAR restrictions. Mr. Crews stated that he was unclear regarding lawyer occupation restrictions, but did verify that it does apply to licensed RNs. Mr. Crews will follow up with that concern.

Board member Hector inquired about the recent federal budget deficit, since it has been out of balance for so long and we need to establish a balanced budget and stop borrowing. Mr. Crews stated that he had no specific details on the federal budget; however Councilperson Lee is in favor of balancing the budget.

Julie Korenstein was recognized to speak and stated that Medicare, Medi-cal, Social Security and school programs, should not be cut to balance the budget. Mr. Crews stated that Councilperson Lee is not looking in these areas for cuts.

Mr. Gibson, was recognized to speak and stated that the COVID stated of emergency is ending soon and AB2449 states that public meetings will be transferring to hybrid for local NC meetings very soon.

Board member Brandii inquired about the switch to in-person/hybrid meetings. Will Town Halls still be conducted? Does the board need to take action and vote on this subject?

Vice-President Singh inquired about an update for volunteers and the grievance panel?

Mr. Crews stated that he does not have an update on those questions and will defer to the City Clerk.

Mr. Gibson stated that every agenda should have an item for public comment and to be sure to include that item on every agenda.

President Khanlian stated that pertaining to public meeting places, the deadline has passed for submittal of ADA inspections, so meeting locations are still underway. President Khanlian stated that he is working with Councilperson Lee's Office of possibly having access to the Vineyard or the Korean Church and will update the Council with developments.

Board member Hector stated that a hybrid setting at the schools may present an internet connection problem.

Board member Balen stated his support of utilizing the Vineyard.

Board member Grace stated a concern conducting a community meeting in a religious setting at the Korean Church and the Vineyard may be a more friendly setting.

Treasurer Leveque stated that that in-person meetings have taken a long time and there is less operational money and the Zoom forum is a disconnect within the community. There should be more outreach from the newly elected Mayor.

Mr. Gibson stated that possibly in a religious setting the statues and other significant religious objects may need to be covered up for religious reasons and it is unclear how we would be functioning in that community.

John and Michelle Hales stated that it was verbalized in a community Zoom meeting, he heard that meetings would be in person from this point forward. All neighborhood councils are not all saying the same thing. Mr. Gibson stated that once the meeting criteria is finalized, there will be an announcement with updates on how we are moving forward.

President Khanlian stated that additional funding will be required for hybrid meetings and the costs is a concern for all neighborhood councils with reduced budgets.

President Khanlian solicited additional procedural questions or comments from Board members. Hearing none, Item 6 was closed.

7. Updates from LAPD Devonshire Senior Lead officers  
Efron Corral, Senior Lead Officer, updated the council on the past holiday events and stated that the police presence was there to reduce incidents and it was successful. Councilperson Lee's Office provided neighborhood enforcement funds for foot beat officers to reduce crime. Councilperson Lee's Office also provided many resources for the holidays for crime suppression. Crime has been reduced in the last two weeks. Everyone is pitching in with enforcement. Please contact me or my office with any assistance.

Board member Hector asked about street racing enforcement as cones have been placed and is it effective? Are cones going to be placed in other locations? Should LAPD follow up?

Mr. Corral stated that he is working with Councilperson John Lee's Office and trying all methods to eliminate street racing. There is a street racing task force. Street racings impact the community and response is with the CA highway patrol and helicopters. Street racers are unpredictable and don't share information on social media, as this is all organized. The visible police presence is working.

Treasurer Leveque inquired about new January 1<sup>st</sup> laws relating to car racing, and residential burglaries. Treasurer Leveque also inquired if the street racing task force meetings are in person or on line.

Officer Corral stated that his meetings will continue via Zoom. Officer Corral also stated that the does not have a list of all the new laws; however, jaywalking is no longer illegal and a pedestrian can cross the street anytime, anywhere. There are too many pedestrian accidents at this time and this is now legal in the state of CA. Not all laws are good laws. For the past month in Devonshire, there were a total of 52 residential burglaries and that is all I have right now. There were 2 residential burglaries in Porter Ranch and 7 in Chatsworth. There is a problem. Be careful, lock your doors, create a neighborhood watch, and be mindful. We are watching crews that are targeting our neighborhood. They are breaking into homes when residents are home in the middle of the night. Be careful.

Lori Aivazian was recognized to speak and stated her concern regarding burglaries. She was told by an observer that the burglars have been photographed wearing ankle bracelet and why can't you track them down. Why can't you catch them?

Officer Corral stated that it takes time to get that information from the proper authorities in probation and the state and we are working on it.

#1596 Maureen Capra was recognized to speak and expressed concern regarding the previous burglaries and stated that she has talked with officers that have informed her that they are making arrests on the residential burglaries.

President Khanlian solicited additional procedural questions or comments from Board members. Hearing none, Item 7 was closed.

8. Updates from Chatsworth - Porter Ranch Chamber of Commerce - **Jheri**

No Action Taken.

Chairperson Khanlian solicited Public Comment at this time.

Asaad Alnajjaar was recognized to speak and stated that the Education Committee should work more with the High School and the Land Use Committee should work on the renaming of the park. Mr. Alnajjaar stated that he echoed the comment of Treasurer Leveque that the neighborhood councils need to interact more with elected officials.

John and Michell Hale were recognized to speak and stated that 20 banners were made and distributed thanking serviceman and veterans in our area.

President Khanlian solicited additional procedural questions or comments from Board members. Hearing none, Item 8 was closed

9. Treasurer's Report – **Treasurer Hector**

Treasurer Hector stated that there is one outstanding item from Chatsworth High School. President Khanlian stated that expenditure was reissued.

Board Member Hector screen shared the current MER. There is \$25,878.00 with the rollover funds that were issued a month ago. We need to spend \$15,000.00 because we can roll over \$10,000.00.

Treasurer Leveque made the comment that money may be needed in the future for hybrid meetings. Treasurer Leveque also stated that the city should contribute or fully fund hybrid meetings, not the individual neighborhood councils.

President Khanlian solicited additional procedural questions or comments from Board members. Hearing none, Item 9 was closed.

10. Motion to approve November 2022 MER – **Attachment A - Treasurer Hector**

Board member Hector screen shared the November MER.

Board member Hector made the motion to approve the November 2022 MERs that was seconded by Board member Balen.

Treasurer Leveque called for the vote:

yes	Gabriel Khanlian, President
yes	Vas Singh, Vice President
absent	Christine Demirtshian, Secretary
yes	Becky Leveque
absent	Jennifer Ibrahim, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Signer
yes	Dr. Bright Aregs
yes	David Balen
yes	Brandii Grace



yes	Jason Hector, Treasurer
absent	Luis Ramirez
yes	Hilda Sarkisyan
<b>8</b>	<b>8 “yes” votes 0 “no” votes, 3 absent. Motion passed</b>

Laura Galieote was recognized to speak and stated that she paid for the existing neighborhood watch signage and is in need for additional signage. Ms. Galieote asked if the additional signage could be funded by the PRNC.

Board Member Balen referred Ms. Galieote to work with President Khanlian. President Khanlian directed Ms. Galieote to contact him by email.

Julie Korenstein was recognized to speak and asked for the current balance to be restated and for any overflow monies be directed to the schools.

President Khanlian solicited additional procedural questions or comments from Board members. Hearing none, Item 10 was closed.

#### 11. Motion to approve December 2022 MER – **Attachment B - Treasurer Hector**

Board member Grace made the motion to approve the December 2022 MER that was seconded by Vice-President Singh.

Board member Hector made the motion to approve the November 2022 MERs that was seconded by Board member Balen.

Treasurer Leveque called for the vote:

yes	Gabriel Khanlian, President
yes	Vas Singh, Vice President
absent	Christine Demirtshian, Secretary
yes	Becky Leveque
absent	Jennifer Ibrahim, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Signer
yes	Dr. Bright Aregs
yes	David Balen
yes	Brandii Grace
yes	Jason Hector, Treasurer
absent	Luis Ramirez
yes	Hilda Sarkisyan
<b>8</b>	<b>8 “yes” votes 0 “no” votes, 3 absent. Motion passed</b>

President Khanlian solicited additional procedural questions or comments from Board members. Hearing none, Item 11 was closed.

12. Presentation, updates & Q&A by Issam Najm on the current status of the PUC proceedings regarding the closure of the Aliso Canyon Gas Facility with possible board action.- **30 minutes**

Mr. Najm gave an update on the PUC proceeding and shared a PowerPoint presentation that gave the performance timeline from October 23, 2015 to present.

Board Member Grace stated that the update was very good and commented on the federal incentive to ban gas stoves. Will this ban have an impact and reduce gas usage?

Mr. Najm stated that California will be the lead on this issue and there will be a great reduction in emissions; however, it is a slow process to replace and switch appliances.

President Khanlian inquired about replacing gas with hydrogen? Mr. Najm stated that Southern California Gas is beginning to speak on this transition to a hydrogen economy and are selling the idea that their infrastructure is ready.

Treasurer Hector stated that there have been outages with pipelines. Mr. Najm stated that the pipeline capacity is a major concern, and Southern California Gas controls it 100%.

Mike Benedetto was recognized to speak and stated that CGAG has taken 10 years to close this one well down, as it is one of 115 wells. There are also other wells nationwide with this problem.

Mr. Najm stated that the impending closure is about closing the entire field.

Asaad Alnajjaar was recognized to speak and asked what can the community do? We understand that PRNC is tied up due to city limitations. We are the messengers for the community and we should do more.

Mr. Najm stated that they have been sending letters to the PUC. We can address the concern to the Mayor and copy the PUC. We need to make a good and consistent noise. There is a community behind the idea of closing the entire field.

Julie Korenstein was recognized to speak and asked how the final decision is made. Are there 5 voting commissioners that will make this decision? What is their affiliation? Can you share their names?

Mr. Najm stated that the process begins at the staff level and then goes to commissioners at a policy level. Their bios are on the website for your review.

Ellen Sears was recognized to speak and thanked Mr. Najm for his update and resources. Will there be addresses or resources available to us for writing letters.

Treasurer Leveque asked if surrounding councils are participating and stated her willingness to contact other councils.



Patty G. was recognized to speak and stated her support of letter writing and asked Mr. Najm which proposal would he support? Mr. Najm stated that he is in full support of closing Aliso and 5 different proposals have been presented. Mr. Najm stated that he could not make any promises or predictions on any proposal.

Jane Fowler was recognized to speak and asked if the contacts could be placed on the website and/or the newsletter for the community to have the resources for letter writing and phone calls. Ms. Fowler commended Mr. Najm for his thorough presentation. The supply and demand do not outweigh the health concerns. We do not know to date of the associated risks after the explosion.

Mr. Najm stated that a judge sets the rules and it has been a frustrating process. This is an investor owned utility. They have conducted themselves by legal proceedings and are driven by language of SB380 basically stating that health concerns are not part of any discussion and not a consideration of the factors leading to a ruling.

Mr. Galanti stated that the PUC defers to the county of public health as they are not a health entity and we should compose findings by the 2027 deadlines.

Don Gamiles stated that once the health conditions were revealed many homeowners moved and new owners were not informed, and there is a second wave of possible illness to new residents. This is a secondary effect to new residents that were never informed. Mr. Gamiles has been working with these residents.

Lori Aivaian was recognized to speak and thanked Mr. Najm for all his all work. Is there a specific board member assigned to Aliso Canyon as we are still exposed to the toxins from the facility? I would like to see the Board step up with letters to the city and supervisors and invite the public to make more noise.

Board member Grace stated that she still attends the CAG meetings and receives notices.

President Khanlian stated that he will be following with the new information presented tonight.

Board member Aregs stated that he was on the Board previously and will continue following up with the new information presented tonight.

Board Member Brandii made a motion for the PRNC to create an ad hoc committee on Aliso Canyon, Vice-President Vas seconded the motion.

Board Member Brandii invited Mr. Najm to join the committee; however, he declined due to his affiliation in the existing process.

President Khanlian solicited additional procedural questions or comments from Board members. Hearing none, Item 12 was closed.

13. Updates from Craig Galanti regarding the status of CAG with possible discussion and board action – **10 minutes**

Craig Galanti screen shared a presentation and gave a brief timeline study and informed the council that the health study has not begun. On December 12 2022 the DPH dismissed CAG. CAG and the community have been very clear on the medical need and what they morally deserve in the health study. CAGs current top concerns are, no chemical list, CCST stated that the air monitoring was not suitable for a health risk assessment, and DPH failure to investigate on going exposures. Long term clinical evaluations are necessary to study the synergistic health effects of the poly toxin exposures.

President Khanlian stated that DPH has not returned his phone calls since October 2022 regarding radiation testing.

Mr. Galanti stated that the approach voiced to him is that they are entering the study without recovering a significant finding. With the abandonment of the CAG the PRNC needs to communicate UCLA.

Patty G. was recognized to speak and stated that she attended the last meeting and stated that the presentation did not outline the true health effects and they are entering the study with an understanding that they PSC will not uncover any health impacts.

Julie Korenstein was recognized to speak and stated that the original wordage left open the option of leaving Aliso Canyon open.

Mr. Galanti stated that UCLA's reluctance to use the clinical analysis is a hinderance in the policy and the benzene threshold is not accurate. That data is flawed. They could return with a meaningless studies.

Board member Aregs stated that he would like to serve on the Ad hoc committee.

John and Michelle Hales stated that real estate agents should be in-serviced to speak to prospective buyers with the correct information providing all health risks.

Treasurer Leveque called the vote to create an Ad Hoc Committee and begin a letter writing campaign:

yes	Gabriel Khanlian, President
yes	Vas Singh, Vice President
absent	Christine Demirtshian, Secretary
yes	Becky Leveque
absent	Jennifer Ibrahim, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Signer
yes	Dr. Bright Aregs
yes	David Balen



yes	Brandii Grace
yes	Jason Hector, Treasurer
absent	Luis Ramirez
yes	Hilda Sarkisyan
<b>8</b>	<b>8 “yes” votes 0 “no” votes, 3 absent. Motion passed</b>

President Khanlian solicited additional procedural questions or comments from Board members. Hearing none, Item 13 was closed.

14. Updates re Community Air Monitoring – Don Gamiles – Argos – 10 minutes

Don Gamiles updated the Board on the air monitors with a PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Gamiles stated that he would like to set up training working groups with the PRNC to demonstrate how to download the information.

John and Michelle Hales were recognized to speak and stated that the mountings appear to be on street light poles and not a telephone poles.

Ellen Sears was recognized to speak and asked for the reference of the website. President Khanlian stated that he will post access information on the Q&Q section of the Zoom meeting and on the PRNC web page.

Patty G stated that she was able to Google the information and will share that information.

Glen Bailey was recognized to speak stated that he will post in Q&A resources.

Mr. Gamiles stated that the he would assist the Council to understand the collected data and provide the instructions to download the materials.. The website will be updated by the next PRNC meeting.

Julie Korenstein asked if the monitoring system will be a phone app.?

Mr. Gamiles stated that the system is compatible with a phone. The website has instructions on how to utilize the app but will send the information out for anyone who would like to use the app. President Khanlian stated that the newsletter will have that information.

Board member Grace returned to the Board after a computer shutdown.

President Khanlian solicited additional procedural questions or comments from Board members. Hearing none, Item 14 was closed.

15. Motion to approve October 12, 2022 Meeting Draft Minutes – Secretary Demirtshian - Attachment C

President Khanlian made the motion to accept the October 12, 2022 Minutes that was seconded by Board Member Balen.

Treasurer Leveque called for the vote:

yes	Gabriel Khanlian, President
yes	Vas Singh, Vice President
absent	Christine Demirtshian, Secretary
yes	Becky Leveque
absent	Jennifer Ibrahim, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Signer
yes	Dr. Bright Aregs
yes	David Balen
yes	Brandii Grace
abstain	Jason Hector, Treasurer
absent	Luis Ramirez
yes	Hilda Sarkisyan
<b>7</b>	<b>7 “yes” votes 0 “no” votes, 1 “abstain” 3 absent. Motion passed</b>

President Khanlian solicited additional procedural questions or comments from Board members. Hearing none, Item 15 was closed.

16. Motion to approve November 9, 2022 Meeting Draft Minutes – Secretary Demirtshian – Attachment D

President Khanlian made the motion to accept the amended November 9, 2022 Minutes that was seconded by Board Member Grace.

Treasurer Leveque called for the vote:

yes	Gabriel Khanlian, President
yes	Vas Singh, Vice President
absent	Christine Demirtshian, Secretary
yes	Becky Leveque
absent	Jennifer Ibrahim, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Signer
yes	Dr. Bright Aregs
yes	David Balen
yes	Brandii Grace
abstain	Jason Hector, Treasurer
absent	Luis Ramirez
yes	Hilda Sarkisyan
<b>7</b>	<b>7 “yes” votes 0 “no” votes, 1 “abstain” 3 absent. Motion passed</b>

President Khanlian solicited additional procedural questions or comments from Board members. Hearing none, Item 16 was closed.

17. Motion to approve December 12, 2022 Special Meeting Draft Minutes – Secretary Demirtshian – Attachment E

President Khanlian made the motion to accept the amended December 12, 2022 Minutes that was seconded by Board Member Grace.

Treasurer Leveque called for the vote:

yes	Gabriel Khanlian, President
abstain	Vas Singh, Vice President
absent	Christine Demirtshian, Secretary
yes	Becky Leveque
absent	Jennifer Ibrahim, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Signer
yes	Dr. Bright Aregs
yes	David Balen
yes	Brandii Grace
abstain	Jason Hector, Treasurer
absent	Luis Ramirez
yes	Hilda Sarkisyan
<b>6</b>	<b>6 “yes” votes 0 “no” votes, 2 “abstain” 3 absent. Motion passed</b>

President Khanlian solicited additional procedural questions or comments from Board members. Hearing none, Item 17 was closed.

18. Updates by Budget Advocates / reps – 5 minutes

Glenn Bailey was recognized to speak and updated the Board on the Budget Advocate’s meeting with over 40 city departments, but many reports are not finalized. Please submit your recommendations that can be incorporated into the report prior to the finalization of the new city budget. There will be a Town Hall session on Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup> where the only subject will be the DONE budget as they are requesting significant increases. Please also save the date for annual neighborhood Budget Advocate’s meeting on Saturday June 17, 2023 This meeting may be in-person on Zoom.

President Khanlian solicited additional procedural questions or comments from Board members. Hearing none, Item 18 was closed.

19. Updates from Board Members and Committees



Treasurer Leveque updated the Board on safety. Please look around and be aware of your surroundings. The key to being safe is to be aware of your surrounds and report your findings to the police department

Board Member Grace stated that there has been a significant update on phishing attacks on people looking for jobs. They impersonate a company to interview an individual then they ask for your personal information and then they use that information to steal your identity. Job seekers, be careful of scammers.

Board Member Hector reminded the jury to dial 311 with requests for pothole repair or for trash clean-up/pick up or contact Councilperson Lee's office.

President Khanlian solicited additional procedural questions or comments from Board Members. Hearing none, Item 19 was closed.

20. Next meeting will be on February 8, 2023.

21. Meeting Adjournment – **President Khanlian**  
President Khanlian adjourned the meeting at 9:44 p.m.