



ON POINT *April 2015*



**The PRNC Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 29.
There will be two important matters before the PRNC membership:**

1) Elections for PRNC Executive Board: The following individuals were nominated at the March PRNC Meeting to serve for two-year terms: 1st Vice President-Jordan DeStaebler, 2nd Vice President-Charmain Tyler (Incumbent), Treasurer-Garry Hurlbut (Incumbent), Secretary-Hilary Brown. Please come to vote.

2) Recommended Amendments to the PRNC By-Laws: At the March PRNC meeting the Board recommended small changes to the PRNC By-laws to assure that, as much as possible, staggered election of officers be maintained. A second amendment adjusts the duties of the 1st and 2nd Vice-Presidents. We will be voting on these amendments at the Annual Meeting. The proposed changes to the By-Laws are available on our website (www.pointrichmond.org). All Point Richmond residents, property owners, business owners and non-profits that are providing a benefit to the community are all eligible to be members of the PRNC, and can vote. You can join at the meeting.

Community Activity: One of the roles of the PRNC is to work to help members by serving “as a forum through which plans and projects of various neighborhood, area-wide public and/or voluntary organizations can be presented, understood and supported by or adapted to the neighborhood” (from our By-Laws). Here is an update of two such current efforts.

Friends of Tiscornia Open Space (FOTOS). In the 80’s a group of residents fought hard to keep a large area of land between Pacific and Western and Santa Fe and High Street open space. The area “Tiscornia Estates” is designated Open Space in the Richmond General Plan 2030. Last year, after taxes went in arrears, against the agreement formulated in the 80’s the area was subdivided and put up for auction. The neighbors organized to reverse this development and preserve the Open Space. Recently, with the help of Supervisor John Gioia a plan has been formulated to reverse the previous auctions of Tiscornia Open Space lots and preserve other lots from future auctions. The fight has been difficult and expensive. FOTOS is asking for donations to pay the back taxes. Donations to support FOTOS can be sent to Ward Bell, 433 High Street, Richmond CA 94801.

Richmond Smart Lighting Coalition (RSLC)—In October 2014, without notifying the neighborhood, the city changed all existing street lighting to LED and installed more energy efficient LED lighting on all poles that did not have lights installed on them. While this was intended to improve the neighborhood, and in some cases likely does, many residents have concerns about the new lights. Concerns include that, the lights are too bright for small streets, that they shine into houses, that they interfere with animal life, and that they interfere with views. Other residents are pleased with the additional lights. The Smart Lighting Coalition formed to study the issue, find out the views of Point Richmond residents, and work with the City to come up with a plan to adjust the lights in a way which is good for the neighborhood and responds to concerns. At RSLC’s urging the city has set up a demonstration of lights at different levels of brightness on Idaho and Montana streets. For more information and to complete a survey regarding lights go to www.richmond-smart-lighting.org Hilary Brown from RSLC will lead a discussion of the issue at the PRNC meeting. Come express your views.

We hope to see you at the Membership Meeting—Wed. April 29, 7:30PM in the Community Center

PRNC MEMBERSHIP DUES--Still the best deal in town—\$10/individual, \$15/household. Dues for 2015-2016 can be paid now! We will be considering a number of crucial issues regarding development in the next year. You can pay your dues to Charmain or Garry at the door before the next meeting starts.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Margaret Jordan".

Margaret Jordan, President
Point Richmond Neighborhood Council



AGENDA

Point Richmond Neighborhood Council
Wednesday, April 29, 2015
Point Richmond Community Center

- 7:30 *Call to order and approval of Minutes from March 25, 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* 5 minutes
- 7:47 *Report on Membership, Charmain Tyler (510) 334-7267* 1 minute
- 7:48 *Treasurer's Report, Garry Hurlbut (510) 547-8111* 1 minute
- 7:49 *Land Use/Design Review Committee* 15 minutes
Items to be considered at the May meeting, must be submitted to Rod Satre, Committee Chair, by May 5. Contact Rod at rsatre@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.
- 602 Cypress Point Rd. (Christine Volker, Owner)
 - 837 Ocean Avenue
 - 707 Golden Gate/400 Marine (Stephen Parker, Owner)
- 8:04 *Annual Elections* 5 minutes
(1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary)
- 8:09 *Vote on By-Law Changes* 3 minutes
- 8:12 *Smart Lighting Coalition, Hilary Brown* 20 minutes
- 8:32 *Presentation on Gardening in Drought Conditions, Maureen Decombe* 20 minutes
- 8:52 *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
- 9:07 *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 – 5/4/2015.
- 9:17 *In Remembrance and Celebration/Adjourn*



Point Richmond Neighborhood Council General Meeting Minutes Wednesday, March 25, 2015

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm. The minutes from the February 25, 2015 meeting were approved. Board Members Present: Margaret Jordan, Charmain Tyler, Garry Hurlbut, and Mary Lee Cole.

2. **Police Report (Sergeant Armando Moreno amoreno@richmondpd.net (510-965-4916 –non-emergency number for police assistance is 510-233-1214) and PRNC Safety.** Not present.

Crime Prevention Report (Jon Sutinen, jsutinen@yahoo.com) The City's monthly Crime Prevention meeting featured Chief Magnus, who discussed the consequences of Proposition 47, which reclassified a number of prison sentences from felony to misdemeanor and released prisoners from state to county jurisdictions. Richmond's increase in burglaries and auto thefts is tied to this prisoner release. Chief Magnus also discussed community trainings on bias, police procedures and legitimacy, which the department is offering to help the community better understand how the police work.

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

President Margaret Jordan reviewed the agenda and noted that more time will be required to consider the project at 400 Marine St. since LUDRC members were split and couldn't agree on a recommendation. She also reported:

1. Research on fixing the Wig-Wag is underway.
2. We will be voting on By-Law amendments at the April meeting that are designed to insure staggered officer vacancies and reassign officer duties. The information is on the website.
3. There will be a field trip to Republic Waste Management on **Thursday, 3/?? at 10** am to meet with manager Biella Moore and discuss the odors Pt. Richmond residents are reporting.

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

We currently have 215 paid members, with 40 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**

PRNC paid \$300.00 to David Moore for 6-months of web maintenance; \$190.00 for dues to the Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council, and had a \$38.92 office expense. Current balance: \$5,197.71, Benevolent Fund; \$2,970.94, Wig Wag Fund; \$4693.60, General Fund.

6. **Land Use/Design Review Committee**

1. 411 Washington Avenue, modify rear (Sam Peterson, Owner) A motion to approve this proposal was seconded and approved by the membership.
2. 400 Marine Street (Stephen Parker, Owner) Linda Newton presented the issue of concern to LUDRC: The proposed house is in an historic district with houses that have garages in the rear; this one has a garage in the front. Discussion revealed that the Richmond Planning Department never informed the architect and owner about the historic district or its requirements. There was interest in learning more about "historic districts." Members expressed their regrets that the City Planning Department had not provided essential information and voted to postpone the project for further discussion. The Parkers and their architect will ask the Planning Department for information. Stephen Parker agreed to return.

7. **Bike Racks in Point Richmond, Patrick Phelan, City of Richmond, (510) 307-8111**

patrick_phelan@ci.richmond.ca.us

The City established a general Bicycle Plan in 2011, with specifics to be determined. Patrick Phelan outlined options for the Point with his presentation, "Bicycling Improvement Ideas in Point Richmond," which focused on individual racks on sidewalks serving businesses and activity centers. He explained in-street bike parking corrals, electronic bike lockers, and fix-it stations. Funding is available from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District Bike Rack Voucher Project and West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee. Patrick invited people to contact him with recommendations and suggestions before May 22.

8. Report from Nominating Committee, Mary Lee Cole, (510) 236-1475

Mary Lee Cole reported on the nominating committee's work to provide a slate of candidates. There are two open PRNC positions: 1st Vice President and Secretary. After reviewing the responsibilities of these positions, members of the committee interviewed candidates from PRNC membership and nominated Jordan DeStaebler for 1st Vice President and Hilary Brown for Secretary. The candidates addressed the meeting, introducing themselves and their interests in serving as officers on the PRNC Board.

9. Crude-by-Rail, Andres Soto, (510) 282-5363, Andres@CBECal.org

Using a power point presentation, Andres Soto from Communities for a Better Environment and the Iron Triangle Neighborhood Council, made the case for supporting the Resolution Against Crude by Rail. PRNC members will vote on the Resolution at the April 29 General Meeting. The Resolution details the dangers of transporting Bakken crude oil by rail, recommends BAAQMD revoke the transport permit, and requests the project be subjected to California Environmental Quality Act review, with public input.

10. Committee Reports and Announcements from Non-profit Groups

- **Point Richmond Business Association**, Dave Schoenthal, dbschoen@hotmail.com. Not present.
- **Knit and Such**, Altha Humphrey for Terri Phillips, (510) 237-6865. Meets April 1, 1-3 pm, Community Center
- **Arts of Point Richmond**, Altha Humphrey, (510) 232-2934. Meets April 9, 7-8:30 pm at the Community Center for Artful Conversation
- **Women's Westside Improvement Club**, Linda Newton. April 7, 11:30 am, is the White Elephant Exchange with a brown bag lunch in Friendship Hall at the First United Methodist Church. Bring something to exchange. Next garden party to plant the garden with the town map is April 18, from 10 am to noon.
- **Richmond Tennis**, Garry Hurlbut, (510) 547-8111
- **Point Richmond History Association**, Mid Dornan, (510) 234-5334.
- Mid announced Red Oak Victory pancake breakfast at 9:30 am on April 21st.
- **Masquers Playhouse**, David Cole, www.masquers.org "The Women" by Claire Booth Luce opens March 27.
- **TRAC, Richmond Bay Trail**, Bruce Beyaert, www.pointrichmond.com/baytrail. Not present.
- **Magick Lantern**, Kate Spaulding, (510) 232-2559
- **Richmond Smart Lighting Coalition** (510)-697-2742, richmondsmartlightingcoalition@gmail.com
Jordan DeStaebler presented a flier explaining the LED Lighting Demonstration, March 24-April 23, 2015. He encouraged people to check streetlights on Idaho, at 75%, and Montana, at 50% with one at 40% and one at #31 with back light. RSLC and PRNC will use community feedback on this demonstration to work with the City.

11. Public Forum:

Mary Lee Cole announced the Annual Junktique at the Methodist Church, Saturday, May 2, 9:30 am to 3 pm. Lunch available. Drop off household goods and furniture (tax write off donations) on Wednesday and Saturday mornings through April.

Mike Parker announced a demonstration to support Prop 47, which closes the corporate tax loophole. Meet at Washington Park on March 26 at 11:30 am and walk to Chevron.

Cordell announced the new Contra Costa Civic Theater play, "The Foreigner."

12. In Remembrance and Celebration/Adjourn

In memory of Richard Smith and Lauren McCleod and in celebration of Amelia Kathleen Bleckinger, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

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
April Meeting:***

***Wednesday, April 29, 7:30 p.m.
Point Richmond Community Center***

Meeting Highlights:

- ***Annual Dues***
- ***Annual Elections***
- ***Smart Lighting Coalition***
- ***Gardening in Drought Conditions***



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