



ON POINT *August 2018*

Almost September already, how time flies!

On September 17th we will be co-hosting (along with the PRBA) Candidate's Night forum from 6pm to 8pm at East Brother's Beer Co. As such, there will be no PRNC general meeting in September. Also, don't forget The Summer Classic car show from noon to 8 pm on August 26th at East Brothers Beer Co., co-sponsored by the PRNC, and Picnic in the Point on October 20.

We have a lot to talk about and are short on time this month, so we'll be skipping the Treasurer's and the Membership Report during the meeting. This month we received \$300 in dues and the General Fund balance is \$4,252.41. We have 70 active members. If you haven't paid your dues, they are currently due for the 2018/2019 membership year and can be paid at the meeting, by using the attached form, or you may request a waiver from June at PointRichmondNeighborhood@gmail.com. You need to be an active member to vote on issues before the PRNC.

We will also forgo our Community Briefs at the meeting and are instead listing announcements below:

***Masquers:** Radio Plays on Sunday, Aug. 26, will be at 11 am, not 2 pm.

***Red Oak Victory:** Wonderful news for the Red Oak Victory. The ship was towed up to the California Maritime Academy on July 6 and since then the engine room crew have been working on the boilers. I'm delighted to report that we built up sufficient pressure in both boilers to enable the ship to reach steaming speed and through an auxiliary jack on the turbines, we turned the propeller-very slowly. Since it is 50 years since either of these things have happened, the whole crew is very pleased with the results because no major fixes were needed. Furthermore, It means that taking trips around the bay under the ship's own power is now a real possibility.

The ROV will be towed back to its regular mooring opposite the Rigger's Loft wine bar on August 16 and we will be holding our regular pancake breakfast on Sunday, Sept. 9, at 9:00 am. Then, on Thursday, Aug. 23, at 6:30 pm we resume our regular movie series with Humphrey Bogart in "Action in the North Atlantic" (sorry no Claude Rains or Ingrid Bergman). Please join us at either or both events.

***Point Richmond Business Association:** PRBA will have a luncheon this month on Thursday, Aug. 30, at Hotel Mac from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. Featured guest speaker will be Assembly District 15 Candidate and Richmond City Councilmember Jovanka Beckles. You can RSVP at www.pointrichmondbusiness.com. Purchasing lunch is not required to attend.

***Richmond Smart Lighting Coalition:** Brian Hubinger, Chevron's Director of Public Affairs who visited PRNC several months ago, has been working with community members to mitigate the nuisance lighting in the contractor's parking lot and at the wharf. As for the parking lot, so far, Brian says, Chevron has eliminated some lights, hooded the remaining lights, repositioned the lights, lowered the lights on the poles, and instituted a program to turn the lights off outside of shift changes. Neighbors report that the wharf lighting has been changed to warmer spectrum lighting and repositioned to shine away from homes, though some remaining tweaks may be needed. If you continue to be bothered by Chevron lighting, please notify Brian Hubinger directly at brian.hubinger@chevron.com or the RSLC at richmondsmartlightingcoalition@gmail.com, and we will pass along continuing concerns to Brian. Reporting the specific light and the specific problem will be helpful in determining a solution.

Lighting at other businesses, including particularly BNSF, remains a problem. Citations with compliance deadlines of mid-September have been issued for at least Linde, BNSF, and the Best Western, but the RSLC recommends maintaining pressure on the city to ensure compliance of those businesses and others. Please continue to report violators of the new nuisance lighting ordinance to Tim Higare, the Director of the Department of Infrastructure and Maintenance Operations, at thigare@ci.richmond.ca.us, and CC Tom Butt at tom.butt@intres.com. You can find talking points for your letters to the city at our website, <https://richmondsmartlight.wixsite.com/website>. The RSLC will be visiting neighboring neighborhood councils in the coming months to discuss the dangers of over lighting.

Peter Thelin

President

Point Richmond Neighborhood Council

The PRNC and LUDRC are advisory only capacity, and cannot approve or deny anything beyond "Recommendations for Development" to the City of Richmond. Our role is to mitigate conflict at the local level.



Point Richmond Neighborhood Council
 Wednesday, August 29, 2018, 7:30pm
 Point Richmond Community Center
PointRichmondNeighborhood@gmail.com

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- 7:30 **Call to order and approval of minutes from the July 25, 2018 PRNC meeting** 2 minutes
- 7:32 **Police Report, Richmond Police Department, Officer Ben Mendler** 5 minutes
- 7:37 **President's Report, Peter Thelin** 2 minutes
- 7:39 **Discussion re: Magick Lantern funding request** 9 minutes
- 7:48 **Land Use/Design Review Committee** 10 minutes
 - **New business at The Point apartments-Tim Manhart**
Items to be considered at the LUDRC meeting must be submitted to Rod Satre, Committee Chair, rdsatre@live.com, (510) 232-5059, at two weeks prior to the General Membership meeting. The LUDRC Committee meets monthly prior to the PRNC General Membership meeting at 6:00pm at the Point Richmond Community Center at 139 Washington Ave. Please plan to attend the LUDRC meeting and General Membership meeting at 7:30pm if your project is being considered.
- 7:58 **Nicolas Traylor - Executive Director - Richmond Rent Program; Presentation and Q&A re: Richmond's Rent Control Ordinance** 25 minutes
- 8:23 **Vote to approve sending PRNC letter in support of Nuisance Lighting enforcement effort and improved ordinance** 3 minutes
- 8:25 **Bruce Beyaert - TRAC, Ryan Shafer - NCE, Ryan McClain -Fehr & Peers; Safe, Inviting Bicyclist & Pedestrian Routes Through Point Richmond Accessing Richmond-San Rafael Bridge Bay Trail** 25 minutes
With funding from MTC, the City of Richmond has consultants under contract to design short term/interim signage and access improvements to establish safe connections and guide bicyclists and pedestrians between the RSR Bridge Bay Trail and transit centers (Richmond and El Cerrito del Norte BART stations and Richmond-San Francisco Ferry Terminal) to be in place by the planned opening of this multi-use trail in March 2019. As part of this project, several route options through Point Richmond will be presented to the community to solicit feedback.
- 8:51 **Public Forum: Please sign up. As many as 3 speakers (2 minutes each).** 6 minutes
Issues brought to the attention of the Council in the Public Forum cannot result in Council action at this meeting. Instead, submit issues to Peter Thelin at pthelin1@yahoo.com prior to the next PRNC Board Meeting.
- 8:57 **In Remembrance and Celebration/Adjourn**



Point Richmond Neighborhood Council
General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 25, 2018
PointRichmondNeighborhood@gmail.com

1. **Called to Order and Approval of Minutes:** Meeting was called to order at 7:37 pm. Minutes from the meeting on June 27, 2018 were approved. Board Members present: Peter Thelin, Dave Bleckinger, June Hight and Buzz Baylis. Susan Elwell was acting Secretary in Hilary Brown's absence.
2. **Police Report:** Officer Ben Mandler (BMandler@RichmondPD.net) reported that Pt. Richmond has been fairly quiet for the last couple of months; a couple of car burglaries, a suicide, a couple of hit-and-runs, but mostly random events with no trends. Although short staffed, officers are handing out citations to cars blocking streets due to the drivers entering Pt. Richmond to "short cut" the toll plaza approach. The new traffic Lieutenant is Felix Tan. Pt. Molate has become somewhat of a dumping ground for stolen cars and several have been recovered there. The new security company at Pt. Molate, which also patrols the Marina Bay Yacht Harbor, is doing a good job. Concerns about loitering and drug dealing downtown were expressed. Apparently, the Homeless Outreach for the City has been put on hold until further notice at the request of several members of the City Council.
3. **President's Report, Peter Thelin:** Peter, along with Margaret Jordan, represented the PRNC at the Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council meeting, at which Michelle Milam had Neighborhood Watch tool kits available containing information about setting up Neighborhood Watch groups. Peter can obtain more of them if members are interested. Nicholas Traylor, Executive Director of the Rent Control Board, spoke. There was information on lighting issues and noise ordinances. Peter mentioned that as he drove home from the meeting toward BNSF the light was so bright at 9:30 p.m. that he had to put down his sun visor. Many of the new LED lights are the correct kind of lights but are pointed in the incorrect direction: up rather than down.
4. **Treasurer's Report, Buzz Bayliss:** Our general fund account has \$4,045.83 in the general fund. This does not include the Benevolent Fund and the Wig Wag Fund.
5. **Membership Report, June Hight:** We currently have 68 paid members. The membership year is May to May, so if you have not paid dues in the last couple of months, they are due. Non-members may not vote on issues. This rule is enforced on the honor system.
6. **Community Briefs:**
 - **Magick Lantern, Kate Spaulding MagickLantern.org, magick-lantern@att.net, (510) 232-2559:** The proposal for window coverings has been officially submitted to Ms. Monk. Magick Lantern is requesting that the PRC donate the outstanding \$636 so that the proposal for window covering is totally funded. Kate Spaulding made a presentation on July 11 to Parks and Rec. about the Magick Lantern and its value to the community. She is also waiting for approval from the City engineering staff that the screen does not block the intake vent and is not a functional issue. Films will resume in September on the 3d Friday of the month if either window coverings have been obtained or it is dark enough for screenings at 7:30 p.m. The Magick Lantern is a non-profit 501(C)(3) entity. Films are chosen based on film society screenings, affordability and IMDB and Rotten Tomatoes ratings of 7 and above. Magick Lantern would like to have an additional evening to screen environmental and social justice films for free, but that would be contingent upon Parks and Rec approving this with no additional charge and providing storage space for the equipment.
 - **RNCC, Margaret Jordan <http://richmondneighbors.org>:** Peter earlier in the meeting reported in the President's report on the July RNCC meeting. The next meeting will be held on September 10th in the Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m., refreshments at 6:30.
 - **Women's Westside Improvement Club, Linda Newton:** Diane Diani, the new President, is out of town so Linda reported. The group is off for the summer and will hold its next meeting the September 11th, the second Tuesday of September, the week after Labor Day. The members are continuing to care for the roses. They are also starting a program to greet and welcome new neighbors to Pt. Richmond, so please let them know of new neighbors on your street. They are providing information and coupons for local businesses, cookies, and, most importantly, information about PRNC meetings and membership!
 - **Arts of Point Richmond www.artsofpointrichmond.com:** Mary Lee Cole from Arts of Point Richmond said they are having a pop-up event Saturday afternoon, July 28th from 3-7 on the deck at Little Louies where many artists will be

showing various projects. Food will be available for sale. Arts of Pt. Richmond has a large number of members and is very active in The Point.

- **PRCert, Kate Spaulding** www.prcert.org: PRCert is an emergency response team which is working on the MYN (Map Your Neighborhood) booklets in preparation for The Big One and other possible disasters. CERT training is offered free of charge by the City of Richmond. The next PRCert meeting will be held at the community center on Wednesday, August 1st.
- **Land Use/Design Review Committee**
523 Santa Fe Ave., Single Family Home, Brad Gunkel, Greg Jerum and Jennifer Twilley: A lot line adjustment for the property at 527 Santa Fe has been approved to make the lot for this project 5,000 square feet. The project is contingent upon a truck turnaround approved by the Fire Marshall and dead tree removal. The project was unanimously approved by the LUDRC. A motion was made, seconded and passed that it be approved by the PRNC.
- **Masquers Playhouse** www.masquers.org: Kathie Kiehn was not present, and Bonnie Jo Cullison spoke on behalf of the Masquers Playhouse. There will be no Masquers Aid Ball this fall, instead they will focus on their capital campaign. Members of the Masquers perform live radio plays, and a series of these will be presented at the Hotel Mac August 24-26. Information on this and other events will be in the playhouse window.

7. **Presentation by the Richmond Smart Lighting Coalition about new Nuisance Lighting Ordinance, Hilary Brown**: Hilary Brown representing the Richmond Smart Lighting Coalition made a presentation on lighting issues. The Coalition was formed in response to the new street lights the City installed in 2014. Lighting is neither good nor bad, it is a tool which can be used correctly or misused. Hilary's presentation focused on the new lighting nuisance ordinance, the health risks of excessive lighting and what makes good lighting, what other cities are doing to alleviate this problem, and what actions we can take. The City Council passed an amended ordinance on July 10th to go into effect on August 10th. The ordinance will require shielding of lights such as those at BNSF, Chevron and Marina Bay Inn and Suites dependent on lot size to alleviate some of the effects of excessive lighting, and will pass enforcement of the new ordinance to the Code Enforcement Department rather than the Planning Commission. The Smart Lighting Coalition is hopeful that this amended ordinance is a preliminary step toward a more comprehensive ordinance. Darkness tells the body to rest, light to be active. Too much light is causative to diseases caused by too much hormone production, such as breast and prostate cancer, sleep and mood disorders. AMA research is ongoing on the dangers of too much light. The body is more sensitive to ultraviolet/blue range light and it has effects on the body even when not visible to the eye. Not only humans are impacted; trees do not drop their leaves seasonally, pollination does not occur normally, owls who hunt at night and migrating birds are affected. Too much light actually makes it more difficult to see for drivers, pedestrians and cyclists. It is difficult for our eyes to transition from bright to dim light. If light is shielded and directed correctly the transition is minimized. Properly positioned motion sensors work well in many cases. Lighting quality is more important than quantity and glare should be minimized. Good lighting is shielded and mounted 90 degrees flat to the ground. Only use as many fixtures as needed, although sometimes it is better to use more fixtures of less brightness. Bad lighting glares, trespasses into neighboring properties, and is not shielded. Blue, rich light over 3,000 Kelvin units is the worst. The Richmond ordinance does not include height, time or color restrictions as do some other cities. It also does not keep bad lighting from being grandfathered in. In some cities, different standards are required in different zones of cities such as residential, business and manufacturing zones. Things we can do to be proactive about good lighting include taking a look at our homes to insure that the lighting meets good standards, talking to our neighbors about good lighting, and emailing the City with information about bad lighting. For more information on the subject, check the Richmond Smart Lighting Coalition website, <https://richmondsmartlight.wixsite.com/website>. There is strength in numbers, so please take the time to report concerns to the City and back up your neighbors in reporting their lighting concerns to the City. Email the City Council members to advocate for improvements to the lighting ordinance and email thigares@ci.richmond.ca.us to report offending lights and request abatement. Computer screens, TVs, cell phones and other screens can also be harmful. We can adjust the light quality on computers, and there is a helpful app to make the screen red. Also, iPhones can be set to "night shift." In conclusion, Hilary reported the sad fact that 80% of kids have never seen the Milky Way because of light pollution.

- **PRBA**: No Report
- **TRAC**: No Report
- **Red Oak Victory**: The Red Oak Victory will be back from Vallejo on the 10th of August. News and calendar are available at www.redoakvictory.us
- **Richmond Tennis Association**: No report.
- **History Association**: Website is www.pointrichmondhistory.org. Bonnie Jo Cullison reported that Mid Dornan is now the President Emeritus. Charmain Tyler kindly supplies the PRNC newsletter to the kiosk.

8. Open Forum

- **Don Woodrow**: The membership thanked Don for providing name plates for the officers. Don announced the Richmond Public Library Foundation's presentation of Rochelle Ballantyne on Thursday, August 23rd in the Richmond Public Library's Whittlesey Room. Rochelle is 23 years old and is in the 99th percentile of American junior players. She was featured in the 2012 documentary "Brooklyn Castle". She graduated from Stanford on full scholarship in 2016 and will discuss her experience as a budding chess master and demonstrate her skills by playing 6 players simultaneously! She hopes to soon become the first African American female chess master.

- **Cordell Hindler:** On July 27th in the City Auditorium the retirement party for Bill Lindsey will be held. The cost to attend is \$70. There is a free after party at the Arts Center behind the auditorium! Cordell also reported that only 6 people attended the last crime prevention meeting at which Detective Middleton gave a presentation on identity theft. The next crime prevention meeting will be held on September 19 at 7 p.m. i the Rec Center Sgt. Parker will speak on School officers and the proposal to eliminate them.
- **June Hight:** The annual Classic Car Show will be held at East Brother Brewery on August 26th, noon to 8. It was a tremendous success last year. There will be food trucks, two live bands and local vendors. It is a ton of fun even if you are not into classic cars. Also, on August 11th, the Rosie Rally will be held at the Craneway. This year there will be 5 costume categories. More information on Rosie Rally website.
- **Kate Spaulding:** Kate asked if the group could vote on her earlier request for funding for the Magick Lantern The group could not vote tonight as it was not on the agenda, but the Board will discuss the request at their meeting and place it on the August agenda.

9. **In Remembrance and Celebration:**

Dave Bleckinger's Aunt, Debra Bleckinger, passed away on July 5th at the age of 63 of a brain aneurysm. This was unexpected and sudden, and she had previously requested that her organs be donated. Dave's Great Aunt, Dorothy Bowes, passed away on June 30th at the age of 98. She had a full, healthy life and spent only one week in hospice before she passed away. Our condolences to Dave's family on these losses.

Peter Thelin's neighbor, Georgette Prelo, accidentally fell off a houseboat in the marina last Friday. She was only 54 years old, but passed away from injuries sustained in the fall into the water. There will be a memorial tomorrow at 5 at the Sportsmans' Club.

Ending on a happy note, we enthusiastically welcome 6 week old Andrew, Hilary and Gene's son, our newest Board Member!

10. **Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Susan Elwell, Acting Secretary; "vselwell9@icloud.com" (510) 234-1783



RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND PAY YOUR DUES! The dues provide support for community groups and events and cover administrative expenses for the PRNC: **\$20 for individuals** and **\$25 for a household** for the May 1, 2018, to May 1, 2019, membership year. 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.**

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|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal | <input type="checkbox"/> Household |

Name _____
Mailing Address _____
Telephone _____ e-mail _____
Date _____



***Point Richmond Neighborhood Council Meeting:
Wednesday, August 29, 2018, 7:30 p.m.
Point Richmond Community Center***

- *City County Candidates Forum will be Sept. 17, 2018, at East Brothers Beer Co.*
- *The Summer Classic Car Show, co-sponsored by the PRNC will be Aug. 26, 2018 at East Brothers Beer Co.*
- *Picnic in the Point will be Oct. 20, 2018*

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