
President Gabriel Khanlian; Vice President Vas Singh;
Secretary Christine Demirtshian; 2nd Signer Jennifer Ibrahim; Jason Hector;
Becky Leveque; Hilda Sarkisyan; David Balen; Luis Ramirez; Brandii Grace

DRAFT MINUTES

**Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council
Wednesday, October 12, 2022 6:15 P.M.**

1. Meeting call to order - **President Khanlian**
Vice-President Singh stated that President Khanlian has an excused absence and called to order the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council on October 12, 2022 via Zoom webinar at 6:16 p.m. and presided as moderator. President Khanlian may log in later in the meeting.

2. Welcome, Discussion of meeting logistic - **President Khanlian**
Vice-President Singh 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.

Vice-President Singh 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 - Board member Demirtshian called the roll as follows:

0	Gabriel Khanlian, President
1	Vas Singh, Vice President
1	Christine Demirtshian, secretary
1	Jason Hector Treasurer
1	Jennifer Ibrahim, 2 nd Signer
1	Becky Leveque
1	Hilda Sarkisyan
1	David Balen
1	Luis Ramirez (arrived 7:29 p.m.)
1	Brandii Grace
9	Board Members were present and a quorum was attained. 25 stakeholders in attendance

1 = present 0 = absent

4. Pledge of Allegiance

Board Member Leveque guided the Council to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.



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

Vice-President Singh shared that the Congress of Neighborhoods was held September 24th. There were 627 individuals registered and 396 attended, so attendance was 63%. There were 30 workshops ranging from housing, promoting public safety and maintaining neighborhood council independence. The 2023 Congress of Neighborhoods is scheduled for Saturday, September 23rd.

Vice-President Singh 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**

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

- CD12 is implementing the cool streets program with applied pavement coating and shade trees;
- October 29th is the annual drive-in move at Shadow Ridge Park in West Hills, featuring Ghost Busters and Wendy's Hamburgers;
- The eviction moratorium is set to expire January 31, 2023. Councilperson Lee is concerned about the strain on small mom-and-pop landlords.

Board member Hector spoke on the uplifting of sidewalks and wants to inform the Councilperson of the injury risks involved. Our neighborhood council budget has been cut from \$42,000.00 to \$32,000.00. Can you perhaps work with the councilperson to return our funds to the previous amount?

Board member Grace spoke on the comments of city council members in the media this week and asked if any comments can be provided to this NCs.

Mr. Crews stated that the councilperson issued a statement on Monday and the resignation process began today.

Board member Sarkisyan echoed the concerns of Board member Hector regarding the reduction in funds for the PRNC.

Patty Aliso was recognized in speak and stated that the city council meeting no longer accepts public phone comments. We need to return to the hybrid public comment period.

Mr. Crews stating they are waiting to hear back on hybrid options and many questions are up in the air and he has requested a reply.

Asaad Alnajjar stated his support of the position of Councilperson Lee's Office regarding public comments. Mr. Alnajjar stated that an update on the air monitoring system should be provided.

Ronald Nagaib was recognized to speak and expressed concern on the proposed expanding of city council members and does not support that concept. The council has not handled the housing crisis, high speed transportation, and more modern technology. Having more of the

same people on the council is not progress. Funds should be distributed to NCs and back into the community and give the power back to the people.

Sharon Brewer was recognized to speak and stated why did city council stop allowing phone-in public comment? Physically going downtown is not feasible for many. We can attend meeting by Zoom. This is a Brown Act violation and can this be changed?

Glenn Bailey was recognized to speak and stated that motions were introduced at city council and there have been legislative updates with council file numbers. Can you update us on the process and updates on motions?

Mr. Crews stated that the public comments are time sensitive. The committee process is straight forward and many have expressed concerns on how we can heal and move forward with this.

Mike Benedetto was recognized to speak and commented on in-person meetings. We need to get back to in-person meetings and we are being treated like step children. There was a town hall for the Home Depot project and it was approved. We don't have that transparency and comradery as in-person meetings and this is necessary.

Diana Oganessian, representative for Assemblyman Valladares' Office updated the Council on the assembly bills that have been supported:

- October 20th was the last day to sign AB1788 regarding penalties for sex trafficking;
- AB 2640 – Authorizes the governing board of a school district to employ properly certified persons;
- AB 2450 – Providing ways to reduce insurance cost in high-risk fire areas;
- The Middle-class tax refunds check are being sent out in November. Qualifications are based on your 2020 tax return. If you need assistance please reach out to our office.
- There is a Caltrans community meeting next month. Please reach out to our office for resources.

Vicki was recognized to speak and the audio was not working and was directed to use the Q&A with comments or questions.

Board member Leveque thanked the assemblyperson's efforts to repair the 199 off ramp.

Garrett Henry, staff assistant, for Congressman Garcia's Office, updated the PRNC on the activities of the Congressman:

HR 9131 – Military taxes for active military;
HR 8873 – A no vote on the presidential reform act;
HR 8986 – A yes vote on terrorism fund;
HR6448 – A yes vote on grants to tribal governments;
HR5768 – A yes vote on victims act to help local police departments.



Mr. Garcia has also supported the district by:

- Co-sponsoring water for California;
- Signed a letter to the comptroller general for office review of foreign investments;
- Providing funding opportunities and best act for grant submissions;
- Supports the arts and humanity campaigns;

For further assistance please contact Chelsea.orcechowsk@mail.house.gov or 661/568-4855 and she can assist you.

Mr. Garcia followed up the questions from the last meeting:

Regarding a possible railroad strike?

That is a question for the department of labor, labor secretary and labor relations, so congress is not involved.

Regarding the installation of high speed hyperloop transportation?

Funding of such a project would be the Department of Transportation that would consider this infrastructure investment.

Regarding the desalinization of water.

This is a California state matter and state funding is slated for desalinated water. The brine extracted is a concern. This is California state matter.

A question in the chat was read by Board Member Grace regarding the use of Epi Pens in schools.

Board Member Grace offered condolences for the supervisor and the issues in the sheriff office.

Gibson Nyambura, DONE Representative update the council on the following website updates:

- Bias training is now available;
- Civic U is being conducted this month;
- Gender expression training per CD 120-9900.

Mr. Nyambura stated that he is available to answer any questions and please feel free to contact him with any concerns.

Treasurer Hector asked about increasing funding and can you propose that question to the Council Office.

Mr. Nyambura stated that the PRNC can address that concern and DONE cannot individually represent any neighborhood council on increasing funding.

Glenn Bailey was recognized to speak and inquired about the possibility of having more than one Zoom account for a neighborhood council.

Mr. Nyambura stated that the Board has taken action and is reaching out and administering licenses.

Patty Aliso was recognized to speak and inquired about the number of council members as the population has increased and there should be more representation.

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

7. Updates from LAPD Devonshire Senior Lead officers.

Senior Lead Officer, Efren Corral thanked all that supported and donated to the recent pasta dinner. So many people came together to make this happen with volunteerism and participation,

Officer Corral stated that the Devonshire Division is the largest division in the city of LA with 53 square miles. We have 272 sworn officers and 183 patrol officers. We are understaffed and challenged and are making the best of what we have. Year to date violent crime is up 14.6% and property crime is up 2.1%. Our position in the city of LA is #7 with a total of a 4.1% increase. Our position in violent crime is #19, so we are not doing well. That impacts our community members in the Devonshire area. We receive one thousand 911 calls per week and that number is down. There are less calls for service than last year at this time.

There have been some residential burglary crews working the area. If you are a businessman, do not walk around with money bags, people are watching you in your local business. Do not leave money in registers. These businesses are being targeted. We are increasing patrols in the Chatsworth business areas.

Board Member Sarkisyan thanked Officer Corral for all that he is doing to protect our community.

Board member Hector stated that distributing preventative information is helpful. Officer Corral encouraged Board members to continue to contact his office with concerns.

Board Member Leveque inquired if there has been a decrease in crimes since notices were posted?

Officer Corral stated that there was 1 residential burglary in the last four weeks, the previous week was 5.

John and Michelle Hale were recognized to speak and stated that yesterday there was a Coffee With-A-Cop at Porto's.

Ronald Nagaib was recognized to speak and inquired about the commonality of the recent residential robberies.

Officer Corral recommended an alarm with noise and lights with motion sensors. Cut down the trees around your property, get a dog and do not be a target. Leave lights on. Private company alarms get a false sense of security and they have delays from the time the sensor is signaled, the company calls the number on file, and the police are dispatched and reach the property.

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

Jheri Heetland updated the Council and stated that a lunch-and-learn is scheduled to talk about ballot measures on October 24th. The Chambers is participating in the Octoberfest and Street fest. There will be a November celebration for all along with an Xmas Holiday celebration. We are working on selecting board members for the chambers. Please see our calendars for upcoming events or contact the office @818/378-5917

9. Public comments on items NOT on the Agenda and within the Purview of the Board – **2 Minutes per person**

Asaad Alnajjar was recognized to speak and highlighted three areas of interest:

- Governor Newsom announced a day of remembrance for Armenian Genocide as April 24, 2021 and every year forward;
- November 1st is scheduled for a Planning meeting and Porter Ranch High School will be on the agenda and encouraged board members to attend;
- There is the heal wounds project and PRNC should make a statement.

Glenn Bailey was recognized to speak and stated that legislative reports were sent out on Tuesday and this council should deem which reports are appropriate to list on your site.

Judy Daniels was recognized to speak to speak and stated that the measures on the November ballot should be explained along with what is going on with our city council as there is a meeting tomorrow night.

Ronald Nagaib was recognized to speak and spoke on the weeds on Porter Ranch Drive and funds should go to the beautification of our city as the weeds on Porter Ranch Drive need abatement.

Vice-President Singh solicited additional procedural questions or comments from Board Members. Hearing none, Item 9 was closed

10. Updates by Budget Advocates / reps – **5 minutes**

Brian Allen stated that would like to have more participation from NCs. The budge needs to re-engage with NCs. DONE is going to be in communication with NCs in what they want to support

Treasurer Hector asked what happened to funds contributed to the budget advocates expenditures. Where it came from and where it went? Mr. Allen stated that DONE has come

up with the method of how funds are being handled. I want to deliver transparency and this should be resolved very soon.

Glenn Bailey was recognized to speak and asked for clarity on funds from two years ago, when 2% of any neighborhood council's budget was asked to be return to the city. Can you clarify this expenditure and the outcome?

Mr. Allen stated he was unclear of such a function and would return to the board with clarification.

Vice-President Singh solicited additional procedural questions or comments from Board Members. Hearing none, Item 10 was closed.

11. Updates by CAG - **10 minutes**

Craig Galanti screen shared updates from DPH. The DPH has stopped meeting with CAG and the status of the health study is still pending. It has been 7 years since the public health crisis began.

Mr. Galanti has received a response from Dr. Davis, County Health Officer, that outlined the selection process for a researcher that should be decided in the next year. There is still no chemical list, and no real time monitoring. Is this collusion or incompetence? Is this an attempt to whitewash a public health crisis?

Board member Hector asked if the RFPs have been reviewed? Could we have a presentation on those?

Mr. Galanti stated that is a logical approach. The public has been denied this request and the DPH will not provide this information.

Patty Aliso was recognized to speak and stated that the chemical list is essential. Why can't we have this information?

John & Michele Hales were recognized to speak and again reached out to Sheila Kuhl's office regarding the water quality and was unsuccessful in any answer or explanation.

Mike Bennetto was recognized to speak and asked why a subpoena has not been pursued to gain this information. This is unfair and people had medical expenses.

Mr. Galanti stated that he has contacted the BOS with no response. If we don't make a stand than the researches will return with a study that is inconclusive.

Vice-President Singh solicited additional procedural questions or comments from Board Members. Hearing none, Item 11 was closed.

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



Don Gamiles updated the Board currently stating that 4 methane monitors have been deployed. There is one benzene with a second one on the calendar in the next two weeks. We have more technology than expected. We have migrated the monitors from the temporary locations to the permanent locations and we are moving along well. The long path systems should be installed in November. We have a website. Data is available as soon as it is turned on. So, we don't put it on web to not have a false return. Once it reaches a quality checkpoint, we put it on-line active and in real time. We are available to work with the community to explain the equipment. On Thursday we have a community meeting to explain the data and it is community welcoming. The meetings are recorded for those who are interested.

Board member Hector asked Mr. Gamiles to post the air monitoring website link in the chat. He also asked if the old website fenceline could be migrated over to the new system.

Asaad Alnajjar stated that he tried to download the data and was unsuccessful. Mr. Gamiles stated that he will get the information available for him and would be available to schedule a meeting with the PRNC to explain the data collection.

Vice-President Singh solicited additional procedural questions or comments from Board Members. Hearing none, Item 12 was closed.

Vice-President Singh called for a break at 8:19 p.m.

The council was reconvened at 9:24 p.m.

The roll was called and 9 Board members were present.

13. Discussion and possible action to install Becky Leveque as Treasurer - **President Khanlian**

Vice-President Singh nominated Board member Leveque as Treasurer. Board member Leveque accepted the nomination.

Vice-President Singh made the motion to accept the nomination of Board Member Leveque that was seconded by Board Member Balen. Exiting Treasurer Hector stated his availability to assist and train the new incoming treasurer. Exiting Treasurer Hector also stated that one of the primary duties of the Treasurer is the primary credit card holder and to continually update the administrative packet.

Secretary Demirtshian called for a vote:

excused	Gabriel Khanlian, President
yes	Vas Singh, Vice President
yes	Christine Demirtshian, secretary
yes	Jason Hector
yes	Jennifer Ibrahim, 2 nd Signer

yes	Becky Leveque, Treasurer
yes	Hilda Sarkisyan
yes	David Balen
yes	Luis Ramirez
ineligible	Brandii Grace
8	Motion passed 8 “yes” votes

Glenn Bailey was recognized to speak and asked if there is a second cardholder in place. Vice-President Singh stated that duty is in place.

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

14. Open seat election – Board will elect one candidate as a new board member to replace past board member

David Lasher. The appointed seat expires 2023

Claire Sigel – Sushmita Saha – Asaad AlNajjar – Dr Bright A. Aregs – **Attachment A**

Vice-President Singh stated that Claire Sigel has withdrawn her application and Sushmita Saha was not present at the time the Item was opened for discussion.

The remaining applicants Asaad Alnajjar and Dr. Bright Aregs were given a two-minute opportunity to speak.

- Asaad Alnajjar stated that he is a civil structural engineer and active in the PRNC air monitoring program, and was the previous vice-president of PRNC.
- Dr. Bright stated that he is a rocket scientist with NASA and also a previous member of PRNC. He is an active volunteer in homeless outreach. He is a resident in PR since 1996 and advocates for safety in the community and is concerned with the environment.

Board Member Grace asked the applicants to respond to a scenario regarding addressing racism.

- Applicant Alnajjar stated that he is active with the Mayor’s Office with social equity to eliminate racism and bullying.
- Applicant Dr. Bright stated that racism is present everywhere in the world. He was the president of Boeing space division and worked very hard to eliminate racism. He works with individuals to work forward and bring people together. He has organized events with cultural foods to bring people together.

Board member Hector asked the applicants what their first action would be and what would you want to bring forward?

- Applicant Dr. Bright stated is that he would like to work with other NCs and share expenses and increase all neighborhood council fundings to achieve things for the community.

- Applicant Alnajjar stated that he is currently working on many activities in PR and the resources for PR. His focus is on the PR high school.

Board Member Balen asked the applicants about their participation in the community in the last year.

- Mr. Alnajjar stated that he has attended all monthly meeting and functions and has worked on many PR functions.
- Dr. Bright stated that the street closure and timing is a concern and has worked with the traffic division. The homeless situation is also a concern and would work with officials

Vice-President Singh asked about teamwork and working in a group?

- Dr. Bright stated that working as a team is like families working together. It is very easy with educated people.
- Mr. Alnajjar stated that he works within the city of LA currently to meet deadline. He has with PR on many communities.

Vice-President Singh asked how would you outreach to the community?

- Mr. Alnajjar stated that that the CERT teams need to progress to level II and to work more closely with the schools.
- Dr. Bright stated that he is a people person and enjoys working with people and has worked with other NCs. We should work with other NCs.

Vice-President Singh asked the applicants which 3 committees would they like to work on?

- Mr. Alnajjar stated that his interests are in safety, youth community, and education
- Dr. Bright stated that his interests are in land use, land use, (Land use coming 2 times) beautification, and public safety.

Secretary Demirtshian called for a vote:

excused	Gabriel Khanlian, President
Bright	Vas Singh, Vice President
Bright	Christine Demirtshian, secretary
Sushmita	Jason Hector
Bright	Jennifer Ibrahim, 2 nd Signer
Bright	Becky Leveque, Treasurer
Bright	Hilda Sarkisyan
Al Najjar	David Balen
Al Najjar	Luis Ramirez
ineligible	Brandii Grace

5	5 votes for Dr. Bright 2 votes for Alnajjar, 1 Sushmita 1 ineligible
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Vice-President Singh congratulated and welcomed Dr. Bright to the council. Mr. Gibson, DONE had left the meeting and was unable to swear Dr Bright in and he will be sworn in at the next meeting.

Vice-President Singh solicited additional procedural questions or comments from Board Members. Hearing none, Item 14 was closed

15. Treasurer's Report – **President Khanlian – Attachment B**

Vice-President Singh screen shared the September Neighborhood Funding System Report.

Budget Amount	\$32,000.00
Expense to Date	\$9,203.78
Total Outstanding	\$1,807.50
Net Available	\$30,988.72

16. Discussion and possible action to approve up to \$1500 NPG to Chatsworth Charter High School for VEX robotics – **Hilda Sarkisyan – Attachment C**

Vahan Minassian, founder of the gifted team chapter and charter high school has a physics background. The students are engaging in a robotics opportunity with 24 teams. We are requesting funding for two kits.

Board member Hector stated that his daughter is participating in one team and this is an excellent program.

Board member Leveque asked if other NCs have contributed and if they are working in an existing space. Mr. Minassian stated that they have a few robots that they are building. We are building skills in computer science and IT technology to be incorporated into our program. We are trying to focus on building a strong team and my team supports the elementary and grammar school.

Mr. Alnajjar stated that he would try to get corporate sponsorships for a very progressive program.

Board member Sarkisyan made the motion to approve the NPG that was seconded by Board member Hector.

Board member Sarkisyan called the vote as follows:

excused	Gabriel Khanlian, President
yes	Vas Singh, Vice President
yes	Christine Demirtshian, secretary
yes	Jason Hector
yes	Jennifer Ibrahim, 2 nd Signer
yes	Becky Leveque, Treasurer
yes	Hilda Sarkisyan
absent	David Balen
absent	Luis Ramirez
ineligible	Brandii Grace
6	Motion approved 6 “yes” 1 “ineligible” 2 absent at the time the vote was called

17. Discussion and possible action to approve up to \$2500 NPG to Granada Hills Community Foundation for 2022 Granada Hills Street Faire – **President Khanlian – Attachment D**

Mike Bennetto stated that the event is a parade and not a street faire and is sponsored by the Granada Hills Foundation and Granada Hills Chamber of Commerce. We are about outreaching and community service. The street parade is the best communication and outreach in our area. Please join us as the parade has been around for 39 years along with Mr. and Mrs. Clause.

Vice-President Singh made the motion to approve \$500.00 that was seconded by Board member Sarkisyan for the street faire.

Board member Leveque inquired about what type of support PRNC would receive for their sponsorship.

Mr. Bennetto stated that the PRNC name would be printed on flyers, contacts, and mailings.

Larry Fleck, Treasurer for the Chamber of Commerce, stated any support for the street faire would be appreciated.

Vice-Chairperson Singh made the motion to reagendize this Item to the next meeting or at a special meeting as the street faire and parade are separate events on separate days.

Vice-President Singh withdrew his previous motion.

18. Presentation and possible board action - The Alliance for Quality Broadband of Los Angeles will be discussing closing the digital divide by ensuring every person in LA County has access affordable, and reliable broadband internet. – **Nick Buro – Attachment E,F As**
No Action Taken. Applicant not present.

19. Motion to purchase 2 pull up banners for Porter Ranch Neighbor Council to be used at events as an outreach tool to our community not to exceed \$1000.00. – **Becky Leveque, Hilda Sarkisyan**

Board Member Sarkisyan presented the benefit of having banners to promote PRNC as an outreach tool.

Board Member Sarkisyan made the motion to approve this item that was seconded by Board member Leveque.

Board member Hector stated that this proposal should have come to this meeting with sample graphics to get approval by the Board and not just a concept proposal. Board member Hector stated that the committee should work on the graphics and return to the Board.

Asaad Alnajjar was recognized to speak and stated that the motion needs to be accompanied by a sample and this is money well spent.

Ron Nagaib was recognized to speak and stated that PRNC signs should be ground signs.

Sharon Brewer stated that the new motion should include the amount. John and Michelle Hales recommended a vendor. Board member Demirtshian recommended Vista printing services.

Secretary Demirtshian called for a vote for the banner concept not to exceed \$1,000.00 and return to the council with a draft design for approval:

excused	Gabriel Khanlian, President
yes	Vas Singh, Vice President
yes	Christine Demirtshian, secretary
yes	Jason Hector
yes	Jennifer Ibrahim, 2 nd Signer
yes	Becky Leveque, Treasurer
yes	Hilda Sarkisyan
absent	David Balen
absent	Luis Ramirez
ineligible	Brandii Grace
6	Motion approved 6 “yes” 1 “ineligible” 2 absent at the time the vote was called

20. Motion to approve September 14, 2022 Meeting Draft Minutes – **Secretary Demirtshian – Attachment G** 21- Motion to approve September 21, 2022 Special Meeting Draft Minutes - **Secretary Demirtshian – Attachment H**



Vice-President Singh made the motion to table the approval the Minutes as there is a concern that Item 22 on the September 14th Minutes was not approved. Vice-President Singh stated that the video needs to be reviewed. The motion was seconded by Board member Hector.

21. Motion to approve July 7, 2022 Special Draft Minutes - **Secretary Demirtshian – Attachment I**
Board member Sarkisyan made the motion to approve the July 7th Minutes that was seconded by Board member Hector.

Secretary Demirtshian called for the vote:

excused	Gabriel Khanlian, President
yes	Vas Singh, Vice President
yes	Christine Demirtshian, secretary
yes	Jason Hector
absent	Jennifer Ibrahim, 2 nd Signer
yes	Becky Leveque, Treasurer
yes	Hilda Sarkisyan
absent	David Balen
absent	Luis Ramirez
ineligible	Brandii Grace
4	Motion approved 4 “yes” 1 “abstain” 3 absent at the time the vote was called

22. Updates from Board Members and Committees

Board member Sarkisyan informed the council that US Bank is not renewing their lease.

23. Next meeting will be on November 9, 2022

24. Meeting Adjournment – **President Khanlian**
Vice President Singh adjourned the meeting at 10:04 p.m.