

Minutes
POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
October 28, 2009
Point Richmond Community Center

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by President, Peter Minkwitz (510) 232-3663

Approval of Minutes: Corrections requested in the minutes of 9/30/09. 1) TRAC. The revision will state: "The EIR has to be approved by the City Council before they can vote on any project at Point Molate" as per Bruce Beyaert. 2) The starting time of Arts of Point Richmond will be 1:45 pm as per Altha Humphrey. Minutes of the PRNC meeting of 9/30/09 were moved, seconded and approved.

President's Report: Peter Minkwitz stated that Corky Booze was very helpful at the City Council Meeting re: pricing schedule for the Community Center use. Peter, Margaret Morkowski and 10 people from the neighborhood appeared and commented. Mr. Booze stated the most effective mode for change is community input, response and attendance at these meetings. Peter said that Rich Davidson explained that the drainage issues on the streets of the town are connected to tidal patterns. Some drains will not clear when the tide is over 6.0 feet. Parts of Santa Fe, Cutting, and the Parkway are subject to tide-related flooding. Point Richmond has 3 sister cities; one in Japan, one in China and one in Cuba. On 11/07-11/17 Richmond is sending a delegation, including 4 youths, to Aregla, our sister city in Cuba. Much like Richmond, it has a refinery, ship yards, and a large Afro (Afro/Cuban) community. Aregla is a blue-collar town located on a bay across from a large city. There was a discussion of support for a proposed daytime curfew. There was a bike lane discussion. It would run from Gerard to San Pablo along Barrett to promote safe use of bikes. It is not certain that the city will continue to print newsletters due to budget constraints.

Report on Membership Sue Rosenof 510-599-1197 Sue reports 9 renewals and one new member for a total of 377 members. 160 have paid their dues, Sue says: "It gets better every month". There are two separate lists for mailings- "snail mail" and e-mail.

Treasurer's Report Art Mowry 510-215-0501 Bishop Alley Path Fund: \$711.06 (We are custodians of this money) Discussion regarding the length of the custodianship of this money ensued. There is a conflict regarding a property that the path crosses. The property has not sold and fund is being held to ensure continued access to path. The Path has a lengthy history and its use is supported. Ferry Point Fund: \$1989.58 (Custodians). These funds are for painting of tunnel. Wig Wag Fund: \$2970.94 (Custodians) General Fund: \$4380.30. Dues collected: \$160 Total: \$10,051.88. There was discussion re: the same commitment amounts that have been "the same for years".

Committee Reports and Announcements from non-profit groups:

Point Richmond Business Association, Margaret Morkowski (510) 234-4219. No report

Women's Westside Improvement Association, Mid Dornan. The meeting is Tuesday, November 3, 2009. Pat Pierson's daughter is to talk about identity theft. The meeting is at noon. Bring a sandwich, dessert is provided.

Knit and Such, Altha Humphrey 510-232-2934. The correct time of the meeting is 1:45-3:45p.m. on the first Wednesday. Bring your knitting, mending, crafts, "and a little gossip". **There will be no meeting in December.** The knitting class will take place in March of 2010. There will be 2-hour sessions for 3 weeks for beginners.

TRAC, Bruce Beyaert. No report

Point Richmond Village, Linda Newton 510 595-5566 No report

Arts of Point Richmond, Altha Humphrey. The next meeting will be 11/16 from 6-7:30 at the Brasil Restaurant. There will be a Holiday Sales Show at Jay Betts' (Architect) building at 217 West Richmond Ave. on 12/5 from 11-5 p.m. This will showcase arts from residents in Point Richmond. Watch the sandwich boards for details. **No meeting in December.**

Police Report Richmond PD Officer David Longacre REMINDER: program your phone to 233-1214 and punch "O" at the beginning of the menu to talk with the dispatcher for immediate service, **not** 911. There were 11 crimes this month. Prompt reporting is suggested. Discourage people from scavenging recycling materials. Call the police re: trespassing and scavenging of recycling containers. It is a violation of the Richmond Municipal Code and the offender can be arrested. A question was raised re: the Brickyard Landing area and the debris that is not cleaned up after burned car remains are towed away. Officer Longacre will check into request. Reports of daytime drug dealing at the end of East Richmond road. No response to calls when activity was reported. The disinterest of dispatcher was reported to Officer Longacre who still suggested that prompt reporting, vehicle descriptions and vigilance by neighbors is the best way to curb crime. Officer

Longacre will look into dispatching responses to requests for response to deter crimes. Concern continues re: loitering on Pacific and High streets, the top of Crest and the park.

Richmond Crime Prevention Commission Tom Brichta 415-686-1522 No report.

Corky Booze, Vice Chair, Parks and Recreation Commission, City of Richmond Mr. Booze is in the process of trying to stop crime. The City has had 4 town hall meetings and he thanked citizens for their involvement. The City "needs to hear the citizen's voices". "Through Altha Humphrey's leadership, we need to be able to use this center. Altha's tenacity is appreciated. This is your Community. This is your city". Nevin Park is a shining example of Mr. Booze's expectation for parks and he wants to see that example realized in all of our parks. He will look into fee schedule and sees it as a win-win situation when City allows community to use center. "We need to have more people at Parks and Recreation meetings". "This is a new day in the Park District as it is being restructured.... We will have new play areas, lighting and cameras". The community needs to support Parks and Recreation Department.

Proposed Pont Molate Casino and Resort Project Traffic Study: Stephen Abrams and Mike Taggart. John Salmon, Upstream Development representative, stated that Upstream has an obligation, as purchasers, to fund studies for their contract, but they have no control over independent consultants or reports. Stephen Abrams is City's consultant. Previous comments from residents indicated consultant's underestimated traffic. The consulting firm surveys traffic patterns of existing casinos. The proposed casino is different from Las Vegas. It will have no roulette, no craps, and no coins. Mr. Abrams's opinion was that Indian casinos are not as popular as Las Vegas. "People would be drawn to it as a resort experience, not only as a casino". If you set up a shuttle service, give employees money to ride BART, provide transit systems and incentives to employees and create a ferry system "you will have a reasonable result". Consultants have to work with forecasts and "have to be conservative in the Environmental Review". Peak hours at casino will be 6-7:30 p.m. A chart was presented with alternatives: A: in and out of Western, B: with the addition of town homes. Mr. Abrams said that the increased traffic would create 140 trips through Richmond Parkway or "a couple of cars per minute". The "inbound traffic from Marin will be less than 20%. That traffic will impact Pt. Richmond. The outbound traffic can go back directly". "Standards require a lot of traffic before widening of the streets. We expect a certain amount of urban congestion". "There will be major improvements needed on the Marin side and the I-80 end of the Parkway". Mr. Abrams found disagreement to his comment "Regional traffic problems that occur on the Richmond Bridge will be the same with or without this project". He stated the congestion is due to regional issues. Mr. Abrams queried: "Do you want to stymie economic development in this area to preserve traffic for this area?" This roused emotions from an attendee regarding the insinuation, objecting to the statement re: our lack of concern re: the development versus traffic. A participant asked if all of the traffic was reported. Only the weekday conditions were discussed, not the 2500 seat concert hall. The speaker did not present that scenario. There were complaints re: lack of access already to the FASTRAK lane heading west. An attendee suggested we lobby the State to get a right lane FASTRAK. Corky Booze asked if the EIR is not finished by January 15, does Upstream have to renegotiate with the City? John Salmon responded that there are two issues pending: an environmental lawsuit and the fact that the Navy owns part of the land in question. He responded that January 15 was "not a drop-dead date, that there is lots more to the project". Discussion continued after the meeting was adjourned.

Report from Land Use/Design Review Committee Rod Satre. *Items to be considered at the Committee's December 30, 2009 meeting must be submitted to Rod Satre, Committee Chair, by December 7, 2009. Contact Rod at 510-232-5059 or rdsatre@live.com.*

28 Montana St.: Renovation. Owners/Applicants Maureen and Jean-Michel Decombe. Approved

534 Grand view: Repair and restoration. Charlotte Knox, owner. No approval necessary.

Public Forum: Issues brought to the attention of the Council in the *Public Forum cannot result in Council action at this meeting. Instead, the issue should be presented to Council President Peter Minkwitz for consideration by the PRNC Board as an agenda item at a future meeting, by November 30, 2009 to Peter Minkwitz 510-465-2527 (B) 510-232-3663 (H) or to peter@sanfranciscomarinesurveyors.com*

Announcement: There will be a Boy Scout Pancake breakfast with a special "World's Fair Pancake Recipe" from 8-11 a.m. at the Methodist Church, October 31. Buttermilk pancakes, sausage, juice for \$6.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Louise Fender, Secretary (510) 260-0309

NO NOVEMBER MEETING.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 30, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.