



On Point

January 2023



Happy New Year Friends and Neighbors!

Here's hoping that 2023 brings you and our community health and happiness.

The board and I would like to start by sending our thoughts to those residents of Seacliff that have been relocated due to the potential landslide. The situation is being analyzed by engineers from both the city and the homeowner's association. Updates can be found at: <https://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/4447/EOC-Seaview-Incident-and-Additional-Stor>

Our first meeting this year will be on Wednesday the 25th at 7:30 pm ... returning us to our regular schedule of meeting the last Wednesday of the month. Our guest speaker will be **Cesar Zepeda**, fresh off his inauguration as our city council representative. He'll share his plans and hopes you will share your concerns.

The board is working with the city to plan the spring restoration of the **Ferry Point tunnel mural** next to The Plunge, a major project. The project is largely funded from a City of Richmond arts grant with the guidance of Winifred Day, the City's Arts and Culture manager.

Another exciting community project will be the tree and landscape maintenance project at the **Janice Playlot** on the corner of Nicholl and Washington to take place in spring. The property was originally purchased by the Baptist Community in 1903, and the simple, elegant church was erected. The playlot was named after the daughter of community leader Rose Curry. In 1908, the newly-formed Women's Westside Improvement Club assisted in beautifying the park. In 1910, the park was sold to the city for \$1. It became the first public playground in Richmond.

With a generous grant from the Gateway Foundation, the dangerous trees will be maintained, bushes and hedges made safer and groomed, and broken play structures restored. There will be a neighborhood clean-up and gardening day to supplement the professional effort. If you have an idea for a community project, please make suggestions, so we can search for funding.

Lastly, take a look at the **Arts of Point Richmond** installation at the post office. Glass, textile and other mixed media have been used to create a wonderful wetlands and seaside display by Becca Riley and Bonnie Leonard. We'll see you the 25th.

Philip Rosenthal

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
General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, January 25th at 7:30 pm
Virtual Meeting via Zoom (see access info in email)
PointRichmondNeighborhood@gmail.com



AGENDA

- | | | |
|-------------|---|-------------------|
| 7:30 | Call to order and approval of December 7, 2022 meeting minutes | 3 minutes |
| 7:33 | Police Report, Lieutenant Decious & Sergeant Patchin | 10 minutes |
| 7:43 | President's Report, Philip Rosenthal | 5 minutes |
| 7:48 | Treasurer's Report, Margi Sullivan | 1 minute |
| 7:49 | Membership Report, Buzz Baylis | 1 minute |
| 7:50 | District 2 City Councilmember Cesar Zepeda - Q&A | 45 Minutes |
| 8:35 | Community Briefs, Part 1 (2 minutes each) | 14 minutes |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PR CERT, Charmain Tyler, charmain.tyler@gmail.com, (510) 334-7267• Point Richmond Business Association, Karen Buchanan, pointrichmondbusiness.com• Point Richmond History Association, Bonnie Jo Cullison, pointrichmondhistory.org• Arts of Point Richmond, Mary Lee Cole, artsofpointrichmond.com• Magick Lantern, Kate Spaulding, MagickLantern.org, magick-lantern@att.net, (510)232-2559• PRAM, Chrissie Bradley, pram.net• HOA's in Brickyard Cove, Community | |
| 8:49 | Land Use Design Review Committee (LUDRC), Charmain Tyler | N/A |
| | <i>Project: none</i> | |
| | <i>Items to be considered at the LUDRC meeting must be submitted to Rod Satre, Committee Chair, at rdatre@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.</i> | |
| 8:49 | Community Briefs, Part 2 (2 minutes each) | 12 minutes |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Masquers Playhouse, Francis Smith, masquers.org• Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council, Cordell Hindler, richmondneighbors.org• Richmond Tennis and Hurlbut Benevolent Fund, Garry & Maryn Hurlbut, (510)547-8111• USS Red Oak Victory Ship, Graham Perrett, redoakvictory.us• Women's Westside Improvement Club, Diane Diani, pointrichmond.com/wwic• Table Tennis, Peter Thelin, pthelin1@yahoo.com or Greg Larson, gdi1mail@gmail.com | |
| 9:01 | Updates from Board Members / Q&A | 10 minutes |
| 9:11 | Public Forum (3 speakers, 2 minutes each) | 6 minutes |
| 9:17 | In Remembrance and Celebration | 5 minutes |
| 9:22 | Adjourn | |



Point Richmond Neighborhood Council General Meeting Minutes

Wednesday December 7, 2022

PointRichmondNeighborhood@gmail.com

Wed, Dec 07, 2022, 7:32PM

PRNC Officers present:

- President, Philip Rosenthal
- 1st Vice President Leisa Johnson
- Membership Chairman, Buzz Bayliss
- Secretary, Peter Thelin
- Member-at-large, Charmain Tyler

38 ZOOM Participants

Call to order and approval of minutes from October 26, 2022

Police Report:

Beat Officer. Sergeant Patchin and Lieutenant Donovan Decious of the Southern District Richmond Police Department.

Lieutenant Donovan Decious;

Crime analysis synopsis of the stats for the Point Richmond area for the past 60 days. We had a total of 40 police reports. Comparing year to year a 14% increase. We're understaffed down by about 30 to 40 officers. Those are positions that can be filled, just having trouble filling them.

Hopefully, this new contract is going to be beneficial and entice some new applicants to get new people in. Our problem is that we just don't have enough applicants applying for the positions. And that's a trend in law enforcement.

The impacts you'll see is that our investigation follow up on property crimes and some lower-level crimes, for lack of a better word has been decimated. We went from approximately 35 to 40 Investigators we're down to about 13. We don't have the manpower to go out and investigate property crimes where we don't have a suspect that's already named in crimes.

Without getting too political, our city council may not be pro police and get us to the staffing that the city the current city council will allow us to have. I came to Richmond PD and 2015. At that time, we had approximately 197 officers. We're currently staffed in the rough area of about 97. 30 new officers would get us to around 140 officers, right. My suggestion, if you want more officers then you need to let that be known to the city council.

Discussion of Ferry to Bridge to Greenway Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan, Street Safety:

From the City Planning Department, we have Lina Velasco, Patrick Phelan, Denee Evans, and the new Public Works Director Daniel Chavarria here to provide clarifications concerning the Greenway Bike Bridge to Ferry program and the new bike lanes, pedestrian reconfiguration of vehicular traffic.

Patrick Phelan; The public right of way is a team effort in the planning department, we tend to lead community engagement and development of the long-range planning of our public works department as well as input from fire and police. I wanted to acknowledge that we have not led all of the development plans. The ferry the bridge to the Greenway project was led by the Transportation Department as well as Engineering, we work together and sit on their technical advisory committees as they sit on ours.

Lina Velasco: We've learned a lot about the implementation of bicycle lanes and pedestrian improvements. Just because things are one way today, doesn't mean that it couldn't change in the next three to five years, based on experience of the users of the multiple users, both the pedestrians, the cyclists, and drivers. Patrick is here to speak about the Travelsafe Richmond project. We got a grant for from the Association of Bay Area Governments to do an update to our bicycle and pedestrian plan.

We did a study session that was proposed at the City Council and are still targeting the beginning of 2023. We would like to continue to make improvements to the right-of-way and you can send your comments as we will be doing an additional presentation at City Council with the feedback we get today. We'll be incorporating it into the plan.

New Public Works Director Daniel Chavarria: I joined the city a little over a month ago. I see a lot of challenges. The Public Works Department is kind of like the Oakland A's, you have the players coming up to two years they leave for another team. So, if I'm applying to do that in, in, that's why. If it feels to me that we want to solve all the issues. I see this is a constant communication and this is the first meeting that I have with this group. I already met with Philip in my office. He has invited to drive me around the area to show different concerns.

Our department lost all the engineers we had. We're operating with external consultants, and Monday we will have a Deputy Director of Public Works/City Engineer. He'll be attending meetings and you'll interact with him. The plan is to get a Capital Projects Manager in February, and a couple of senior engineers between February and March. There is not much offer of engineers out there right now. The demand is high. I worked in the city of San Ramon for 5 years, and San Francisco for a year and a half.

Patrick Phelan:

I want to clarify I'm not an engineer. I have been working in engineering departments for 17 years but did not lead the Bridge the Greenway plan.

The City has funding to do improvements to focus on the Point Richmond area and we intend to improve the walking and biking conditions throughout the neighborhood, connecting existing bike lanes and pedestrian paths to the Richmond San Rafael bridge path and to Miller Knox Regional Park. There will be a bus stop relocation at the corner of Washington and Tewksbury. Construction will begin around 2024.

Community Briefs, Part 1

Masquers Playhouse: No one present

Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council; Cordell Hindler: Last month RNCC had about 20 + people on ZOOM. I'll try to keep it short. Ann Jenks spoke about Community Crisis Group, a kind of suicide hotline. Also, Tamara Walker talked about what Richmond Works does. We also spoke about the election of new officers. The next meeting will be the swearing-in ceremony and the new Public Works Director, Daniel Chavarria.

Richmond Tennis and Hurlbut Benevolent Fund, Garry Hurlbut: Our women and men's teams won East Bay League Championships last weekend, we dodged raindrops and did very well and going on to Northern California Championships in Folsom next month. The youth program has not been as robust as we'd like because the Rec department had lost its primary instructor and we've worked with volunteers. The good news is we're working with the Rec department USTA where we're going to have a much more robust youth program. We've always wanted to include Washington School stay tuned for that. But after first of the year, expect a large new tennis program and nutrition and education program.

Philip Rosenthal: Garry, could you remind the community how they could make a donation to the Snowball?

Garry: Our website is RTA-ca.org For our PA if you go there and you click on Donate. It's really a great cause for students who are going to our schools.

USS Red Oak Victory Ship, Karen Buchanan: The Home Front Film Festival has our final movie of the year. December 15,, *It's a Wonderful Life* the perennial favorite holiday movie onboard the ship. Refreshments will be available. This Saturday we're having a private event pancake breakfast.

Women's Westside Improvement Club; Philip Rosenthal: Charmain, Peter and I were at the Gateway Foundation Grant event this evening and we will be receiving a grant to renovate the playground. Women's West Side will also be redoing the Triangle Garden and landscaping behind the library. PRNC will be redoing Janice Play Lot, pruning the dangerous palm trees and doing infrastructure work. That will happen next year.

Point Richmond Table Tennis, Peter Thelin: We play every Monday at the Point San Pablo Yacht Club on Cutting, 5 o'clock to whenever people leave. Drinks are cheap and everyone has a good time.

Land Use Design Review Committee (LUDRC), Charmain Tyler; No current projects.

Point Richmond Business Association, Karen Buchanan: We had a board meeting on November 9th, We are planning to do some history days. We're going to call them 1905 days and take a cue from my costumed characters at my Point Richmond Haunted Halloween History Hike. We're going to borrow or rent costumes from the Masquers Costume Warehouse.. And we will have quarterly street festivals along Park Place, just on the sidewalks without closing down the street. We will have bands playing and the merchants can have vendor tables. We'll have my merchant map and a scavenger hunt stamping game and people strolling around in period costumes talking about the history of Point Richmond.

Philip Rosenthal: The PRNC will be continuing community activities like the Spring Fling, and the National Night Out. There's a lot of room for overlap for these activities.

Point Richmond History Association. Bonnie Jo Cullison:

I've been meaning to compliment the PRNC on their display in the kiosk. It's exactly what we had in mind when we designed the kiosk. Very attractive, we're very pleased with it. Congratulations. Thank you. Thank you, Sue.

Arts in Point Richmond, Philip Rosenthal: They have received a Gateway Grant to fund art supplies for Washington School, and a second round of *Taking It to The Street* banners. That will happen in early 2023. And then there'll be a switch over for the downtown posters for the adults taking it outdoors and those will switch over in spring. Current exhibitions can be found at *ArtsofPointRichmond.com*. On January 28, there'll be an exhibition at Lara's Fine Dining. Meanwhile, *Woman of the Andes* display continues at *El Sol Mexican restaurant*. The post office windows will continue to display photographs by Nancy Whitley until January 2nd.

PRAM: No one present

Magic Lantern, Peter Thelin: Saturday the 10th there'll be a Russian movie called *Compartment Number Six*. It got a 93 on *Rotten Tomatoes*. It will be at the Methodist Church at 7pm. Doors open at 6:30 for guests 6:45 for general admission. The movie is about a young rudderless Finnish woman who escapes a love affair in Moscow by boarding a train. Kate's movies are always worthwhile, nice art films. Remember to bring a cushion because the chairs are a little stiff.

H.O.A.'s Brickyard Landing; Charmain Tyler: We have the chimney and a pile of bricks that we must decide what to do with. We're having a Christmas party this week.

Leisa Johnson: On the developments, last night was a big night at the City Council meeting. The Terminal One project was rushed to try and prevent the land from going back to the surplus Lands Act but it was causing a lot of issues because due process was not being followed with the DRB and Planning Commission and City Council. There were several concerns from the community which came out in strong force. Probably 30 members from Brickyard Cove spoke eloquently. Melvin made the motion to accept option 4. But it was amended to try and get the project to a point where they could pass it with a four-to-six-month timeline. It's going back to DRP. It's going back to the planning commission so it can rightly be reviewed and we will as a community, which will fight for a proper EIR evaluation.

PR CERT, Charmain Tyler: We will have a planning meeting the first two weeks of January, no date yet.

Open Forum:

Cordell Hindler; One idea is to invite Ann Jenks to talk to us about what the community crisis group what they do, you know, like, kind of like you know, prevention of suicide.

Remembrances and Celebrations:

Cordell Hindler; would like to remember Kabir Kapoor. He died recently, a young man, just made 30 In late October He attended every City Council meeting in person. Keep the Kapor family in your prayers.

Philip Rosenthal: Local sailor and internationally famous impressionist artist Jim DeWitt, who we lost in his early 90s of natural causes. I certainly wish him that the wind is on his back for the rest wherever he's sailing now.

Ladies, gentlemen, Happy Holidays to all of you stay safe, stay healthy, and we'll see you sometime in the third week of January-ish.

ARE YOUR DUES PAID UP? The dues help cover our administrative expenses and are \$20 per individual and \$25 per household. If this is a financial hardship, a waiver is gladly granted. Lifetime memberships are \$500.



REMEMBER: you need to be a paid-up member to vote! Pay online via PayPal at www.pointrichmond.org or mail your check & application to: **PRNC; P.O. Box 70386; Pt. Richmond, CA 94807.**

New Renewal Individual Household

Name _____ Date: _____

Mailing Address _____

Telephone _____ e-mail _____



*The next Point Richmond Neighborhood Council meeting is
Wednesday, January 25, 7:30 pm via ZOOM.*

PRNC will send access info to members via email.

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