



ON POINT *March 2019*

Greetings from the PRNC.

This month we will have Lynette Parker, to tell us about the School Resource Officer Program. The goal of the program is to assign officers to provide a safe and secure environment at these schools for the students, staff and the administrators.



The Officers work with staff to develop safety and disaster-preparedness plans. The School Resource Officer also has the responsibility to handle calls for service at their assigned schools.

The Officers also participate in mentoring programs, task forces, Police Activities League and truancy programs within their schools, as well as, discipline and counseling of students.

Also, Menbe Aklilu—the former owner of Salute—will join us to speak about the Menbe’s Way Fund, a Richmond Community Foundation.



Menbe’s fund supports victims of domestic violence, the homeless, low income families and others in need here in Richmond.

And we will hear about the new Point Richmond Social Club. Located at S Garrard Blvd, they serve Catahoula coffee and microbrew beers.



“The Point Richmond Social Club aims to offer a “unique cafe concept” with both indoor and outdoor seating, featuring coffee, beer on tap, and food.”

Because we have a packed agenda, the treasurer’s report and membership report will not be given at the meeting and are as follows: The balance in the general fund account is \$4,213. The Benevolent and Wig Wag funds remain static. We have 153 active memberships. If you have not paid your dues, see June or Buzz at the meeting. Our membership year begins anew in May, and we are now accepting payment for next year’s dues.

Also, the PRBA update is as follows:

Point Richmond Business Association: PRBA is having Carlos Martinez speak at their monthly luncheon on Thursday March 28 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at Hotel Mac.

So, I hope to see everyone at the PRNC General Meeting on the 27th!

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, March 27, 2019, 7:30pm
 Point Richmond Community Center
PointRichmondNeighborhood@gmail.com

7:30	<i>Call to order and approval of minutes from the February 27, 2019 meeting</i>	<i>2 minutes</i>
7:32	<i>Police Report, Richmond Police Department, Officer Joseph DeOran</i>	<i>5 minutes</i>
7:37	<i>President's Report, Peter Thelin</i>	<i>2 minutes</i>
7:39	<i>Officer Elections (at April meeting) - Introduction to Buzz and June</i>	<i>2 minutes</i>
7:41	<i>Community Briefs (2 minutes each)</i>	<i>8 minutes</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Magick Lantern, Kate Spaulding MagickLantern.org, magick-lantern@att.net, (510) 232-2559</i> ● <i>PRCert, Edie Sellers and Shaun Partlow https://www.prcert.org/, https://www.facebook.com/prcert</i> ● <i>Arts of Point Richmond, www.artsofpointrichmond.com</i> ● <i>Women's Westside Improvement Club, Diane Diani</i> 	
7:49	<i>Lynette Parker, School Resource Officer Program</i>	<i>10 minutes</i>
7:59	<i>Menbe's Way Fund, Richmond Community Foundation, Menbe Aklilu</i>	<i>10 minutes</i>
8:09	<i>Point Richmond Social Club</i>	<i>10 minutes</i>
8:19	<i>Land Use/Design Review Committee</i>	<i>30 minutes</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>AC Transit bus stop operator restroom and bike storage on Castro (15 mins.)</i> - <i>420 Western Drive, Point Richmond -- Cottrell Smith (15 mins.)</i> <p><i>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. <u>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.</u></i></p>	
8:49	<i>Report on EPRPD/Miller Knox Park/Trains Meeting, Buzz Baylis</i>	<i>5 minutes</i>
8:54	<i>Community Briefs (2 minutes each)</i>	<i>8 minutes</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>USS Red Oak Victory Ship, Graham Perrett, (510) 234-1045</i> ● <i>Masquers Playhouse, Kathe Kiehn, www.masquers.org</i> ● <i>Point Richmond History Association</i> ● <i>Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council – Margaret Jordan http://richmondneighbors.org/</i> 	
9:02	<i>Public Forum: Please sign up. As many as 3 speakers (2 minutes each).</i>	<i>6 minutes</i>
	<i>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.</i>	
9:08	<i>In Remembrance and Celebration/Adjourn</i>	



Point Richmond Neighborhood Council
General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 27, 2019
PointRichmondNeighborhood@gmail.com

1. **Called to Order and Approval of Minutes:** Meeting was called to order at 7:37 pm. Board members present: Peter Thelin, Dave Bleckinger, Buzz Baylis, Hilary Brown, Garry Hurlbut and Charmain Tyler. Absent: June Hight. Minutes from the meeting on January 30, 2018 were approved with no amendments.
2. **Police Report:** Officer Joseph DeOran (jdeorian@richmondcpd.net) reviewed the recent crime statistics which include reports of lost property, dumped stolen vehicles, vehicle theft and auto burglaries. There were a number of traffic violations around Tewksbury and Castro related to traffic enforcement. There were drug related charges related to an ongoing investigation. There has been a pattern of vehicle break-ins in the parking lot at Hotel Mac and EBRPD police have arrested someone who is a suspect for many of these break-ins. Officer DeOran and other officers working our beat are trying to have a presence in that area in the evenings. If we have any questions or concerns, Officer DeOran indicated his email is the best way to contact him.
3. **President's Report, Peter Thelin:** The president's report was limited to the written president's report.
4. **Treasurer's Report, Buzz Baylis:** We had \$160 in deposits last month and we received another \$75 this evening. Currently we have \$5,107 in the general fund. The Benevolent Fund has \$10,938 and the Wigwag Fund has \$2,970.
5. **Membership Report, June Hight:** We currently have 150 active members. If you haven't paid your dues and would like to get current, please see Buzz after the meeting.
6. **Miller Knox Land Use Plan, Carol Johnson:**
 - a. Thank you to everyone for supporting measure FF! Funding from that measure will contribute to continued improvements throughout the park system from here to Oakland and Alameda. Also, please stay tuned for a variety of events this year to celebrate EBRPD's 85th anniversary.
 - b. Tonight we are discussing good and bad news for Miller Knox. The good news is that a long anticipated Land Use Plan Amendment will be considered by the EBRPD Board of Directors. Details about Miller Knox park planning can be found [here](#). We have been planning and gathering feedback and public comments for years. After years of work, we have plans for proposed park enhancements which include: dredging the lagoon, adding a new paved trail on the east side of the lagoon, repairing existing pathways, adding more picnic areas and benches near Ferry Point, adding green waste disposal near the picnic areas, upgrades to the promenade connecting Ferry Point, new native plantings, building an outdoor facility for education purposes and school groups, expanding parking areas, removing rail tracks inside the park and formalizing access to the beach from Ferry Point to the Lagoon. Improvements in the upland area include adding staging areas off Dornan Drive, adding new vista points, repairing eroded trails, and implementing improvements per the wildfire abatement program. On March 19th, the Board of Directors will vote on approval of this land use plan.
 - c. The bad news is that BNSF owns a line of tracks that are currently unusable, and have been abandoned since prior to the 1990's. After EBRPD started planning park improvements, BNSF attorneys notified EBRPD that they were going to fight us on the land use amendment and over the old rail tracks. BNSF argues that they own the tracks all the way to Ferry Point, but EBRPD disputes this. There are agreements from the 90's about use of the tracks, and there is a dispute whether these are original transcontinental rail lines or a spur. In spite of the trees growing through the tracks and the overall derelict condition, BNSF argues that all the tracks are part of an active railway.

They have indicated they plan to back trains up all the way to Ferry Point and use tracks as car storage. The legal challenge includes arguments about whether ownership of the tracks was relinquished when the railroad stopped serving shippers and also disputes about interpreting where the easement is located in the park. BNSF suggested EBRPD should improve fencing throughout the park, and offered to trade existing rail line adjacent to the shoreline with a spur on the east side of the lagoon. Park planners indicated this is an unacceptable compromise.

- d. Discussion with PRNC membership about what we locals can do to support the park. We love our park and we want to maintain our access to the bay. One member suggested researching General Order 185 of the California PUC which states switching movements on a grade crossing should be avoided whenever possible; this was related to preventing train wrecks and we might be able to use the street crossing at the W. Richmond crossing.
- e. Eric Zell, long time resident of Brickyard Cove, suggested the PRNC should send a representative to the March 19th meeting at 1pm to show PRNC support for the proposed upgrades to Miller Knox. He also suggested when this issue comes before the Richmond City Council, we should try to get as many members of the public to show our support for the city council taking action to protect Miller Knox. We will want to engage the State, the Surface Transportation Board, and other regulatory groups. We will need as many neighbors as possible to show that we want to protect our park. This is not just a Point Richmond issue, Miller Knox is used by people throughout the city and in the summer there are people from all over who rely on that park for fresh air and a beautiful connection to our Bay. Tom Butt, John Gioia, and other local leaders have already shown their support for protecting our park and we should show our leaders that we support them.
- f. Bruce Beyaert made a motion for the PRNC to write a letter to the mayor and city council and EBRPD Board of Directors indicating PRNC 1. supports the Land-Use Plan Amendment, 2. opposes BNSF plans to block access to the shoreline by operating trains in the park 3. asking the city to investigate BNSF's routine blocking of the crossing at West Richmond Avenue. The motion was modified with a friendly amendment to request that someone representing the PRNC attend the March 19th EBRPD Board meeting in support of the Land-Use Plan Amendment. After consideration, the motion passed with unanimous approval.

7. Land Use Design Review Committee: 714 Western Drive, presented by Leo Egan, property owner and his architect. The proposal is to build a second dwelling at the bottom of the property on Western Drive. The existing house is accessed from an alley at the top of the lot, the second dwelling unit will be located at the bottom of the property, beneath the existing house. Owner talked to a few of the neighbors and no one has indicated opposition. Tonight there was no quorum at the LUDRC, but the plans were reviewed and approved with no contingencies by the three members present. A motion was made to accept the recommendation of the LUDRC and to support the plans as presented; motion passed with unanimous approval.

8. Community Briefs

- a. **RNCC:** next meeting is March 11th at 7pm in council chambers
- b. **PRBA:** monthly luncheon is tomorrow, February 28 at Hotel Mac. The guest speaker is a representative from WETA (Water Emergency Transportation Authority).
- c. **TRAC:** The Richmond Bay Trail is growing! The city unveiled the "Ferry to Bridge to Greenway Complete Streets Plan" and is seeking input about connecting the Bridge, Bay Trail and Ferry Terminal. You can review the plans, submit comments, and get more info [here](#). Preliminary Short-term bids have come in for pedestrian/bicycle improvements. Bad news: the opening of the Bay Trail across the bridge has been postponed until June due to an urgent need to retrofit old expansion joints on bridge.
- d. **Richmond Tennis (RTA):** Unfortunately this weather does not lend itself to much tennis. Last month one of our women's teams won the East Bay Championship and they went on to play in Sacramento. We also have five other groups progressing. The Plunge repairs are complete and it has reopened and we had a wonderful celebration for the reopening.
- e. **Richmond Smart Lighting Coalition:** The city is currently getting bids from lighting experts to determine whether BNSF has violated the nuisance lighting ordinance. It seems that once the city gets an expert that can determine whether the lights violate the ordinance then they may be able to

convince BNSF to take additional agreeable steps to mitigate the bad lighting. The RSLC has previously suggested that the nuisance lighting ordinance can be improved by requiring things that can easily be measured by city inspectors and property owners; things like distance of fixture from the ground, whether the light source is recessed, and whether it is mounted flat to the ground rather than at an angle, and the color temperature of the light which is always printed on the light bulb itself and on the packaging. These measurements only require a tape measure and a level and can be verified by anyone. In other news, the city is currently working on a system for users to report nuisance lighting on the city website, and then use that online system to track enforcement of those complaints.

- f. **Point Richmond History Association, Kathe Kiehn:** The history association has CD's and historic pictures and now a book about East Brother Light Station that was originally written in the 1970's but was recently updated. Also, the newsletter is now available digitally! In addition we set up a Paypal account and now dues and donations can be made online. To make a donation click [here](#).
- g. **Masquers, Kathe Kiehn:** "Gift of Gab" will be performed at the Up & Under on St Patrick's Day. This is a few Irish plays and lots of music. The garage sale is happening on Memorial Day.
- h. **WWIC:** The next meeting is Tuesday, March 5th. We have plans for ongoing work in the rose garden and map gardens. We encourage people to join our gardening groups; whenever people see us working they are always really appreciative.
- i. **Arts of Point Richmond:** Gateway Grant was granted to install permanent gallery hardware at El Sol! We now have permanent hardware installed there for current and future art displays. El Sol is currently displaying humorous and fun watercolors of old town Point Richmond. A new display at the Post Office features a local artist that does glass fusion, which is incredibly labor intensive. The glass sculptures On March 9th from 4-6 at Kaleidoscope there will be an opening for a display called "Mostly Talking Heads" which combines the artist's artwork with quotes and expressions celebrating our wonderful and absurd qualities. Stay tuned for sometime in March when there will be a workshop here at community center on marketing your art. Go to ArtsofPointRichmond.com website for details, or click [here](#).
- j. **Magick Lantern:** Friday, March 15th will feature "The Divine Order," a movie set in Switzerland in 1971 when women were still denied the right to vote. It is a fictional account of what actually happened and when women went on strike! Update on the window covering: we submitted funds to a contractor and we are getting close to finally installing them. We have one paid position for someone who wants a job that requires about 3-4 hours of work on a Friday night delivering, setting up and then taking down equipment for our theater. This is a paid position! Let Kate Spaulding know if you know someone and are interested.

9. Open Forum

- **Cordell Hindler:** 4 updates: 1. "Humble Boy" is starting on Friday at the Contra Costa Civic Theater; youth rate is \$11. 2. Crime Prevention Meeting had excellent turnout with 30 people who attended a meet-and-greet with Assistant Chief French, Chief Brown and Srgnt Parker 3. Suggestion to have Srgnt Parker come to the PRNC to give an overview about school resource officers. 4. Suggestion to ask Ariel Mercado from Bart to give us an update on the Bart Transit Study.
- **Charmain Tyler:** Wig Wags are still being worked on. The rainy weather has slowed painting because there is too much humidity from the rain. They are working on the "banner," the part that looks like a lollipop. The interior is mostly done and they are trying to make it look historic. They might possibly be ready and installed by the time we have our "Spring Fling" in mid-April.
- **Charmain Tyler:** In other news, please mark your calendar for our second annual Spring Fling on April 14th! Details will be announced later.

10. In Remembrance and Celebration/Adjourn: Douglas Tenny Corbin, husband of Rosemary Corbin passed away on February 24. He was a wonderful man and a delight to see around town. He will be missed.

11. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm



RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND PAY YOUR DUES! The dues help cover our administrative expenses and are minimal: \$20 for individuals and \$25 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.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <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:
March 27, 2019, 7:30 p.m.***

Point Richmond Community Center

- * School Resource Officer Program
- * Menbe's Way Fund
- * New outdoor art installation at the AC Transit turnout on Tewksbury
- * Hear about the new Point Richmond Social Club!
- * Mark your calendars for the second annual PRNC Spring Fling! It will be on Sunday, April 14th; details to be announced later.

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