

Minutes of the Point Richmond Neighborhood Council Meeting
Schooner Building, Room 202, 1160 Brickyard Cove Road, October 26, 2005
Don Woodrow, President; Rod Satre, First Vice President, Fred Frye, Second Vice President; Susan Elwell,
Secretary; Scott Gillespie, Treasurer

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 by President, Don Woodrow
Treasurer Scott Gillespie reported the following:

Accounts	Recent Activity	Current Balance
Bishop Alley Path Fund	\$0.44 interest	703.70
Ferry Point Fund	\$0.40 interest	632.52
Wig Wag Fund	None	2,970.94
General Account	+\$ 55.00 dues deposit -\$ 50.00 website fee -\$135.80 Don Woodrow (expenses)	4,824.76
Total		\$ 9,131.92

President Don Woodrow made the following announcements: 1) Copies of a New York Times article about Toll Brothers are available for anyone interested. 2) Toll Brothers draft EIR is completed. Copies are available at the City Planning Office for \$31 or on CD for \$2. 3) On November 3 at 7 p.m. the City Council will be discussing proposed changes to the medical marijuana ordinance.

PRBA Report. Margaret Morkowski reported that the Point Richmond Business Association met and their intention is to form committees regarding possible parallel parking in the Point and installing flower boxes around the business district.

Beat Officer's Report: Officer Darrell Jones (email: Darrell_Jones@ci.richmond.ca.us; pager (510) 243-7118, hours, Monday through Thursday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.) reported that there was a fire in the second floor of the Plunge on October 20 caused by homeless people who had broken in and were living there. A fire was also set by homeless people at Kennedy High. The fire department rather than the police are investigating the Plunge fire. Code enforcement issues are being investigated on Washington and Nichol Streets at properties which have been a continuing problem. Fraud and forgery have become really big problems, and Officer Jones described the Jamaican Switch scam and warned everyone to be vigilant. Officer Jones took questions, and members voiced concerns about the following: Toll Bros. is starting work before 7 a.m., and Officer Jones will speak to their site manager. Many drivers are running the Stop sign on Sandpiper Spit, and Officer Jones will alert the traffic division. Visibility at the end of the tunnel is a problem and we should contact Rich Davidson about possible mirrors to enhance visibility. It was moved, seconded and approved to ask Don Woodrow to set up a meeting with Rich Davidson for a comprehensive review of traffic hazards on Seacliff. There has been a travel home sitting on East Richmond with New Mexico plates for weeks. Officer Jones said that the owner claims to be visiting someone in the Point. Tom Carson has talked to the City about putting cameras in high crime areas.

Design Review Committee: All items were withdrawn.

Agenda/Minutes Review: The September minutes were approved as submitted.

Old Business:

Trainmaster Building and the K-Rail Corral. Jeff Lee reported that there has been misunderstanding about the Trainmaster's Building. Cutting was vacated as a result of the Wig Wag negotiations two years ago and not to accommodate the Trainmaster's project. The area where the building is to be moved has been relocated onto a specific, defined parcel. Sewer service and water are in place, and planter boxes have replaced the K-rails. Slow communication between BNSF departments has led to delay. Hopefully, the building will be moved soon. Contact **Margaret Morkowski, (510) 234-4219** if you wish to be involved in planting flowers in one of the planter boxes. Margaret Morkowski reported for the RNCC:

- A memorial service for Lucretia Edwards, who was so important to Point Richmond, will be held at the Civic Auditorium on November 12 from 2 until 5.
- The Plunge Trust held a meeting, and a contract has been negotiated with an architect. It is anticipated that who renovation will start this spring and that The Plunge will reopen in Spring of 2007.
- There will be a concert of Spanish classical guitar music at 7 p.m. on October 29 at Our Lady of Mercy Church.
- Washington School's Many Hands Project will be accepting donations. Contact Sally De Witt at the school.
- The Feagleys will be opening another real estate office in Brickyard Landing. They are also sponsoring a program to send children from Washington School to summer school.

•On Monday the 31st, Halloween, the kids from Washington School will be having their Halloween parade from 11- 1 in the business district. Go see them if you get a chance, and take extra Halloween candy for them if you want.

•The Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council's Anti-Violence Seminar was well attended.

•All precincts in Point Richmond will be voting at Brickyard Cove on November 8.

•If you are interested in the annual Turkey Shoot, meet at the Indian statue at 10 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day.

Toll Brothers Presentation: At this point, the meeting was turned over to Tony Craig, from Toll Brothers ("TB"). He first gave some background, saying that the City sent out a directive to developers for high density development on the site. The BCDC and the City must both approve proposed plans. TB started out with an original proposal for a 4 story, flat view building with elevator service. The center building was proposed to be on a podium with underground parking. This was changed in order to create view corridors and allow the Bay Trail to circle the project. The latest plan reflects BCDC's wish to provide a shoreline road. The 13 acre site is now down to 6.9 acres. The new proposal is for 2 five story buildings on podiums in which all underground parking is located. It increases the cost and decreases the number of units that can be sold at one time. Design approval for this concept has been granted by BCDC. We are now in the middle of the public comment period for the CEQA report. The comment period lapses on December 12. Thereafter, TB hopes to have a virtual reality tour of the proposed project in front of the City Council.

The floor was opened for discussion. Concerns were raised about traffic to Brickyard Cove from the tunnel and along West Cutting. Comment letters on this situation should be sent to Lamont Thompson, Project Planner at the City offices, 1401 Marina Way. TB will be asked to respond to these comment letters. The City also needs to have a public hearing about changing the zoning for the site. The current proposal is for 325 units with 760 parking spaces in the podium. The original proposal was for 240 units. The project should be consistent with the general plan, which says 240 units. The current height of the buildings will be 77 feet, not including the cupolas. The HOA will be responsible for maintenance of the public park. Bruce Beyaert of TRAC asked that the trail be developed as part of Phase I. The Bay Trail should cross over Brick Yard Cove Road to hook up with the main Bay Trail. The 150 yard gap should be plugged. Can TB relocate the road to abandon Brickyard Cove Road and provide a significant road along the water? TB replied that they are contractually obligated to develop a specific parcel. It was brought up that they are officially obligated to develop a 240 unit project, so changes obviously have to be negotiated. Why not make the neighbors happy and move the road, which the community has unanimously requested. It was asked to whom neighbors should complain about the discrepancy in the number of units between what was originally proposed and what is being proposed now. That person is Alan Wolken in the City Redevelopment Agency. He, along with other City Officials, can be located through links at www.PointRichmond.com. Members were concerned about how the project will impact access in case of emergencies. It was concluded that TB only responsibility is to its shareholders, and concerns of Point Richmond neighbors should be directed to City Planners who ostensibly have some allegiance to residents of Point Richmond. Finally, TB was asked about the size and projected price of the units. They will range in price from the high \$500,000's to the high \$700,000's, and will average 1,700 square feet. TB would like to start building as early as January '07, start selling units in 2007, and occupancy could occur in 2008. Anyone having further questions can contact Tony Craig at (510) 234-8917.

Public Forum: Walter Connolly and Richard Lompa spoke against the proposed move of the Trainmaster's Building. They feel that the closure of Cutting was caused by this project, and that it will be detrimental to parking in the Point. It was mentioned that the closure of Cutting was as a result of the Wig Wag settlement with BNSF, and totally separate from the Trainmaster project. Messrs. Connolly and Lompa were not happy with this explanation, and wish to have Cutting reopened.

Richmond Art Center

Susan Chamberlain reported that the Richmond Art Center's Fall exhibitions will be opening, and that a Silent Auction will be held on October 30. The Art Center is located at 25th and Barrett, next to the vacant City Center. The gallery is open Tuesday through Sunday from 12 to 5

For more information about going on in the Point, see www.PointRichmond.com

No further business was conducted and the meeting was adjourned at 9:30.

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Traffic issues: Canal Boulevard, Seacliff Drive, Dornan Drive and Tunnel

I report here on a November 9 meeting with Richmond City Engineer Rich Davidson about traffic issues on those Point Richmond streets impacted or likely to be impacted by development underway or planned for the Terminal One-Brickyard Cove – Bottoms Property area. Traffic

problems already exist in there and unless action is started now, the problems will become more acute as development proceeds. [CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE.]

