



ON POINT *November-December 2020*



Once again, we will be beaming our next PRNC meeting directly into the electronic device of your choice!

I hope you all had a nice “socially distanced” Thanksgiving. The Annual Point Richmond Turkey Shoot was still held, albeit virtually, and it was nice to see the tradition continued.

- The next General Meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on Wednesday, 12/9 “splitting the difference” between the holidays. For Halloween, our two VPs, June Hight and Dave Bleckinger, in partnership with the folks at PRAM, helped put on a Halloween scavenger hunt. It sounds like it was a success and June will tell us all about it.
- Robert Lane has graciously agreed to discuss the philanthropic Gateway Foundation, its background and this year's grant winners.
- Leisa Johnson and Daniel Barth will also be on hand for a further discussion regarding the Homeless Safe Parking proposal.



How would you like to get more involved in your community? Why not become a member of the PRNC Board? Join our friendly group; there are plenty of fun jobs to choose from: Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice President.

To be honest, the role of secretary is almost certainly more important than President (I'm just a figurehead). The role of treasurer is an indispensable position also, responsible for the PRNC's pursestrings. And, for some reason we always seem to need a spare Vice President. (Sorry, I don't know what a 2nd VP does -- bouncer?)

As a volunteer, you won't be paid, but think of the warm feeling you'll get from helping to help bring news of local importance to your neighbors' attention. Plus, you can put **Secretary PRNC** (or whatever position you choose) after your name on your emails! That in itself brings untold clout to all of your correspondence.

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.



Wednesday, December 9, 2020, 7:30pm
Virtual Meeting via Zoom (see access info in email)
PointRichmondNeighborhood@gmail.com



AG E N D A

- 7:30 *Call to order and approval of minutes from October 28, 2020* 2 minutes
- 7:32 *President's Report, Peter Thelin* 10 minutes
- 7:42 *Treasurer's Report, Buzz Baylis* 2 minutes
- 7:44 *Membership Report, June Hight* 1 minute
- 7:45 *Update on NextDoor, Facebook, PayPal Accounts, and the PRNC Website* 5 minutes
June Hight, Buzz Baylis
- 7:55 *Recap of Halloween scavenger hunt and costume contest, June Hight* 5 minutes
- 8:00 *Gateway Foundation, Robert Lane* 10 minutes
- 8:10 *Community Briefs, Part 1 (2 minutes each)* 12 minutes
- *Masquers Playhouse, Carl Smith, www.masquers.org*
 - *Point Richmond Table Tennis Club, Peter Thelin (510) 326-8108*
 - *Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council, Cordell Hindler, <http://richmondneighbors.org>*
 - *Richmond Tennis, Garry Hurlbut (510) 547-8111 www.rta-ca.org*
 - *USS Red Oak Victory Ship, Graham Perrett, www.redoakvictory.us.*
 - *Women's Westside Improvement Club, Diane Diani <http://pointrichmond.com/wwic>*
- 8:22 *Land Use Design Review Committee (LUDRC)* 10 minutes
- *700 Ocean Ave, Lot line adjustment*
- Items to be considered at the LUDRC meeting must be submitted to Rod Satre, Committee Chair, at rdsatre@live.com, (510) 232-5059, at least two weeks prior to the General Membership meeting.*
The LUDRC meets monthly prior to the PRNC General Membership meeting at 6:00 pm.
- 8:32 *Update on Homeless Parking Issue*
- *Leisa Johnson* 5 minutes
 - *Daniel Barth* 5 minutes
 - *Q & A* 10 minutes
- 8:52 *Community Briefs, Part 2 (2 minutes each)* 12 minutes
- *PR CERT, Edie Alderette-Sellers, (510) 703-2870 edie@prcert.org*
 - *Point Richmond Business Association, Cordell Hindler, www.pointrichmondbusiness.com*
 - *Point Richmond History Association, Bonnie Jo Cullison, <http://pointrichmondhistory.org>*
 - *Arts of Point Richmond, Mary Lee Cole, www.artsofpointrichmond.com*
 - *TRAC, Richmond Bay Trail, Bruce Beyaert, www.pointrichmond.com/baytrail*
 - *PRAM*
- 9:04 *Public Forum (3 speakers, 2 minutes each)* 6 minutes
Please sign up in advance with June Hight (pointrichmondneighborhood@gmail.com)

9:10 In Remembrance and Celebration.

If you have something to add, please contact June Hight (pointrichmondneighborhood@gmail.com).



**Point Richmond Neighborhood Council
General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 28, 2020
PointRichmondNeighborhood@gmail.com**

PRNC General Membership Meeting

Board Members present:

Dave Bleckinger, 1st Vice President
June Hight, Membership Chair and 2nd Vice President
Buzz Baylis, Treasurer
Charmain Tyler, Secretary
Garry Hurlbut, Member at Large

Absent: Peter Thelin, President

1. Call to order and approval of minutes, Dave Bleckinger

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm.

Discussion of approval of minutes from September 30, 2020. June said there are some minor corrections and will forward the email.

Motion made and seconded to approve minutes except for minor corrections.

In favor: All

Opposed: None

Motion passes.

2. President's report, Dave Bleckinger

Dave explained about our Zoom meeting getting bombed by people not in PRNC. This is why Garry is being a gatekeeper and asking for people's names before letting them in to the meeting.

Please read Peter's report in the newsletter. He is away with family matters.

June will be talking about our scavenger hunt. Maxquers will not present tonight but will present next meeting. Buzz is ready to talk about his family's history. His family came over on the Mayflower. Sally will give an update about Pt. Molate. We have a discussion with Daniel Barr partnering with the City to provide safe parking for homeless people in Richmond. Please note that we are aware of the signs on the firehouse in Point Richmond and we reached out to the City about it. Mayor Butt said they are in negotiations with fire fighters, and there is no plan to close the fire house.

3. Treasurer's report, Buzz Baylis

Buzz said some money came in, but it has been slow lately. We have over \$5,000 in the account.

4. Membership report, June Hight

We have 62 active members. You can go to the website and use the PayPal option. Only active members can vote on the issues at the meeting. We do give out waivers if dues are a hardship.

June reminded us that we are recording this meeting.

5. PRNC + PRAM Children's Halloween Scavenger Hunt and Costume Contest, June Hight

With PRAM we came up with a safe Halloween option. Look at the calendar on the website for options of what to do for Halloween. We are having a scavenger hunt. People can decorate their homes with items that are on the list of items the children will be looking for. She read the description from the website. If you have children you can see the flyers on the website. It's all day, from 8:00 am. Email pictures of your decorations, costumes, and scavenger hunt items, and you might win a prize.

6. Community Briefs, Part 1 (2 minutes each)

- **Masquers Playhouse, Carl Smith, www.masquers.org**

On Friday, Saturday, and Sunday we will have our Radio Play. It's the hyjinx of a mad scientist. Pay what you can. It's Friday at 8:00, Saturday at 2:00, and Sunday at 5:00. The Kona Ice truck will be parked in front, and 25% of the proceeds will benefit the theater. We are entering our holiday giving campaign. If you are on the mailing list you can give a gift to Masquers. Donate to live theater in Point Richmond. It's been a fantastic year for Masquers.

- **Point Richmond Table Tennis Club, Dave Bleckinger**

They are taking time off until December, while Peter attends to family matters.

- **Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council, Cordell Hindler**

They had a good turnout at the last meeting, with Daniel Barth as the speaker. The next meeting will be November 9 via Zoom.

- **Richmond Tennis, Garry Hurlbut**

We are having tennis practice every night. You have to wear a mask, except on the court. We play only singles. No one has Covid. 5 teams are now playing world class teams. Some teams are going to national qualifiers in the spring. We are really glad people are able to get out and stay safe.

- **USS Red Oak Victory Ship, Graham Perrett**

The Red Oak is still afloat. We are trying to save it. We are now open again according to county regulations with self guided tours. We can accommodate about 30 people at a time, at only \$10 each. Please come and visit. Last weekend we had 120 people for "Bring the Boys Home" celebration. We hope to see you all on board soon.

- **Women's Westside Improvement Club, Diane Diani**

We are waiting until it's safe to meet. The Bishop at the church won't allow us to open yet. When we get the OK we will meet again.

7. Land Use Design Review Committee, Charmain Tyler

- **Contra Costa Town Homes, 232 Contra Costa Street**

Charmain summarized the meeting that was held today, at 6:00 pm. This was a project started in 2007, and is now restarting again. There are 6 units on the upper level and 3 units on the lower level, with garages and parking spaces. These are modular homes. They do not block anyone's view. They will need to come back to put dimensions in the drawings, show other houses on the drawings, show a light/shade study for neighboring houses, and show a drainage study. They will also be putting up story poles and will be visiting with the neighbors. They will let us know when they are ready for the next visit. June said the plans are on our website.

There was a general discussion about the location.

8. Recap and Discussion of Safe Parking Presentation, June Hight

Dave explained that there was a meeting by the City and SOS. Unfortunately the notice of the meeting came out very late. We tried to get the information out about the meeting details. We want to follow up with a summary of that meeting. Let us know that you have a comment by putting it in Chat and we can call on you from the Chat.

June attended part of the meeting and repeated that the City did not provide any notice that the meeting was going to take place. The PRNC actually received notice of the meeting through Daniel Barth of SOS. Basically, Michele Milam, City of Richmond Crime Prevention, said there is \$500,000 available for funding a site for RV's to park. The plan includes a site manager, laundry facilities, security, and background checks. It requires a paved lot and a limit of 30 vehicles. The City will lose funding if we cannot locate a site. This is being limited to people who previously lived in Richmond. They are considering multiple locations, one of which is the corner of Seaclyff and Canal. More than

100 residents attended the meeting. Many people are opposed to this location. No neighbors were in favor of it. Another location should be chosen. After the meeting Vice Mayor Nat Bates said another location will be chosen. Leisa Johnson was able to notify some people about this meeting.

Neighbors discussed:

- Vice Mayor Nat Bates said that June provided a good summary of what took place. He said this project has been terribly miscommunicated. He apologized to the PRNC for prior statements blaming the PRNC for not knowing about this meeting in advance.
- Leisa Johnson said she wanted to get more understanding of what work was done to date. She met with Michele Milam and reviewed about 25 sites. They were hoping to use a site that was already City owned. They want to review all the sites and make a decision soon. They will be presenting to the City Council. They want to find the sites that will work best. They need to take the time to get better buy in from the community. Lwisa encouraged people to get involved and offered her email in Chat.
- Philip Rosenthal thanked Nat Bates and Leisa Johnson for their input. He mentioned that we do already have homeless encampments. One is near the elementary school. There are no restrooms and no place to put trash. It's a good idea to move people like this to a new lot with facilities.
- Chris Cook thanked the PRNC Board. He said when he got the notice he felt that things were poorly communicated. He hopes that the PRNC will notify people of anything happening.
- Cordell Hindler agreed there is a need for safe parking. When he was at the Hilltop Council they were concerned about having it at a church. \There is a possible site in North Richmond off of Chelsea Street.
- Rick Willis said he is not opposed to the idea but needs more information from the City.
- Mary Lee Cole commented that there are permanent car residents near where she lives on East Richmond. Usually they are tidy, but some of them dump their garbage for someone else to pick up. There are no sanitation services. She is grateful that Mr. Bates was here to get an idea of what's going on in Pt. Richmond. It affects all of us and our quality of life.
- Don Woodrow wondered if the group that is planning this includes the people who will be served. Are there homeless voices in the planning group? It would be a good idea to get some insight from one of the people affected by this. For example, the homeless need to be near services and buses. Don said he is glad to see Nat Bates at this meeting. This is the only time he has attended a PRNC meeting.

Dave said that we have the option of taking a motion on this subject or let the City continue their work first.

June made a motion that we should do nothing about this at this time. We should wait and monitor the situation.

It was moved and seconded.

In favor: All

Opposed: None

9. Point Molate Update, Sally Tobin and Norman LaForce

The history of Point Molate was with the Ohlone Indians, and it was a fuel depot in WWII. Most Richmond residents wanted to use it for recreation and parkland, but the City is pushing for development. We believe that public land should remain public, and not be privatized. The Community Plan, which is environmentally superior, has a smaller footprint and contains soccer fields. The infrastructure is cheaper and the Ohlone would participate in the planning process. The City Plan has residential units, with incomes of \$250,000 required for purchase. East Bay Regional Park declined to organize the park there because of the fire danger. With the City Plan, there will be increased greenhouse gases and 50-60% of the site will be bulldozed, trees removed. Sewer lines will be taken under Highway 580 to the existing sewage plant.

Norman LaForce talked about the pending lawsuits. There are actually 2 lawsuits. One is from the City being required to do certain things according to the State of California. The City entered into making land use decisions

when it entered into the casino development with the tribe. That is still pending. On September 8 the environmental impact report was approved. There are many issues that cannot be mitigated. One lawsuit is brought by Point Molate Alliance, Sierra Club, and Audubon. The City violated the environmental impact. It is an extremely high fire danger zone, and there is a problem with the eel grass which will be damaged by this development. The Northcoast Fisheries crab boat owners are also against the environmental impact report. The City is facing major issues. It should not have been approved. It will cost in litigation fees and millions of dollars will be lost in infrastructure costs. The City will be losing money. The City is trying to justify why they are going to spend millions of dollars.

Joe Puleo commented that the City gives away public property for pennies. Terminal One was supposed to be sold for \$10 millions. Now the City is going to give back the funds. And it will be only 6 million dollars. The City has already given back money for the fire station. There are many other public facilities. Point Molate will land up being zero money for the City of Richmond. It is a financial loser.

Philip Rosenthal said that all these things affect our neighborhood. Board Members are using money for their own gain. The Point Apartments behind Mechanics Bank is on City land. They sold it cheaply. This was a huge profit for the owners, who were on the Board of the Gateway Foundation. The Point Molate situation sounds familiar. If we couldn't get organized about the Point Apartments, how are we going to get organized about Point Molate?

10. America's 400th Anniversary, Buzz Baylis

Buzz recently attended a celebration of his ancestors. He is the 9th generation from people who came over on the Mayflower. On November 9, 1629, the people on board the Mayflower spotted land on their trip from Plymouth, England. That was 400 years ago. The Mayflower and another ship tried to leave England at the same time. The other ship, the Speedwell, couldn't quite make it, so after 3 weeks of trying, they moved those passengers over to the Mayflower, adding 60 more passengers. They now had 102 passengers. The Mayflower was 100 feet long. The passengers had a space of about 80 feet by 20 feet for 102 people.

They went across the North Atlantic, encountering many storms. On November 8 they spotted land. They were supposed to be heading for North Virginia, but they made it to the Hudson River, at what would become the New York City Harbor. They tried to sail south but encountered bad weather. They made it back to the shelter of Cape Cod, which was surrounded by sand dunes. This is where they founded Plymouth Colony. They lived on the Mayflower until Spring of 1621, while houses were being built. The ground was frozen so they couldn't grow crops.

They encountered some natives who showed them how to get through the winter. The Pilgrims had diseases and many people died that first year. They lost half the crew and half the Pilgrims that year. They elected William Bradford to be Governor, who was Buzz's 9th great grandfather. They governed by a charter, which was the outline for governing until 1789, when we had a new constitution. The sitting Governor Bradford invited the natives to have a gathering and he called it the feast of thanksgiving. This is where it began in November 1621. It wasn't a national holiday until 1863, under President Roosevelt.

11. Community Briefs, Part 2

- ***PRBA, Cordell Hindler***

Halloween events are coming up. They are going to have a spooky tea.

- ***Point Richmond History Association, Karen Buchanan***

We recently re-opened our little museum. Now 1 or 2 visitors can come in. Our Haunted History Hike starts there. The museum will be open all day. The hike is sold out. All proceeds will be donated to Masquers. Live actors will play the history of Point Richmond.

- ***Arts of Point Richmond, Mary Lee***

A new artist, Mindy Pines, is showing her work in the post office window. Her photographs capture the flavor and culture of Richmond. It is colorful and fun and shows different points of view.

12.Masquers, A Taste of Their Halloween Radio Play

Dave let us know that Masquers will present in December and will give us their update then.

13.Public Forum

- June said the planning for the new Chevron gas station looks really good. TRAC was at the meeting and asked for money to help build the bike trail across Cutting. The new kiosk will increase traffic. They will add bike racks.
- Cordell Hindler had some suggestions for January. Yenny Garcia speaks for the community police. City Manager Laura speaks about what's going on in the City.

14.In Remembrance and Celebration

- Philip wants to send thoughts and prayers to Peter and Sue, especially for the next couple of days.
- Dave's grandmother is 101 and has Coronavirus. She was doing well then she took a turn for the worse. We hope she will remain comfortable.
- Carl Smith suggested that for the next week, we give people grace and space. As things become more stressful, there will be a lot of negativity. Let's show love, peace, and hope. Do something to take care of yourself. Encourage people.

15.In closing, Dave said thank you for the thoughtful discussion. Carl is encouraging us to support each other. Thank you to Leisa for trying to find a good solution on homeless parking. Thank you Buzz for sharing your family history.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Charmain Tyler, PRNC Secretary



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
General Membership Meeting***

***See you online via ZOOM
Wednesday, December 9, 7:30 pm***

PRNC will send access info to members via email.

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

Arts of Point Richmond is pleased to present a special ONLINE Holiday Faire, featuring unique gifts created by its members. While we are all disappointed that restrictions prevented the popular annual event from taking place in person this year, this is a great alternative to finding those special art gifts!

Just go to our special online Faire store page: <https://store.artsofpointrichmond.org>.

Browse the offerings and contact the individual artists directly for purchases.

Happy Shopping!

You are cordially invited...



2020 ONLINE HOLIDAY FAIRE



*Drawings, Jewelry,
Paintings, Photographs, Books,
Textile Art, & much more!*



Please go to our special online store page
<https://store.artsofpointrichmond.org>

Browse for unique gifts created by AOPR members,
and please share the news with your friends
and family.

Have a Happy and Safe Holiday Season!!!

Like us on
Facebook

Claudia Ramaldi ©2020