



ON POINT *September 2015*



We would like to acknowledge the passing of Steve Spencer, a “life-time” member of the PRNC. As I didn’t know Steve well, I asked more senior Point Richmond residents to tell us about him. In response Rod Satre wrote the following “Steve was often larger than life and contributed to the Point Richmond community as well as the rest of the city. Steve served for a number of years on the Land Use Design Review Committee, was PRNC’s emissary for Richmond Coordinating Council, and volunteered on numerous ad hoc committees over the years. Steve was also a community ride along with Richmond Police Department.” We will miss Steve our “ex officio” PRNC parliamentarian.

Absentee Votes—Recently two PRNC members who had strong opinions on the issue of street lighting which was coming up for a vote in the PRNC expressed concern that they were unable to attend the meeting and asked if we could institute “absentee voting”. As it turned out, the unanimous support for dimming the lights at the meeting was consistent with those who could not attend. But given that the issue had been raised and the fact that the By-Laws do not include provision for absentee votes, the Board discussed the issue over two meetings and decided that we would not institute absentee voting, but would be happy to read into the record comments of those who could not be at the meeting. That is the policy for now.

President 2016-2018—The annual PRNC elections held each April may seem like a long time away, but they will be here before we know it! I have thoroughly enjoyed serving as president, but, given that our By-Laws direct that no Officer be allowed to serve more than two terms, I won’t be running again. We will be assembling a nominating committee next February, but are starting to consider possible candidates to be our next President. If you know someone who you think would be a good candidate (including yourself!), I would be happy to talk about the position—the responsibilities, the joys, and, importantly, the available support system. If you would like to talk, give me a call at 510-412-3673.

Weekly Weeders—A Most Convenient Opportunity to Volunteer for the Betterment of Point Richmond!

You may have noticed this summer’s maintenance improvements in the beautiful and drought tolerant garden in front of The Plunge. Community efforts to take care of weeds and add weed-preventing mulch have paid off, revealing the naturalistic, native garden beneath. Parks and Recreation staff are spread thin, and the conversion to “Round—Up Free” maintenance requires a new approach. We request your help to “keep up appearances” at The Plunge and in other parts of Point Richmond. How can you help? Just bring along a compostable bag (and gloves if you’d like) and weed! Whether it’s 5 minutes or 15, with friends or on your own, you will have helped beautify our community and have become a member of the Weekly Weeders! It’s that simple.

Reminder—Richmond Sanitary Services allows up to two free “bulky pick-ups” per year. For details go to <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/1722/Bulky-Items>

In Memory of George Coles: We all knew George as an active PRNC member. He was President in the 90’s and continued to be active right up until he was no longer able to participate. We all waited with pleasure for his enthusiastic report on the status of the Red Oak Victory Ship and rundown of activities on the ship. George worked for many years with Contra Costa College students who came through his classes excavating archeological objects on Brooks Island. At its August meeting, the PRNC Board voted to donate \$500 to help this large collection become an exhibit available to all. Attached you will find a piece by Melinda McCrary, Executive Director of the Richmond Museum of History explaining the project.

Picnic in the Point—Saturday, October 17 Noon-6 in Judge Carroll Park—Come to picnic, play games, listen to good music, eat good food all to benefit the various community groups working to make Point Richmond the jewel that it is. The PRNC will be participating in the event. Please let us know if you would be available to help out for an hour or two.

PRNC MEMBERSHIP DUES--Still the best deal in town—\$10/individual, \$15/household. Dues for 2015-2016 can be paid now! If you want to vote at the membership meeting you can join at the door.

**Margaret Jordan, President
Point Richmond Neighborhood Council**



AGENDA

Point Richmond Neighborhood Council
Wednesday, September 30, 2015
Point Richmond Community Center

- 7:30 *Call to order and approval of Minutes from August 26, 2015* 2 minutes
- 7:32 *Police Report, and Report from PRNC Safety and Crime Prevention Rep, Officer Villalobos, Chris Roderick* 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

Land Use/Design Review Committee

Items to be considered at the October meeting, must be submitted to Rod Satre, Committee Chair, by October 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.

- 7:49 *Update on Improvements at Miller Knox Regional Shoreline, Ren Bates, East Bay Regional Park District* 10 minutes
- 7:59 *News on Developments at the Richmond Museum of History* 15 minutes
- 8:14 *Making Point Richmond a Butterfly Bonanza, Christine Voelker* 5 minutes

8:19 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, Linda Newton
- 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
- People for a Healthy Shoreline, Pete Bingham, (510) 778-8314
- Richmond Smart Lighting Coalition, Hilary Brown, Jordan DeStaebler (510) 697-2742
- USS Red Oak Victory Ship, Pat Pearson, (510) 234-1045

- 8:34 **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.

- 8:44 **In Remembrance and Celebration/Adjourn**



Point Richmond Neighborhood Council General Meeting Minutes Wednesday, August 26, 2015

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm. Minutes from the previous meeting were corrected to show the correct spelling of Pat Pearson's name. After amendments, minutes from the previous meeting were approved. Board Members Present: Margaret Jordan, Charmain Tyler, Jordan DeStaebler, Garry Hurlbut, Maureen Decombe and Hilary Brown.

2. **Police Report** - No officer was present, no crime activity was presented or discussed. Safety and Crime Committee did not have an August meeting, Chris Rodrick was not present.

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

- A petition is being passed around regarding the development of the property behind the Mechanics Bank. The city has been stalling on approving the project, and there is a petition to encourage the city to approve the project.
- Wigwag - the Richmond Museum signed official documents with the city to facilitate repairs.
- Melinda, current director of museum may come in September to talk about history museum on 4th and Nevin, and Red Oak victory
- Board has discussed how to honor George Coles, discussed making a donation to Richmond museum so they can include his Brook's Island research. Motion to make a donation of \$500 to facilitate unanimous vote in favor of donation for George Cole.
- Cleanup day is on Saturday August 29 in front of Washington School. Event is cosponsored by the City, Republic Services and PRNC. 7am 11am, until dumpsters are full
- Laconia has asked to present current plans to PRNC in October - there will be no voting at that meeting

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

Most people have received the newsletter but some people did not receive it this month. If you have not received the newsletter, please let Charmain know so they can make corrections to email distribution.

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

Current balances: \$3,697.71, Benevolent Fund; \$2,970.94, Wig Wag Fund; \$5,900.47, General Fund.

6. **Land Use/Design Review Committee** - no projects were presented or discussed.

7. **How Medical Emergencies are Handled Since Closing of the Doctor's Medical Center** - Battalion Chief Oscar Jones: When someone calls 911, the fire department located closest to the incident will respond. Usually the fire department arrives within two minutes of a 911 call, and they act as the first responders. They stabilize the patient, administer first aid, CPR, and use defibrillators. Generally paramedics arrive in an ambulance within 8-9 minutes. Paramedics administer injections and deliver medication. Heart attack and immediate stabilization patients are transported to Kaiser since it is the closest medical facility. The closest stroke facility is Marin General. Sutter Solano in Vallejo and Alta Bates and Summit also work with stroke patients. If there is a mass casualty activation, meaning more than 6-10 individuals need immediate care, Kaiser will shut down their emergency room and "go on bypass." The Sheriff's office will find the next nearest facility to transport patients. Usually this means patients are taken to Alta Bates, Highland, Summit, and possibly Marin General.

8. **Contra Costa Jail Expansion** - The Contra Costa County sheriff proposes expanding the West Contra Costa Detention Facility, located by Point Pinole, from a facility of 190 beds to 440 beds. Grant money provided by the state will fund about 90% of the construction costs with the expectation the construction will support mental health services. When presented to the Richmond City Council, specific details were not clear. It appears 80% of overall building construction costs are for jail beds, and 20% for treatment space. The state will provide \$80 million one time construction, the county will have to commit to 10% of total construction costs plus all future operational costs. The Sheriff's budget indicates expensive programs will be outsourced, and \$4.4 million from the general fund will pay for 6 new deputies. This plan is opposed by Richmond City

Council, John Gioia, Loni Hancock, and Chief Magnus. Motion presented to have the PRNC send a letter saying the council opposes the expansion of the detention facility; unanimous votes to support sending a letter in opposition of the expansion.

9. Saving our Bee Population, Christine Volker - Populations of bees are dying because of pesticides and herbicides. Some pesticides and herbicides are not immediately toxic, but may be cumulatively toxic after bees are repeatedly exposed. We can help bees by reducing and eliminating our use of pesticides, herbicides, and neonicotinoids. Neonicotinoids can accumulate in flowers and then poison bees. When you buy plants at a nursery or an outdoor garden supply store, make sure to read the labels and avoid neonicotinoids. Oslo, Norway has created a “bee highway,” by providing bees a place to land every 800 feet. There are excellent resources online to give guidance about what plants are most beneficial, how to mass plantings for year round blooms, how to register your garden and more.

10. Committee Reports and Announcements from Point Richmond Non-Profits

- **Business Association**, Margaret Jordan - picnic in park in October. A brewery is going to open called “East Brother Brewery” on Canal over by the Waste Water Treatment Plant.
- **Knit and Such**, Altha Humphrey - community center is open, but they still cannot make reservations. Next meeting is Wednesday, September 2nd at 53 Crest Ave from 1-3pm.
- **Arts of Point Richmond**, Altha Humphrey - New exhibit is displayed in the post office and at El Sol. Looking forward to a Christmas Show. Arts of Point Richmond is a small group with 52 members.
- **Womens West Side Improvement**, Linda Newton, president - First meeting is coming up in September. Lunch is at 11:30, the meeting starts at 12:05. General cleanup at the Triangle Garden to follow after the neighborhood cleanup day on Saturday, August 29th from 10-12.
- **Richmond Tennis**, Garry Hurlbut - the new court is done, nets to be installed. Top two men's singles played off, with seating available from the future garden area. The garden area’s hardscaping has started seeing progress. Tots’ Tennis on Saturday for 3-6 year olds.
- **Richmond Smart Lighting Coalition**, Jordan DeStaebler: update on street lights: Many people in the city were on vacation, but they have advised that dimming of lights in Zone 1 will start next week.
- **History Association**, Mid Dornan- deadline for newsletter is Friday. Send to me or Garry. Have a process of putting together a kiosk plan, and maybe getting estimates for cost, will come back to PRNC asking for money. On 26th of Sept, Church = art auction on Cutting Blvd from 4-7.
- **Masquers**, Kathe Kiehn - new play starts on Friday, “The Real Thing”
- **People for Healthy Shoreline**, Pete Bingham - The Terminal 1 Development is a 330 unit development at Ferry Point, next to the park. Laconia (the developer) is meeting with the city manager and planning department. They are submitting plans and drawings on September 2nd to prepare for the September 16th planning session which is open to the public. The more participation from neighbors, the better. Drawings will be on the city’s website as soon as they are available. Still waiting for story poles to be erected.

11. Open Forum

- Cordell Hindler - outreach coordinator. Special announcement - Youth Leadership committee! New initiative involving high school seniors building leadership.
- Maureen Decombe - Announcing a new opportunity working collaboratively with Richmond Trees to plant trees at several locations in Point Richmond. Looking for volunteers in September or October to replace trees lost to disease and drought.
- Maureen Decombe - Many neighbors have expressed dismay and concern over spraying of Roundup at EBRP. Would like to dispel any rumors that there are “Round-Up Ready” plants being installed in the park. Many people have concerns about the wholesale spraying of Roundup in sensitive habitat area. Concerns have been elevated to EBRP regarding required public notices and communication with the neighborhood.

12. In Remembrance and Celebration/Adjourn - Louise Genosee, came to Richmond as a child, served in PTA before she moved away. Colleen Rienne, longtime Brickyard resident. Loraine Lathan, a long time PRNC member. Celebration of Camille Girard.

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 Meeting:

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



Meeting Highlights:



- ***Improvements at Miller Knox Regional Shoreline***
- ***News on Developments at Richmond Museum of History***
- ***Making Point Richmond a Butterfly Bonanza***



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

George Coles, Brooks Island, & the Richmond Museum of History

September 17, 2015

George Coles was a long time board member of the Richmond Museum Association, who was also a professional archaeologist in his career. George is best known as an archaeologist for conducting excavations on Brooks Island, located just off the Richmond bay shore in the San Francisco Bay. George lead the excavations on Brooks Island for years and over time amassed a huge collection of artifacts recovered from the site. The collection was held at Contra Costa College where George was a professor, until downsizing forced George to relocate the materials to his garage. Fast forward to about 2010 when archaeologists affiliated with University of California-Berkeley and San Francisco State University took interest in the collection. The professors secured a grant to support the cost of putting the collection into new archival quality bags and boxes, photographing the collection and creating an electronic inventory of all the objects.

The collection was stored at the California Archaeology lab at UCB until about 2013 at which time I was hired on as staff at the Richmond Museum of History. As I had been an archaeologist for a decade before moving into the museum field, I immediately saw the value of the Brooks Island collection and was committed to accessioning it into the Museum collection. The Native American section of the Museum's permanent exhibit was nearly 30 years old and woefully outdated as a result. The Richmond Museum accessioned the artifacts from Brooks Island into the permanent collection in order to use the material as the basis for our new exhibit about Native people in Richmond. We have enlisted the help of the Scientific Art Studio of Richmond to fabricate and build the exhibit. Your donation will help support the cost of designing, fabricating and installing the exhibit that will highlight George's work at Brooks Island. Please consider stopping by the museum to give your thoughts and opinions as the exhibit design and installation progresses into 2016.

By Melinda McCrary

Executive Director

Richmond Museum of History

Presented by The Point Richmond Business Association
Let's Grow Richmond & Washington Elementary Dad's Club

Sixth Annual

Picnic in the Point

Live Concert Grammy Nominated **Trout Fishing in America**
along with **Dana Louise & The Glorious Birds**

October 17th

FREE
ADMISSION

12 noon until 6 o'clock
Judge G. Carroll Park

W. Cutting Blvd. and S. Gerrard Blvd.

Food, Drinks & Fun Tickets

Advance Ticket Purchase \$20 for 25 tickets
can be purchased until October 16th @

Up & Under & **Smith Office Solutions**
2 West Richmond Ave. & 210 Washington Ave.

Benefiting ➤ Let's Grow Richmond ➤ Point Richmond
Business Association ➤ Washington Elementary PTA
➤ Richmond Swims ➤ PRAM (Parent Resources and More | Point Richmond)

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Let's Grow
Richmond Give Grow Gleam



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For More Info | David Schoenthal ★ 510.710.4621 ★ pointrichmondbusiness.com