



ON POINT *May 2015*



A Big Thank You (!) to the Women's Westside Improvement Club and Maureen Decombe (Designer Extraordinaire) for spending three Saturday mornings to plant a drought tolerant garden around the new Point Richmond map. You can already see the planting from up-close, but soon it will be a beautiful sight as people come into Point Richmond.

Kiosk in the Triangle? To complete the upgrade of the triangle downtown, several members have suggested that we use some of our Benevolence Funds to install a kiosk at the corner of W. Richmond and Washington (across from Santa Fe and Point Markets). The purpose would be to provide information and be a visual symbol of a community working together. The Board has tossed the idea around and it's clear that there are many questions to be answered—design and maintenance to name a couple. Please contact us if you would be willing to serve on a small committee to research the idea and come up with recommendations.

Santa Fe Neighborhood Council's Fundraiser Breakfast—Jeff Lee, Mike Parker and I attended this annual great event. In addition to being an opportunity to get to know neighbors and support the SFNC, it was a wonderful opportunity to mingle with community leaders and city staff, including Police Chief, Chris Magnus, the Mayor's Chief of Staff, Terrance Chung and staff member David Grey, Councilmember Gayle McLaughlin, Vern Whitmore, President of both the SFNC and the Richmond Chamber of Commerce, as well as Daud Abdullah (the artist who makes the wonderful mosaic covers for our trash cans). I hope that next year we can be a sponsor of the event and that many of us will attend.

Membership Meeting Minutes—Our new secretary, Hilary Brown, has asked that members review the minutes from the April General Membership Meeting (immediately following the Agenda) and e-mail her omissions/corrections before the May meeting. E-mail Hilary at hilarybrownie@hotmail.com.

Richmond General Plan "Housing Element" --By the time you receive this newsletter the City Council will have made important amendments to the Housing Element of the Richmond General Plan. The plan contains a lot of information about demographics and housing now, the projected need for the next 15 years, and plans for housing goals including an increase of 2600 housing units over the next 7 years. Check out the draft plan at <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=3000>

The **PRNC May Meeting** will take place in the Hotel Mac Banquet Room. The agenda will include

- Consideration of the project at 837 Ocean which was tabled at our April meeting
- An update from John Marchesiello, new owner of the Todd Hotel
- A presentation on gardening in drought conditions
- A report from the "People for a Healthy Shoreline," a citizens group that has formed to insure that the Terminal One project is good for the community and the shoreline
- An update from the Smart Lighting Coalition

We hope to see you at the Membership Meeting—Wednesday, May 27, 7:30PM in the Hotel Mac.

PRNC MEMBERSHIP DUES--Still the best deal in town—\$10/individual, \$15/household. Dues for 2015-2016 can be paid now! **Pay your dues to Charmain at the door before the next meeting starts.**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margaret Jordan".

Margaret Jordan, President
Point Richmond Neighborhood Council



AGENDA

Point Richmond Neighborhood Council
Wednesday, May 27, 2015
Hotel Mac Banquet Room

- 7:30** *Call to order and approval of Minutes from April 29, 2015* **2 minutes**
- 7:32** *Police Report, and Report from PRNC Safety and Crime Prevention Rep, Jon Sutinen, jsutinen@yahoo.com* **10 minutes**
- 7:42** *President's Report, Margaret Jordan (510) 412-3673* **7 minutes**
- 7:49** *Report on Membership, Charmain Tyler (510) 334-7267* **1 minute**
- 7:50** *Treasurer's Report, Garry Hurlbut (510) 547-8111* **1 minute**
- 7:51** *Land Use/Design Review Committee* **10 minutes**
Items to be considered at the June meeting, must be submitted to Rod Satre, Committee Chair, by June 9. Contact Rod at rdsatre@live.com, (510) 232-5059. The LUDRC Committee meets monthly prior to the PRNC Meeting at 6 p.m. at Interactive Resources, 117 Park Place. Please attend if your project is being considered.
- *837 Ocean Avenue (Stanley Neilson, Architect)*
- 8:01** *Report on Renovation of the Todd Hotel, John Marchesiello* **7 minutes**
- 8:08** *Presentation on Gardening in Drought Conditions, Maureen Decombe and Christine Volker* **20 minutes**
- 8:28** *People for a Healthy Shoreline, Pete Bingham* **10 minutes**
- 8:38** *Committee Reports and Announcements from Non-profit Groups*
2 minutes each-up to 15 minutes
- *Point Richmond Business Association, Dave Schoenthal, dbschoen@hotmail.com*
 - *Knit and Such, Terri Phillips, (510) 237-6865*
 - *Arts of Point Richmond, Altha Humphrey, (510) 232-2934*
 - *Women's Westside Improvement Club, Norma Wallace*
 - *Richmond Tennis, Garry Hurlbut, (510) 547-8111*
 - *Point Richmond History Association, Mid Dornan, (510) 234-5334*
 - *Masquers Playhouse, Kathe Kiehn, www.masquers.org*
 - *TRAC, Richmond Bay Trail, Bruce Beyaert, www.pointrichmond.com/baytrail*
 - *Magick Lantern, Kate Spaulding, (510) 232-2559, magicklantern.org*
 - *Richmond Smart Lighting Coalition (510)-697-2742*
- 8:53** *Public Forum: Please sign up. As many as 5 speakers (2 minutes each).*
Issues brought to the attention of the Council in the Public Forum cannot result in Council action at this meeting. Instead, submit issues to Margaret Jordan at 510-412-3673, mjordan00@gmail.com or <http://www.pointrichmond.org/contact.cfm>, prior to the next PRNC Board Meeting – 6/2/2015.
- 9:03** *In Remembrance and Celebration/Adjourn*



Point Richmond Neighborhood Council General Meeting Minutes Wednesday, April 29, 2015

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved. Board Members Present: Margaret Jordan, Megan Bleckinger, Charmain Tyler, Garry Hurlbut.

2. Police Report: Officer Villalobos gave a monthly crime report - one vehicle theft, no battery or grand theft crimes in Point Richmond. He recommends if we see something suspicious we call or email the Beat 1 police. Offenders look for opportunities such as being distracted while walking. Stressed the importance of being aware of your surroundings and keeping valuables out of sight.

3. President's Report, Margaret Jordan (510) 412-3673

President Margaret Jordan thanked Aky for opening her restaurant to the PRNC to use for meeting space. She also reported:

1. The community center will be closed for several months, we will continue to meet at alternative locations.
2. Wig wag - The Railroad Museum is helping with the restoration. We are hoping to have a celebration ready the same day as the big fall event on the playground - "Picnic in the park"

4. Report on Membership, Charmain Tyler (510) 334-7267

We currently have 215 paid members, with 72 paid for next year. Dues for next year are due by April 30. Only paid members can vote.

5. Treasurer's Report, Garry Hurlbut (510) 547-8111

Membership dues collected last month totaled \$310. Current balance: \$5,197.71, Benevolent Fund; \$2,970.94, Wig Wag Fund; \$5,208.60, General Fund.

6. Land Use/Design Review Committee - LUDRC did not have quorum, so the PRNC considered all issues:

1. 602 Cypress Point Road - owners Steven and Christine Volker propose doing several modifications which would not be visible from the outside of the house. Project was approved with no opposition.

2. 837 Ocean Avenue - Planning for this project is in the preliminary stage, and BCDC has not yet given consent for the project. LUDC did not have quorum and did not review the plans or make a recommendation. Motion was passed with unanimous support to table this project without prejudice until next month - which will give LUDC time to see the project and make a recommendation.

3. 707 Golden Gate / 400 Marine – Decision was postponed at the last meeting because plans had not been available to the neighbors. This house is a part of the historic district. The architect and owner have made changes to the plans which met some of the issues that were a concern (two car garage in front of the house). Some of the neighbors want to make some comments:

- Steven Parker is the owner. They listened to what the neighbors wanted, and have changed the most significant issues including changing the two car garage on Golden Gate to a one car garage.
- Elizabeth, a neighbor, states that none of the neighbors have seen new design yet. She presented some criteria related to garage placement in Portland's Historic District. Ben is an immediate neighbor who is currently doing an extensive remodel following the guidelines of the Historic District and wants the PRNC to clarify the meaning of the historic district, and to strengthen and protect the historic district. He states he is "neutral" about the house at 707 Golden Gate.
- Rod Satre – (president of Land Use Design Review Committee) clarified it is acceptable to have a garage in front of a house, but it cannot become the prominent feature of the property.
- The information about exactly what the historic district is should be on the PRNC website.
- A straw vote was taken, so that the owner knows where he stands: Vote in support of current plans – many hands up, no hands in opposition. One vote for there being no point to the voting process.

4. 827 Ocean – Owner wants to make several changes to the front and back of her house. Linda Newton from the LUDRC indicated no one has seen the front elevation other than in a simple sketch, the plans have not shown how the changes will look from the street, and no plans have been provided in color. Also, BCDC has to be involved regarding extending the deck. Unanimous vote to table the issue, until full drawings are available.

7. Vote on By-Law Changes - two changes to the PRNC by-laws were passed with unanimous vote:

1. Issue before the PRNC is to make a procedure so that if someone serves a 2 year term, and if they leave early, then the board will have 1 year to make an adjustment so that the 2 year / 3 year staggered election is not changed. The purpose is to keep more constancy on the Board.
2. Looking at the duties of the 2 vice presidents, shift duties between the two to even out the workload and responsibilities.

8. Annual Elections- two new officers were elected to the PRNC

1. Jordan DeStabler (not present tonight) was elected to Vice President.
2. Hilary Brown was elected for the position of Secretary.

Margaret Jordan thanked outgoing Vice President Megan Bleckinger for her four years of service to the PRNC.

9. Richmond Smart Lighting Coalition - presentation on street lights by Hilary Brown: Artificial light at night is harmful to plants, animals and humans. Excessive / overly bright lights and lights that cause glare can make it more difficult to see. There is no clear correlation between increasing street lights and reducing crime. The city significantly increased the number of street lights on residential streets, and since installing them has allowed a demonstration of the lights at different light settings. The results of the survey were reviewed. RSLC is currently working with the city to mitigate the impact of the new street lights, and if you would like to sign up for updates, please sign up for our email list at “RichmondSmartLightingCoalition@gmail.com” or check out our website at “Richmond-Smart-Lighting.org”

10. Gardening During a Drought - presentation by Maureen Decombe: Maureen ceded her time to the property owner at 827 Ocean. Before the time was ceded, Maureen highlighted five things property owners can do to reduce water use: MULCH – 3 inches can save 70%; Compost – 3-5 inches can save 5%; Climate Appropriate or native plants – low water use. If you MUST keep your lawn, but try turning off your irrigation for 1-2 weeks, your lawn can go dormant for a while. Then you can try one month and see what happens, Hydrozone if you have irrigation and you want to use the irrigation, Christine put together tip sheets for reducing water use. Coupons for free mulch (buy 2 get one free) at American Soil & Stone available from EBMUD Christine has milkweed seeds

11. Committee Reports and Announcements from Point Richmond Non-Profits were skipped because of time constraints of the meeting, but details will be included in the meeting minutes. If you would like to amend these minutes to include updates on committee reports, please email the update to Hilary Brown at “hilarybrownie@hotmail.com.” These minutes will be amended at the next regular PRNC meeting on May 27, 2015.

12. Open Forum

- Kim Cox suggested that we organize a community “thank you” flash mob for the cross guard at the Washington
- Masquers Memorial day garage sale – fliers for the event are available
- Friends of the Richmond Public Library – please come take a tour of library on Saturday May 16th at 1:30.
- Cordell Hindler announced the Youth Service Showcase & Youth Recognition Ceremony to celebrate and honor our youth volunteers who have shown commitment to public service by successfully leading service projects will held Wednesday May 27 from 5:30-7:00pm at Richmond Council Chambers (440 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond)

13. In Remembrance and Celebration/Adjourn - remembrance and celebration was skipped due to time constraints. Meeting was adjourned at 9:07 pm

Minutes Submitted by Hilary Brown PRNC Secretary,
(510) 326-5946, hilarybrownie@hotmail.com

PAY DUES NOW AND YOU'RE COVERED UNTIL MAY 2016. The dues help cover our administrative expenses and are minimal: \$10 for individuals and \$15 for a household. If this is a financial hardship, a waiver is gladly granted. Lifetime memberships are available for \$500. Bring dues to next meeting or mail check and application to: **PRNC; P.O. Box 70386; Point Richmond, CA 94807 – DO NOT mail membership to PRNCC address in front of mailer – delivery will be delayed.**

New

Individual

Renewal

Household

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Telephone _____ e-mail _____

Signature _____ Date _____



***Point Richmond Neighborhood Council
May Meeting:***

***Wednesday, May 27, 7:30 p.m.
Point Richmond Community Center***

Meeting Highlights:

- ***Gardening in Drought Conditions***
- ***People for a Healthy Shoreline***
- ***Renovation of the Todd Hotel***
- ***Renew your membership***



POINT RICHMOND
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
P.O. Box 70386
Pt. Richmond, CA 94807