



On Point

July 2023

Howdy Neighbors -



National Night Out is around the corner and promises to be a great time to meet and greet your neighbors. Join us on Park Place behind the library for kid's events, music, safety presentations from CERT, conversation, and kid's interaction from the fire department. El Sol will have taco specials and other restaurants have been asked to participate. Click on the attached flyer for more details. There will be vintage cars and other surprises as well!

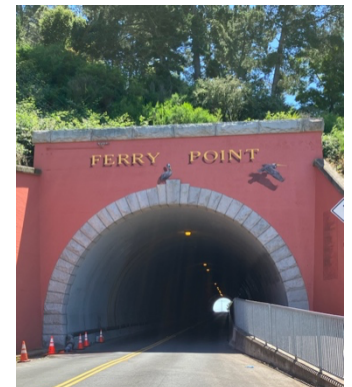
Please encourage your organization, friends, house of worship or group to attend.

When: Tuesday, August 1st from 5:30 until 8:30 PM

Ferry Point Tunnel Mural & Signage...

The historic tunnel mural renovation is complete! We will have an unveiling tentatively scheduled for Sunday, August 20th at 11:00 AM to thank those involved and share plans for a new interpretive sign, which you can help sponsor, that will describe the project history and PRNC's involvement. Stay tuned for more on this event.

Reminder: There is no August meeting and the PRNC board will be taking a break. However, we still have a few events, including a tentative neighborhood crime and Neighborhood Watch meeting conducted by Michelle Milan, RPD Crime Prevention Manager.



Please note that baby steps are being made to improve visibility and traffic safety in the Point. We have worked for countless hours to provide proposals to City Staff, and District 2 Councilmember Cesar Zepeda is working to secure equitable funding from Public Works. After years of asking, there is light at the end of the tunnel.

We will see you on Wednesday, July 26th at 7:30 PM via the Zoom link provided via email.

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, July 26th 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 June 28, 2023, meeting minutes | 3 minutes |
| 7:33 | Police Report, Sergeant Melgoza &/or Officer Tagorda | 15 minutes |
| 7:48 | President's Report, Philip Rosenthal | 5 minutes |
| 7:53 | Treasurer's Report, Margi Sullivan | 1 minute |
| 7:54 | Membership Report, Eric Napralla | 1 minute |
| 7:55 | Richmond Fire Department | 30/15 minutes |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Batallion Chief Victor Bontempo – Review Brickyard Cove Emergency Evacuation Drill</i>• <i>Deputy Fire Marshall Eric Munson – Annual Fire Safe Practices Refresher</i> | |
| 8:40 | 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, Layla Dima, pram.net• HOA's in Brickyard Cove, Community | |
| 8:54 | 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> | |
| 8:54 | Community Briefs, Part 2 (2 minutes each) | 14 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• Rosie the Riveter National Historical Park, James Davis, jimmsjc@hotmail.com | |
| 9:08 | Public Forum and Introductions for New Residents & Businesses | 10 minutes |
| 9:18 | In Remembrance and Celebration | 5 minutes |
| 9:23 | Adjourn | |



**Point Richmond Neighborhood Council
General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday May 31, 2023**

PointRichmondNeighborhood@gmail.com



Wednesday, June 28, 2023, 7:30 PM

Board Members Present:

President: Philip Rosenthal

First Vice President: Leisa Johnson

Second Vice President & Membership Chair: Buzz Baylis

Treasurer: Margi Sullivan

Secretary: Peter Thelin

Officer At-large: Charmain Tyler

Attendees: Councilmember Cesar Zepeda, Sgt. Enrik Melgoza, Eric Napralla, Graham Perrett, Michael Nye, Johanna Ferman, Sally Tobin, James Davis, Mary Lee Cole, Kate Merriman, Garry Hurlbut, Mindy Pine, Karen Buchanan, Norma Jean Wallace, Jake Jones, Beryle Golden, Paula Levine, Eric & Shenna Moe, Bill Schwimmer, Isabelle Murphy, Cordell Hindler, Kate Spaulding, Vivien Feyer, Jessie West, and Sue Rosenof

Meeting Called to Order: 7:35 PM

Correction to Minutes: Women's West Side Improvement Club will be returning from vacation on September 11th, taking July and August off.

Approval of Minutes: Leisa made motion to approve minutes with requested correction; Philip seconded; minutes unanimously approved with above change noted.

Police Report: Sgt Enrik Melgoza

An officer involved shooting around Sanderling Island still under investigation, the officers are okay, and the suspect is no longer with us. I can't reveal too much at the moment.

Leisa: Is the incident related to a brandishing event in the 100 block of Washington? The news article seems to suggest it was related.

Sgt. Melgoza: It is related. The community's safe; there's no longer any danger. That's about all I can relay at this time.

Leisa: For those of you who don't know, the victim's mother was in the house, and she was unharmed.

Philip: The Brickyard Cove area out on the Spit.

Leisa: This is connected to a reported brandishing event, assault and arrest Sunday night at approximately 2:30 AM on the 100 block of Washington Avenue.

Philip: Also, we're working closely with Cesar and RPD about a serious increase in unhoused who are under the influence of drugs or mental illness. Leisa was recently talking with Michelle Milan. We are working on a safety and crime prevention meeting with Michelle Milan. It will be publicly announced when we have a date. The meeting will also be an opportunity for us to set up neighborhood crime watches, tips on how to participate. Law

enforcement says that if you see someone having trouble, (dancing in the middle of the street, attacking cars, laying on the ground, or they appear to be in distress) dial 911. The police will do a welfare check and if they decide the person needs help, the mental health professionals can be called. These people are not going to get in trouble if they need help.

Cordell Hindler: Last week a lady came into Kaleidoscope, and me and one of the baristas had to escort her off the premises. She OD'd and the baristas had to call the ambulance. It took them an hour to get there. We need extra patrols along Park Place because this person keeps coming inside businesses and it scares the customers.

Norma Jean Wallace: I wanted to share an experience that I had with an unhoused individual. Monday morning, I noticed a car parked with sheets hanging in the window. A friend told me he had seen this person go into Kaleidoscope to use the bathroom and they are clearly car camping. I got the license plate and texted it to my neighbors to alert them. One told me that over the weekend he'd asked two different vans on Martina Street to move on. He and I concluded that the car campers talk among themselves and in a matter of four days we had three different homeless people car camping here.

Philip: Leisa, weren't there 11 campers and cars across from Milo recently?

Leisa: Yes, Norma is correct, the homeless clearly communicate amongst themselves. We had another area where three RVs arrived simultaneously. Please just take a picture from a safe distance, get the license plate information and text it to me as I am in contact with Michelle Milam and Robert Preston from CORE (Coordinated Outreach Referral, Engagement), and I am trying to get these situations addressed in real time with CORE. Don't hesitate to contact me so that I can reach out in real time to CORE and the RPD.

This recently happened in front of Miller Knox Park as well. There were a couple vans and an RV. The RPD along with CORE has been very responsive. They installed k-rails near Milo. Still, someone drove over the curb, behind the k-rail and dumped a boat.

I met with Michelle Milam and Greg Hardesty from Public Works this morning, and we reviewed the fencing in front of the encampment entrance underneath the 580 overpass at Tewksbury & Railroad Ave. The City is getting quotes to install fortified fencing along Caltrans property to part of BNSF property on Railroad Ave; and Michelle is trying to work with BNSF to have them remove railroad ties and get federal funds to install fortified no-cut fence along the remaining section of Railroad Avenue. There were eight grants awarded this cycle to address homeless encampments in the Bay Area. Richmond got \$8.6 million. Caltrans is giving us an easement for the fencing.

Philip: There's a good chance we will soon have license plate cameras that will deter drug activity because vehicles will be recorded stopping and going. So, then there'll be a record. This will be part of a database that will ping police and say there is a drug dealer in your neighborhood. I know people have mixed feelings about cameras and privacy issues, but this is just to track license plates that have been involved in crimes.

I have a meeting with a contractor for the City inquiring about people's opinions about Republic Services. The City Council may be looking to replace Republic Services. I have feedback from the community about what's going on with trash. I will report those opinions on Republic Services. Over the weekend, I sent out a link for the survey and I would encourage anyone to add to that and to the questionnaire.

Garry Hurlbut: From a service standpoint, we've been very happy with Republic Services. They mentioned that if we don't have a full trash bin, don't put it out. It helps them.



Nominating Committee: Peter Thelin

I would like to introduce Eric Napralla, who is running for Membership Chair and Second Vice President. Leisa, Buzz and I interviewed four candidates and Eric is our choice for the nomination. I would now like to introduce Eric and have him say a few words about himself.

Eric Napralla: Good evening, my name is Eric Napralla. I'm a California native, grew up in Seattle. Been back in the bay area for 20 years and Point Richmond for five. I live off Golden Gate Ave. and previously Brickyard Cove. I've worked in government for my entire career. 20 plus years in the Coast Guard and in maritime transportation at the Port of Oakland as a manager. I'm the Chief Wharfinger and overseer of operations and in that role, I've done everything from project development and dealing with land use issues. I work with BNSF and other agencies and business entities. I also deal with the Oakland Police Department, fire department, and the City of Oakland. My interest is becoming more involved in community matters. I look forward to participating and sharing what I can to make Point Richmond the best it can be, so I really appreciate this opportunity. I look forward to meeting all of you. And again, thank you very much.

Peter: If no one else wants to nominate themselves or somebody else, I move that we vote and see how many people would like Eric to run, or if there are any objections.

Michael Nye: Parliamentary - you just need someone to move for a unanimous ballot, ask three times, and then you vote.

Philip: Peter, you've asked twice, I will ask once, and now our last and final call for anybody else who wants to run, going once, going twice.

Leisa: And it's a vote by members in good standing. Anybody opposed to Eric, please raise your hand.

NOTE: *No members opposed Eric's nomination.*

Philip: "So, Eric, you're unanimously voted in!"



Treasurer's Report: Margi Sullivan absent

Buzz: We have \$3,500 in the PayPal account, and we have \$18,000 in the checking account for a grand total of \$21,000. We still have outstanding expenses to do with the Ferry Point tunnel mural.

Membership Chair: Buzz Baylis - We have by rough count 170 paid members.

Board Member Updates:

Philip: I'm sorry that Margi is not here because against impossible odds and bureaucratic red tape, she and Charmain Tyler got the tunnel painted with the original artist, on budget and just under the wire. The tunnel is good for the rest of most of our lives, so thank you, Charmain and Margi.

Leisa: Chevron provided an update on the gas station at Cutting and Canal Blvd. Starting Monday it will be closed and fenced off for tank cleaning. Tank removal is anticipated the week of July 10th. The station will remain closed until approximately the end of September.

The other update is on the wharf oil spill that occurred in 2021. We will send out an email next week along with National Night Out information. Contra Costa County Health sent out a notice yesterday through their hazardous materials program. Their report was delayed by COVID-19 and there will be a public meeting to review the root cause analysis report of the oil spill at City Hall in the City Council chambers on July 13th from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. There will be a 45-day comment period from July 3rd, and it will close on August 17th. And then there will be a public meeting during that interim period. We will send the Contra Costa County Health notice next week to all PRNC members.

Philip: We will be sending out our flier to save the date for National Night Out. That will be from 5:30 to 8:30 PM on Tuesday, August 1st. For those of you who belong to organizations, churches, or businesses, we want you in the street to meet your neighbors. There's no charge to have a booth. It's a neighborhood block party.

Charmain: I heard somewhere that Duke Realty sold the project to another company, and I heard that they're not necessarily honoring all the things that we (LUDRC) asked them to do.

Leisa: I have not heard that, so if you would like to connect with me offline with anything you may have heard in more detail, I can reach out to Lina when she's back from vacation and see if there needs to be an update given to the LUDRC. Duke Realty got the entitlements and then sold the project to the builder, Prologis. I did report them and the PG&E lot owners in Brickyard Cove to Lina and Code Enforcement to address their overgrown weeds.

Philip: Let's move on to Open Mic night. We're just open to comments.

Open Mic Night:

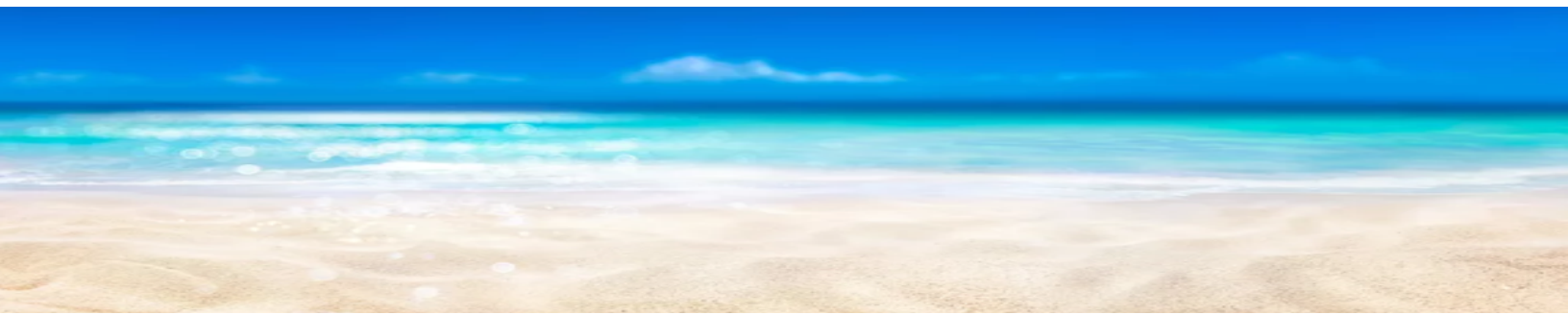
Cordell: Topics to consider for the next agenda. Invite Fire Chief Montoya to speak about the wildfire season. Another suggestion tied to the RNCC report is to invite Superintendent Hurst to tell us what the district has planned to bring officers back to our schools.

Philip: Councilmember Cesar Zepeda and I are working with the PTA to try to increase crosswalk safety. I want you to know that we have a politician who's listening and a voice in the City on this, so Cesar thank you for that.

Norma Jean Wallace: My concerns are focused on traffic and pedestrian safety. If drivers get frustrated, pedestrians are going to pay. Philip and I have exchanged suggestions about improving the I-580 westbound morning commute traffic. One is to prioritize public and carpool access to the on-ramp. I am ecstatic to hear that you and Cesar have been walking the neighborhood. I have video of places where money is used for pedestrian safety, including traffic circles, and wonder why we can't have these implemented in Richmond.

Philip: Regarding traffic control, there has been a suggestion about temporary blockades in front of Roma Cafe at Garrard and Cutting Blvds; a small, temporary roundabout; and possibly another by the Plunge. This would be a prototype, inexpensive and easy to put up. We could then see if it works to slow traffic in the most dangerous crosswalks. I must congratulate Cesar for the idea that we could try something temporary, quick, easy, and affordable and not have to wait another 10 years for.

Cordell: There was supposed to be a public hearing regarding the PG&E site residential project in Brickyard Cove this spring, but it has been pushed to the end of September.



Leisa: The meeting was delayed because of ongoing discussions between the Brickyard Cove Alliance for Responsible Development (BCARD) and the PG&E site developer, Republic Urban.

Councilmember Cesar Zepeda: I just want to give an update about Tewksbury Avenue and Castro Street that Norma mentioned. Public Works is now fully staffed so they'll be able to work on more projects over the summer. Please see <https://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/4510/Traffic-Calming-Program>

Leisa: Has the City hired someone to assess sidewalks in the City?

Cesar: I believe sidewalks provide access to everyone. The City has budgeted \$4 million towards sidewalks and other repairs. Someone should be going street by street assessing what the needs are, ADA accessibility, and where to install sidewalks. Hopefully all that will be presented to the City Council.

Philip: I want to remind homeowners that they are responsible for the sidewalks in front of their homes, even though the sidewalks belong to the City. If you complain about your sidewalk that may be something that you will have to repair.

Cesar: Citizens can go to the City's app to report issues and feel free to email me the case number so that I can track it. Please see <http://etrakit.ci.richmond.ca.us/CRM/issue.aspx>

Leisa: On the City's app, go to "Report an Issue" and then select "Damaged Sidewalks", or select any other issue you may have.

Graham Perrett: Regarding the I-580 intersection on-ramp near Castro and Tewksbury, bicyclists hurtle down the bike path and swing across the intersection and over Tewksbury. That is a blind corner. I've seen cyclists go straight across without stopping. I was wondering if there is any way to install a barrier so cyclists would have to dismount and walk their bicycle across an intersection?

Cesar: I can ask Public Works to see what they're able to do.

Leisa: We got Public Works to mow the weeds along Seacliff Drive (and associated Bay Trail); and in July, Public Works is planning to address Canal and Cutting Blvds, helping improve the appearance of one of our key gateways coming into the Point. They also cleaned up the area in front of the Wareham business development across from the Chevron gas station, where the weeds were completely overgrown. They're spread thin dealing with weeds throughout the City, and they've addressed parts of the Bay Trail and streets in the Point and Brickyard Cove, but there's still work to be done in July.



The other good news -- and credit goes to Councilmember Soheila Bana and people, especially Whitney, in her district in Richmond / El Sobrante area for trying to get West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) to allow people to have access to the outdoor play areas at our public schools – Trustee Leslie Reckler mentioned the MRAD (Maintenance and Recreation Assessment District) school tax that taxpayers pay. The school district had to acquiesce to say we do have access to our public-school yards. So, Monday through Friday, (currently the only time they can staff it) everyone has access (after school hours) to playgrounds, including Washington Elementary School.

I reached out to the facilities director of WCCUSD, and the school grounds should be open at the end of the school day from approximately 3:30 PM to dusk. Exceptions will be for schools with summer programs, and during holiday breaks, the campuses will be closed. The school district campuses will be looking into partnerships with Neighborhood Councils and the liability and legality around access on weekends and holidays. It's still a work in progress for weekends and holidays, but certainly Monday to Friday from 3:30 PM to dusk.

Philip: This is big. We've been trying for years to have access to the basketball court that's adjacent to Judge Carroll Park.

Community Briefs, Part 1

Masquers Playhouse: Fran Smith absent

Cordell: Fran is at a gala but said that everyone should see Roe. It's only \$30 and the youth rate is \$27.

Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council: Cordell Hindler

This month's meeting had about 18 participants on Zoom. Miss Garcia talked about the programs at Contra Costa College for retirees. There was no old business. New business was inviting Superintendent Hearst to a future meeting to talk about what the school district is doing regarding safety. We discussed returning to holding a RNCC Christmas party this year as we've been on Zoom for quite some time. The next meeting will be July 10th at 7:00 PM via Zoom.

Richmond Tennis and the Hurlbut Foundation: Garry Hurlbut



Due to the popularity of pickleball, we are planning to set up a pickleball court in the upper court behind the Plunge. Folks can give us their reaction to see if we want to make that a permanent installation.

We just finished the spring USDA season. Richmond had eight adult teams, four of which made the playoffs. They're playing over the next week and a half. On the youth side, we've finished resurfacing and fencing MLK Park. For the month of July, we'll have about 15 kids alternating between tennis, soccer, golf and some track.

Regarding the Hurlbut Benevolent Fund, we are funding the cleanup around the Plunge, helping PRAM, as well as the fencing around the basketball court at the Washington School.

Peter: I mentioned to people that there is a bocce ball court next to the Plunge.

Garry: The bocce balls are in the shed and my phone number is listed in the agenda.

USS Red Oak Victory Ship: Graham Perrett

Philip: The PRNC has promoted the Red Oak Victory pancake breakfast dates in our next quarterly newsletter.

Graham: Thank you for that. We will continue to be open on Sundays from 10:00 to 4:00 PM. There will be no July 4th special event this year, but we will be open to visitors.

In July, we're participating in the Walking Ghosts of Black History Series. This is the second year and for all of July we have a display about the Port Chicago Disaster. On July 20th, we're showing our old favorite movie Casablanca starting at 7:00 PM.

Women's Westside Improvement Club: Diane Diani absent

Philip: Women's Westside Improvement is on vacation, but they are returning September 11th.

Point Richmond Table Tennis: Peter Thelin

Mondays at 5:00 PM at the Point San Pablo Yacht Club on Cutting Blvd. All skill levels welcome. Drive up to the gate and press the black button next to the keypad and we'll let you in.

Rosie the Riveter National Historical Park: James Davis

We have some new docents, including former college instructors. Also, published author lecture presentations in our theater in the coming months. I would urge anyone who may be interested in World War II or local history to become a docent. It's very rewarding and you get a great view of the bay.

Land Use Design Review Committee (LUDRC): Charmain Tyler

We had our first meeting in quite a while. The City has informed us that the Keller Beach sewer line is deteriorating. But we don't know for sure what's wrong, what needs to be done, etc. The City of Richmond has recommended that the sewer pipe be moved uphill, a major inconvenience to everybody on Western Drive. A company was hired to review and assess the situation and write a report. The community has asked the City many times for answers. The company decided to delay because of the weather. A main concern is that we think the City is not looking at viable alternatives. Cesar has been very supportive and involved. The LUDRC has created a document with all the main concerns on this project and intends to contact the City to bring this to the attention of the Public Works Department. We feel this is not well organized and they're not listening to the community.

Philip: The PRNC will post when there are LUDRC meetings regarding this topic.

Community Briefs, Part 2

PR CERT: Charmain Tyler

There will be a car evacuation drill in Brickyard Cove on July 15th managed by the fire department. We have more training coming up for Richmond CERT, including radio and ham radio training. I'll let you know about the dates for the fall.

Point Richmond Business Association (PRBA): Karen Buchanan absent

Cordell: On July 27th there will be a salsa mixer hosted by the Chamber of Commerce at the Allegro Ballroom from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. The cost is \$15 if you're not a member.

Point Richmond History Association: Bonnie Jo Cullison absent

Arts of Point Richmond: Mary Lee Cole

There is a wildlife photography exhibit in the post office window, up close and personal for one of our photographers until July 7th. Mom and Pop have a fun exhibit which closes June 30th. El Sol has watercolors by Jean Brady and Leonor Storm until July 16th.

Magick Lantern: Kate Spaulding

Our last film is July 8th at the Methodist Church at 7:30 PM. We're showing a few of the best selected Oscar Shorts from this year and serving free popcorn.

Parents, Resources and More (PRAM): Chrissie Bradley absent

Philip: PRAM is working with the Hurlbut Benevolent Fund for gardening help. They also need to do some major fundraising for infrastructure. We invited them to participate in some upcoming events.

HOAs in Brickyard Cove:



Leisa: I can give an update on the active police incident in Brickyard Cove. RPD spent several hours removing firearms, including privately manufactured AR15-style rifles (ghost guns), from the residence of the person who was fatally wounded. Also, an officer discovered a live hand grenade. The bomb squad was summoned to the scene and surrounding homes were evacuated.

Community Announcements:

Sally Tobin: There is an exhibit at Margi Sullivan’s gallery of photographs of Point Molate by three local photographers. Gallery will be open every Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm until August.

Remembrances and Celebrations: None



Summer Time



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, September 27th, 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