

# ON POINT December 2019

### **Greetings from the PRNC!**

Hi all, hope you're enjoying a happy holiday season.

**November 16th** was the official opening of the Richmond San Rafael Bridge bike lane. I joined a large colorful crowd to peddle from The Point to San Rafael and back. It was a thrilling experience and unless you've seen the bridge from knee height—I ride supine on a recumbent tricycle—you may be surprised at the impressive elevation changes. Many pedestrians also took the opportunity to walk from Richmond to Marin.

**Brian Lewis and Jeff Vines** will be joining us to discuss BCARD's plans regarding the development of Laconia/Terminal One.

**Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council** is having their annual holiday gathering on Monday, December 9th from 6pm-9pm at the Senior Center at 2525 McDonald Avenue. Members from neighborhood councils from all over the city will be there; come out to meet new friends! Bring an unwrapped toy for the Police and Fire departments' holiday toy drive. More details are available on the flyer attached to the next page.

**Our next meeting** is going to be held on Wednesday, December 4 at 7:30 pm. We will NOT meet on the last Wednesday of November or December. If you cannot go to the RNCC's holiday party but if you would like to donate an unwrapped toy to the Richmond Police and Fire department's toy drive, please feel free to bring a toy to the December PRNC meeting and we will bring it to the RNCC holiday party for you.

Hilary Brown has been our awesome PRNC secretary since April 2015. Her term expires this coming spring, so we are looking for a volunteer to take over her position. She would like to pass the torch to the next volunteer in January 2020; if anyone is interested in filling in as secretary from January through April 2020 and/or if anyone would like to volunteer for the new term starting in May 2020, please reach out to Hilary Brown at (510) 326-5946 or email at <a href="mailto:hilarybrownie@hotmail.com">hilarybrownie@hotmail.com</a>. You can also reach out to me at <a href="mailto:pthelin1@yahoo.com">pthelin1@yahoo.com</a>.

Hope to see you at the December 4th meeting!

### 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.

# SEASONS GREETINGS YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COORDINATING COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL HOLIDAY GATHERING

WE ARE OFFERING AN INTERNATIONAL CUISINE THIS YEAR IN HOPE TO REFLECT OUR EVER-CHANGING NEIGHBORHOODS.

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2019

LOCATION:

CITY OF RICHMOND, SENIOR CENTER

2525 MACDONALD AVENUE

RICHMOND, CA, 94804

TIME:

6:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

PRESIDENTS AND MEMBERS OF ALL ACTIVE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS ARE WELCOME TO COME.

PLEASE BRING A NEW UN-WRAPPED TOY FOR THE RICHMOND FIRE & POLICE HOLIDAY PROGRAM.

"BUY A CHILD A BIKE" FOR \$49/HELMET INCLUDED

RICHMOND ROTARY WILL ALSO DONATE A BICYCLE UP TO \$5000 IN MATCHING FUNDS. MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO RICHMOND ROTARY CLUB.







### **Point Richmond Neighborhood Council** Wednesday, December 4, 2019, 7:30pm **Point Richmond Community Center**

PointRichmondNeighborhood@gmail.com

7:30	Call to order and approval of the minutes from the October 30, 2019 meeting	2 minutes	
7:32	Police Report, Richmond Police Department, Officer Joseph DeOrian	10 minutes	
7:42	President's Report, Peter Thelin	5 minutes	
7:47	Treasurer's Report, Buzz Baylis	2 minutes	
7:49	Membership Report, June Hight	2 minutes	
7:51	Secretary Position on PRNC: looking for a volunteer starting January 2020 Hilary Brown	2 minutes	
7:53	Trains in Miller Knox, Eric Zell	10 minutes	
8:03	Community Briefs (2 minutes each)  Point Richmond Table Tennis Club, Peter Thelin, (510) 326-8108  PR CERT, Edie Sellers and Shaun Partlow <a href="https://www.prcert.org/">https://www.facebook.com/prcert</a> USS Red Oak Victory Ship, Graham Perrett, (510) 234-1045  Richmond Tennis, Garry Hurlbut, (510) 547-8111 <a href="www.rta-ca.org">www.rta-ca.org</a> Magick Lantern, Kate Spaulding <a href="magickLantern.org">MagickLantern.org</a> , <a href="magick-lantern@att.net">magick-lantern@att.net</a> , (510) 232-2559  Arts of Point Richmond, Mary Lee Cole <a href="www.artsofpointrichmond.com/">www.artsofpointrichmond.com/</a> Women's Westside Improvement Club, Diane Diani, <a href="http://pointrichmond.com/wwic/">http://pointrichmond.com/wwic/</a>		
8:17	BCARD, Brian Lewis and Jeff Vines, Updates about Laconia / Terminal One Development	20 minutes	
<b>8:37</b>	Land Use/Design Review Committee  • No projects are being considered tonight  Items to be considered at the LUDRC meeting must be submitted to Rod Satre, Committee Chair, rdsatre@live.com, (510) 232-5059, at least 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.		
8:37	Community Briefs (2 minutes each)  Richmond Smart Lighting Coalition, <a href="https://richmondsmartlight.wixsite.com/website">https://richmondsmartlight.wixsite.com/website</a> Masquers Playhouse, Kathe Kiehn, <a href="https://www.masquers.org">www.masquers.org</a> Point Richmond History Association, Bonnie Jo Cullison, <a href="http://pointrichmondhistory.org/">http://pointrichmondhistory.org/</a> TRAC, Richmond Bay Trail, Bruce Beyaert, <a href="https://www.pointrichmond.com/baytrail">www.pointrichmond.com/baytrail</a> Point Richmond Business Association, Scott Harris <a href="https://www.pointrichmondbusiness.com">www.pointrichmondbusiness.com</a> Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council – Margaret Jordan <a href="http://richmondneighbors.org/">http://richmondneighbors.org/</a>		
8:49	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 in the Public Forum		
8:55	In Remembrance and Celebration/Adjourn		



### Point Richmond Neighborhood Council General Meeting Minutes Wednesday, October 30, 2019 PointRichmondNeighborhood@gmail.com

- 1. Called to Order and Approval of Minutes: Meeting was called to order at 7:34. Board members present: Peter Thelin, Buzz Baylis, Hilary Brown, and Charmain Tyler. Absent: Dave Bleckinger, June Hight, and Garry Hurlbut. Minutes from the previous meeting on September 25 were approved after an amendment to correct the spelling of Darlene Rios Drapkin's last name.
- 2. Police Report, Officer Marweg: We had 21 reports in the past month of which 14 were property crimes. There was also police reports involving a drunk driver, a driver with a suspended license, and a narcotics arrest. Crime statistics are looking pretty good and trending down. A member of the community observed to Officer Marweg that many people seem to run through red lights, particularly at certain intersections. Officer Marweg suggested sending an email to <a href="mailto:pdbeat1@richmondpd.net">pdbeat1@richmondpd.net</a>; this will email every beat officer including the captains, and we can suggest they keep an eye on certain intersections. Comment was made regarding the recent power shutdowns; some people did not receive emergency notifications.
- **3. President's Report, Peter Thelin:** No report tonight other than what was already mentioned in the president's letter included with the newsletter.
- **4. Treasurer's Report, Buzz Baylis:** We currently have \$4336 in our general fund. In the last month we collected \$150 in dues and \$70 in wig wag funds. The wig wag funds will be transferred to the Point Richmond History Association per our agreement
- **5. Membership Report, Buzz Baylis (on behalf of June Hight):** Currently we have 133 paid members. If you are not sure if you are current or if you would like to pay your dues for the new year, please contact June.
- 6. Secretary's Report, Hilary Brown: I have been the secretary since the spring of 2015 and have found this position to be rewarding and interesting. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time volunteering with the PRNC. My time on the PRNC allowed me to meet many wonderful people and learn a lot about how things work in the community. I feel like this allowed me to put down roots here in the Point. My term as PRNC Secretary expires in April 2020 and I need to find a replacement. I am hoping to find a replacement by January 2020 due to a new job and some additional personal obligations at home. If anyone is interested in taking over as the new PRNC secretary either for a few months in January through April, or to take over a full term starting in May 2020, please send me or Peter an email. This volunteer opportunity has been fun and interesting and I have met a lot of great people and learned a lot about some of our wonderful local organizations by coming to these meetings. If you know someone who might be interested in taking over as Secretary, please pass this information on to them.
- 7. Land Use Design Review Committee, Charmain Tyler: Tonight we considered a project at 225 Water Street. The scope of the project includes removing a deck on a house. The project has no impact on any neighbors or on the street, and although no neighbors came to the meeting the neighbors were informed and had no questions or concerns. The LUDRC accepted and recommended approving the project as presented. A motion was made to approve the project as it was approved by the LUDRC; motion passed with unanimous consent.
- 8. Emergency Room for Richmond, Nathan Stalnaker: Nathan represents a group of neighbors who are concerned about the impacts of the closure of Doctor's Medical Center and local access to emergency care. Alta Bates is scheduled to close in 2030, which will further limit the amount of acute care available. Kaiser has an emergency room, but they often have to divert ambulances due to lack of space which means that first responders have to decide if they take someone to Martinez or Berkeley. When someone needs immediate care, every minute counts. We do not have answers, but we want to encourage a discussion in the community. Comments and Questions:

- Comment: Frequently it seems faster to get to Oakland Summit than to get to Alta Bates.
- Question: What about Kaiser? A: A Berkeley Grad Student made a film about health care deserts. We know they exist, and we know that Kaiser needs to send some ambulances away. We have anecdotal evidence of people being sent away and dying in the back of an ambulance because they could not get to a hospital quickly enough. Local police, fire, and trades people have people in the community who are impacted by this and they have staff who see the impact of lack of emergency room care. Kaiser does not publish any statistics about how many patients they accept or what the rate of re-routing patients is. The arguments to close Doctors were financial; the revenue needed to keep it open was not politically feasible county-wide. In Alameda part of their sales tax goes to keeping Highland open, and Contra Costa doesn't have that. There were some measures that voters voted on, but that wasn't enough.
- Q: If finances are the problem, then how are we going to pay for this? A: We have one parcel tax that is still paying off old debt related to Doctor's; the remaining debt is mainly related to pensions & other financial commitments to staff, but that parcel tax will eventually expire and open up again. In addition, a property tax measure expired when Doctors closed. There may be other opportunities to raise revenue. Our coalition is not looking at revenue proposals, instead we are looking at existing revenue streams.
- Q: What is Kaiser's position on the lack of emergency care? A: Kaiser does not want to admit to any
  inadequacies and has said there is no emergency around emergency care. However, we have tried to
  investigate the frequency of diverted emergency care and Kaiser has been unwilling to provide data. We
  are hoping to push Sutter and Kaiser to address this directly.
- Q: Are discussions about building a new full service hospital with walk-ins and ambulance care? A: We
  are talking about a public hospital that conforms to CA values and CA laws. Stand alone public
  Emergency Rooms are allowed in the state, perhaps because of liability issues. On the other hand, a
  public hospital could be built by taxpayers; we cannot force a private business to build somewhere and
  we see a need for a hospital here.
- We will hold a Town Hall Meeting on Saturday, November 9th at 11:00 at the Craneway Pavilion. We will show the film mentioned earlier, and there will be a panel discussion lead by Dr. William Walker who ran County Health Services for 40 years. More info is available here: https://www.whensecondscountrichmond.com/
- 9. US Census 2020, Darlene T Drapkin: The task of carrying out the US Census is a huge effort and enormously significant to all of our lives. California is planning to spend \$200 million to help fund the census. This is the biggest peacetime mobilization in the US and it happens only once every ten years. Why is the census so important? First, it is central to our democracy! Although the census is a national movement, it matters locally. If it is determined California lost residents to neighboring states, then we risk losing a congressional seat. There are \$675 billion in federal funding that is distributed throughout the country, and some of these funds are distributed based on population size. This is why it is so important to make sure all of our residents are counted. The census works in part by taking a snapshot of the US population. They want to know our population as of April 1st of the year 2020. In March we will start voting primaries, and we will also get information about the census. Four mailings will go out to every single home and we will get reminders to register. The last census in 2010 was filled out by hand; this census will be automated. It will be available in 13 languages and there will be visual guides in 59 languages. The hard-to-count community is going to be a challenge. Within Contra Costa County, the hard to count community is estimated to be about 42% of the community. In San Pablo we expect 72% of the population will not answer the census; there are many people who have suspicions about government and who do not want to fill out the census form. We are just getting started with the census. In the past, we have about 75% of the total responses we will get from the census by the end of April, and we will know what addresses have not responded and at that point we will start going to knock on doors to follow up on non-responses. We are looking for people to assist with the non-response follow-ups. We want everyone to be counted, and we have found some people are harder to count. Children are frequently under-counted, or people are in complex living situations (moving between mom, dad, and foster care), veterans and seniors, and un-housed people are hard to count. We are trying to make it easy for people to respond; our goal is to get a complete count. Every person that works for the Census says an oath for privacy. We do not share any info with landlords or with Homeland security. The census ends in August. We only have a few months to count the people who are difficult to count, and frequently the people who are hardest to count are the people who benefit most from government services like WIC, housing, and schools. Since we have a need to count the hard-to-count populations, we are

offering great jobs! The work is easy, flexible, part time, and basically involves whatever hours you want to work. They are going to need people to start working in January, and the goal is to hire people from the communities where they will find hard to count people. If you know someone interested, please see our website for more info about jobs: <a href="https://www.2020census.gov/jobs">www.2020census.gov/jobs</a>

### 10. Community Briefs

- Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council, Cordell Hindler: The next RNCC meeting is on November 18th at 7pm in Council Chambers; refreshments prior to the meeting will be provided by Richmond Annex & Marina Bay. The RNCC Holiday Party is on December 13<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at the Richmond Senior Center; bring a toy to donate, there will be lots of food!
- PRBA, Cordell Hindler: Masquerade Mixer is being held tonight at the new "514 Lounge" in El Cerrito.
- TRAC, Bruce Beyaert: There will be a ribbon cutting on Saturday, November 16 at 10:00 at 961 Stenmark Drive, just off the bike/pedestrian path at Point Molate to celebrate the opening of the Bay Trail across the Richmond-San Rafael bridge. This segment of the Bay Trail has been in planning and construction process for over 5 years and the result is a wider trail than was originally planned. It will be a 10 foot wide multi-use trail with a wall between the trail and traffic. The trail from the Point to Castro to the Bridge is permanent, but the trail across the bridge itself is a 4 year pilot project and if there is insufficient use then it may be changed. If you like it, use it! Q: Are both directions available on the bridge trail? A: Yes, users can go east or west on the bridge. The barrier separating the trail from traffic is moveable, although not as easily movable as the Golden Gate Bridge barrier. It is intended to be semi-permanent and will only be moved for maintenance projects. Q: Is there an accounting or method of keeping track of the use of the bike path? A: yes, there will be counters keeping track of pedestrians and cyclists. Exact bridge use will be monitored and reported. Q: Is there a special parking area to use the bridge? A: unfortunately, we do not have special dedicated parking to use the bridge. Q: Is there a limit to the type of vehicles that can use the bike and trail over the bridge? A: Electric scooters are controversial, so the use of scooters has not been determined yet; however, electric bikes will be allowed to use this trail. Roller blades, pedestrians, and traditional bikes are all acceptable.
- Point Richmond History Association, Kathe Kiehn: The history association's next newsletter is coming
  out in a few weeks. Buzz mentioned earlier that the History Association has taken over the Wig Wag
  Funds; Kathe is the treasurer of the PRHA and is keeping an accounting of those funds.
- Masquers Playhouse, Kathe Kiehn: Masquers is now in the permitting process! As soon as permits have been granted by the city, we will be ready to start construction. We already have a construction contractor ready to begin on the repairs. There is one event happening in December: a sing-along White Christmas, the film White Christmas will play at Bridge Storage Space at 1pm and 7pm, on December 7<sup>th</sup> and there will be a Santa and sing along.
- Women's Westside Improvement Club, Diane Diani: Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. Our guest speaker will be Matt Holmes, the executive director of Groundwork Richmond, an environmental organization that provides leadership opportunities through the management and improvement of land resources. Last Friday was our big workday in the triangle and map gardens. The Haunted History Walk was a success; we had 18 people come out. Our retired webmaster designed a postcard that highlighted the volunteers who help keep our gardens looking great.
- Arts of Point Richmond, David Cole: New exhibit at El Sol will run from October 28 through January 27<sup>th</sup>. Exhibit is called "Critters!" and features a collection of oil paintings by Jeanne M. Hendrickson and photographs by Sharon Taylor-Ward. This combination of whimsical animal portraits brings a light-hearted relief from our complicated modern world. The Post Office will also feature a new exhibit starting on November 11<sup>th</sup> with oil paintings. Finally, on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 11am 4:30pm here at the Community Center we will hold our annual Holiday Faire! This is a great place to get holiday gifts made by local artists, and a great way to support our local arts community. There will be live music, a crafts table for kids, and home-made cookies!
- Magick Lantern, Kate Spaulding: Last month's movie had 50 people come out to see "Paula" and the guest speaker who spoke about the history of art. This month we are featuring "The Silence of Others," a documentary about Spain under the rule of Franco and the pact to forget about the crimes committed during that time by the legislative bodies. Since 1975 they have refused to prosecute anyone in the Franco regime. This is a moving story about people who lost loved ones when they were children and how they are still finding mass graves and bodies from this time. In other news, Magick Lantern recently won a mini-grant to replace our screen and upgrade our equipment! Memberships are available for

people who want to support us; please visit our website for more information (<u>MagickLantern.org</u>). Finally, we have a request to partner with the PRNC to urge the city to remove the requirement that chairs be put away each time the Community Center is used.

- Red Oak Victory, Graham Perrett: Our last pancake breakfast of the year was held on October 13. We are holding a special event on Saturday, November 9th to celebrate the Red Oak Victory's birthday, the 75th anniversary of the launching! We will have a swing band, guests are invited to wear costumes from 1944, and there will be dinner and music. Tickets for music only will cost \$25, dinner will cost \$50 per guest. Thursday night classic movies continue on November 21 with "The Bridge Over the River Kwai." Movie starts at 7pm, boarding at 6:30. Winter hours start in November with tours from 10-3.
- Point Richmond CERT, Kate Spaulding: Workshops and demonstrations on preparing your family and home for emergencies will be held here in the Community Center on November 9th from 1-4pm. We will review how to prepare go-bags, turning off utilities, preparing and storing food and water, and preparing houses for any event. The workshops are free and there will be free gadgets to give away. If you are interested in coming, please sign up at PRCert.org.
- Point Richmond Table Tennis Club, Peter Thelin: We are still holding our table tennis tournaments on the first and third Sundays at Riggers Loft. Last Sunday we had three people come out but we have had as many as 12 or 13. It's free, it's fun, and it is from 3pm until whenever we all leave. This is a fun activity for adults and is very relaxed and non-competitive.

### 11. Open Forum

- Cordell Hindler: (1) Everyone is invited to attend the Council of Industries monthly luncheon on November 6<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 1:30, but attendees must RSVP by November 4<sup>th</sup>. The luncheon will feature Congressman Mark DeSaulnier and a discussion about infrastructure. This luncheon is free for attendees. (2) The Contra Costa Mayors Conference will be held on November 7<sup>th</sup> at the Berkeley Country Club; speaker is Bob Powers who is the new general manager from Bart and who will talk about projects they are working on. RSVP by October 30th, tickets are \$55 per person. (3) Suggestions for the December meeting including inviting the interim city manager Steven Falk to introduce himself and discuss current city projects. Suggestion for January meeting: Yenny Garcia vice chair from the Community Police Review Commission to talk about how to submit a complaint form about a police officer.
- Sally Tobin: Sally is a member of the Point Molate Alliance which is interested in the future development of Point Molate. This coming Tuesday, November 5 is important because the City Council is considering a proposal to bring actions that were made behind closed doors out into public. Without going into all the legal ramifications, they are putting a bandaid on something that needs hospitalization. The city was trying to shoehorn people into accepting at least 650 units but now they are trying to put in 1200 units. The problem with putting in 1200 units is that Richmond residents will be subsidizing these units to provide the infrastructure, and we have heard that 3000-4000 units have been discussed. There are problems with ingress and egress, emergency services, fire, and problems with liability. We are advocating for housing at locations where we already have transportation and other infrastructure. If you are interested and would like to support thoughtful development of Point Molate, please consider coming to the City Council meeting on November 5.
- Charmain Tyler: Charmain has been decorating and updating the PRNC window on the kiosk by the Point Richmond History Association. Every time Charmain is there, people stop and ask questions and seem interested in what we do here. Charmain is ready to move on, and Sue Rosenoff arranged our October display which includes caution tape, spooky things, and she made it look great! Thank you to Sue for taking on this task. Finally, please note that we will not have a November meeting, and instead we will hold our traditional November/December combined meeting on December 4th.
- **12.** In Remembrance and Celebration/Adjourn: Sally's mother Evelyn Tobin passed away on October 9th. She was 97, she lived in Port Angeles, Washington, and she contributed greatly to her community. She was known for her community work, she used her inheritance from her father to give students music scholarships, she did a lot of volunteer work. She will be greatly missed and fondly remembered.

### 13. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 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.

	□ New	□ Individual	
	□ Renewal	□ Household	
Name			
Mailing Address			
Telephone		e-mail	
Date			



# Point Richmond Neighborhood Council Meeting: December 4, 2019, 7:30 p.m. Point Richmond Community Center

- Monday, December 9th, 6-9pm the RNCC's annual holiday celebration at Richmond Senior Center (see flyer insert) Toy drive and bike fundraiser
- **Friday, December 13th,** 7:30pm: **Magick Lantern** is showing the 5th Annual Short Film Competition! At the Point Richmond Community Center
  - Saturday, December 14th, 11 am 4:30pm: Arts of Point Richmond

Holiday Faire! Kids craft table, music and entertainment, home-made treats, a raffle, and lots of art from local artists

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