



ON POINT

June 2010 issue

Break out your swimsuits! Marilyn Langlois from the Mayor's Office announced at the last Neighborhood Coordinating Council meeting that the Plunge will have a Grand Opening at 11:00 am on Saturday, August 14. We will be able to get wet at 1:00 pm.

Many of us had despaired of ever seeing the Plunge open again. Restoring it is a great accomplishment for the Point and the City of Richmond. Thank you to the **Save the Plunge Trust** and all of you who contributed money and time, and worked so hard, to make this happen.

Richmond is trying to reduce waste and be green. Starting July 1, we will be allowed and encouraged to put compostable items in our green plastic waste cans. In addition to yard trimmings, the green waste cans can now be used for disposal of food-soiled paper, meat, coffee grounds, vegetables, and other items that can be composted. Small plastic pails with tops will be made available to collect these items in your kitchen.

Our green waste will now be taken to a composting facility instead of a landfill. Once composted, soil will be available to residents on free pickup days. More specific information will follow and can be found on the City's website at www.richmondenvironment.org.

Also on July 1, grants will be made available to City residents for sewer lateral repairs. Up to 50% of the cost of repair, to a maximum of \$3,000, is available. Arriving with your application at 7:30 am on July 1 is advised. Only \$100,000 will be disbursed.

The ongoing catastrophe in the Gulf of Mexico from the gushing Deepwater Horizon oil well has been dominating the news. The effects of the disaster on wildlife and the residents of the Gulf Coast is incalculable. Although 2000 miles away, the spill is a reminder of our own vulnerability.

Three years ago, the *Cosco Busan* hit the Bay Bridge and about 50,000 gallons of oil polluted the Bay and our shore. Many of you will remember the shaky response by the Coast Guard to that spill. Containment was delayed while details of command and control were being worked out. Lack of preparedness allowed the oil to spread further than it should have.

Richmond has 32 miles of shoreline, more than any city in the Bay. The Chevron Refinery, its tanks, and the Long Wharf abut our neighborhood. The prevailing winds make Point Richmond a lee shore. How ready are we?

At our next meeting, Commander Kostecki from the Coast Guard's Planning and Force Readiness Sector San Francisco will speak. Matt Kelly, the Head of Emergency Services and Spill Response for the Chevron Refinery will also speak.

I hope to see you there.

Peter Minkwitz, *President*
POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL



AGENDA

POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
Wednesday, June 30, 2010
Point Richmond Community Center

- 7:30 pm **Call to Order**
- 7:30 **Approval of Minutes from May 26, 2010**
- President's Report** by Peter Minkwitz (510) 232-3663 5 minutes
- 7:35 **Police Report**
Richmond PD Officer David Longacre
Voicemail: (510) 621-1212 x 7105 or
dlongacre@richmondpd.net 10 minutes
- 7:45 **Report on Membership** Sue Rosenof (510) 599-1197 2 minutes
- 7:47 **Treasurer's Report** Art Mowry (510) 215-0501 2 minutes
- 7:49 **Committee Reports and Announcements from non-profit groups**
2 minutes each Up to 13 minutes
Point Richmond Business Association, Margaret Morkowski (510) 234-4219
Women's Westside Improvement Association, Margaret Morkowski
Knit and Such, Altha Humphrey (510) 232-2934
Arts of Point Richmond, Altha Humphrey (510) 234-3822
Point Richmond History Association, Mid Dornan
Safety Committee, Tom Brichta (415) 686-1522
- 8:00 **Heather Kostecki, Commander**
USCG Planning and Force Readiness Sector, San Francisco
- 8:25 **Matt Kelly, Head of Emergency Services and Spill Response,**
Chevron Refinery, Richmond
- 8:50 **Report from Land Use/Design Review Committee** Rod Satre
Items to be considered at the Committee's July 28, 2010 meeting must be submitted to Rod Satre, Committee Chair, by July 12, 2010.
Contact Rod at (510) 232-5059 or rdsatre@live.com
No projects were presented for review by the Committee
- 8:50 **Public Forum** Please sign up. As many as 5 speakers—2 minutes each
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. Must be submitted to Peter Minkwitz (510) 465-2527 (B), 510-232-3663 (H) by July 6, 2010
peter@sanfranciscomarinesurveyors.com or peter180@comcast.net

Adjourn

IMPORTANT DATES

- **July 28** **Next Regular meeting of the PRNC**
Wednesday 7:30 pm, Point Richmond Community Center,
139 Washington Avenue
- **July 28** **Next Regular meeting of the PRNC Land Use/Design Review**
Wednesday 6:00 pm, Offices of Interactive Resources, Park Place,
Point Richmond. Contact Rod Satre, Chair
(510) 232-5059 or rdsatre@live.com
- **July 12** **Last day to submit proposed projects to the Land Use/Design**
Monday Review Committee
- **July 6** **Next meeting of the PRNC Board of Directors**
Tuesday Call Peter Minkwitz for the time and place (510) 232-3663
- **July 2** **Meet-with-the-Mayor**
Friday 5:30 – 6:30pm
Whittlesey Room, 325 Civic Center Plaza
- **July 14** **Next meeting of the Point Richmond Business Association**
Wednesday 12:00 noon, Banquet Room, Hotel Mac
- **July 9** **Point Richmond Summer Music Festival**
Friday 5:30 pm Craig Horton, Blues & Blind Lemon Phillips, R& B
- **Wednesdays** **Point Richmond Farmers Market**
4 to 8 pm

**PLEASE SEND US
YOUR DUES FOR 2010/2011**

**The Point Richmond
Neighborhood Council (PRNC)**

provides a forum where issues of concern to the community can be discussed and acted upon. Monthly meetings keep you and your neighbors informed on issues that are important to Point Richmond and affect our lives. See last page of newsletter for details and membership form.

**Point Richmond
Police Dept.**

For immediate service:
233-1214 and hit "O" when
message begins

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For non-urgent calls: 621-1212

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FYI – "911" calls go to Vallejo

Minutes
POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
May 26, 2010
Point Richmond Community Center

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by President, Peter Minkwitz (510) 232-3663

Approval of Minutes from April 28, 2010: The minutes were moved, seconded and approved.

President's Report by Peter Minkwitz (510) 232-3663 Peter reported that the dues outreach at the Stroll was great. The City Council voted to extend the time for Upstream to come up with the requirements for the Casino. 87 people spoke City Council meeting for 2 minutes each. It is disappointing to see this extension. The feeling is that if they can't come up with the requirements on time now, what will they come up with later. There is a letter to confirm the vote on the mailbox placement. Sue is working on a PRNC website and she states we are actually receiving information on line. The Plunge has water in it now and "we will be swimming by the end of summer". Tonight at the City Review Board, the landscaping and the fountain are being considered. This was the "best program for Historical Awards they have ever had!" It was televised on Channel 28. Heather Kulp from Chevron and Edric Kwan will speak tonight. Edric will talk about the tunnel, paving plans, retaining walls, the sinkhole and a number of things relevant to the Point.

Police Report: Richmond PD Officer David Longacre: (510) 621-1212 x 7105 or dlongacre@richmondpd.net The crime stats show 8 crimes this past month, however, there has been "excitement in the Point". There have been the typical auto thefts in the industrial area, a car jacking on Canal and West Cutting. However, the most serious was a strong-armed robbery at the Cannabis Club on Washington. The thief stole cash and the cannabis supply and beat up an employee. The Police Department needs people to CALL when they see someone who are disrespectful or obnoxious. Call 233-1214, the non-emergency number and hit O and then right away you will be connected to an officer. If you call 911 on your cell phone, the call goes to the dispatch office in Vallejo

Report on Membership Sue Rosenof (510) 599-1197 Sue reported that the PRNC has 381 members total, with 111 on the e-mail list (37 paid) and 207 on the "snail mail" list with 25 paid. The website is "beautiful" but the "bells and whistles" don't work. She will be putting a "little bell up" as well as the newsletter. The Executive Board meeting minutes would be available if anyone were interested in them. "It's a process" and Sue is appreciative of your patience. Thank you to Margaret Morkowski for her help. Thanks to David Moore of Point Richmond on-line for posting the agendas and newsletters.

Treasurer's Report Art Mowry (510) 215-0501 Bishop Alley Path Fund: \$711.06 (We are custodians of this money). Ferry Point Fund: \$1989.58 (Custodians). These funds are for the painting of the tunnel. Wig Wag Fund: \$2970.94. In answer to a question raised from a community member, Art stated that the plaque for the Wig Wag has to be cast. There is no copyright as yet. These things, plus a conversation with BNSF have to occur before the project can be completed. Current expenses include: Summer Series Concert-\$500 sponsorship, Sue Rosenof \$42.77 and Peter Minkwitz \$42. Therefore, expenses were \$584.77 Dues collected were \$535. The General fund balance was \$4265.21. There is a possibility that the expense for mailing the newsletter may come back to us from the City. However, with the budget constraints, Art urges us to use e-mail. Art reminded the members that the Executive Board meetings have been held at our local restaurants and that the Board Members pay for their own food. General Fund: \$4265.21 Expenditure: \$584.77 Total: \$9,936.7

Committee Reports and Announcements from non-profit groups:

Point Richmond Business Association, President, Margaret Morkowski (510) 234-4219 Margaret reports new officers have been elected. There will be a survey at the Farmer's Market Business Association table.

Women's Westside Improvement Association, Margaret Morkowski (510) 234-4219. This will be the last meeting for the year. There will be a break for the summer after the June meeting. The association has taken a break after the June meeting since 1908. On 6/1 there will be salads and desserts event. All the women will wear hats and tell a story about the hats. There are "lots of good stories". Just come to the lunch or stay for the meeting at 11:30 at the Methodist Church.

Knit and Such, Altha Humphrey (510) 232-2934. The meetings are the first Wednesday of each month from 1:45-3:45 p.m. The next meeting will be 6/2. "We sew on buttons, knit, talk, look at magazines, talk, whatever. It's fun."

Arts of Point Richmond, Altha Humphrey (510) 232-2934. The Music Series on Fridays will begin June 11. The Arts of Point Richmond will have an exhibit in the Community Center. 6/16 will be the regular meeting plus an art talk from 7-9 p.m. at the Community Center. Last year the group was locked out for their annual meeting. This year, all of the appropriate papers were signed in April, however, no one from the City showed up for the meeting. Speakers from the Plunge were scheduled to talk. The group was understandably very upset. After e-mailing three elected City officials, Bill Lindsay replied and followed up with an apology. The Community wants the City to give keys to the Community Center to the PRNC. Mr. Lindsay said he would make sure this would happen. The building has fewer hours allotted for public use than any Center in the City. "Out of the negative comes the positive," stated our very patient and positive representative for this messy matter, Altha. Thanks!

Safety Committee, Tom Brichta (415) 686-1522 Tom will be happy to help set up a Neighborhood Watch group in any of the various Point Richmond neighborhoods. His e-mail is Tom911R7@yahoo.com

The Agreement between Chevron and the City Of Richmond Heather Kulp, Manager, Community Engagement, Richmond Refinery An arrangement was made between Chevron and the City of Richmond. It is a 15-year deal. Chevron will pay an additional \$114 million over the 15 years. In return for that, both ballot initiatives were dropped as well as Measure T (as it was illegal). There will be no interest due from the City to Chevron. Chevron will continue to provide funding for the Bay Trail, for the public transportation project, for ground and air monitoring for air quality. By working together, compromise and agreement were possible. This agreement gives the City financial security in that Chevron won't lay off employees, and that the payment for the first five years is "heavy loaded". Members of the audience were glad Chevron found its PR skills and thought it was a good agreement. The Bay Trail easement will go over the freeway and up over the hill, however, Cal Trans will determine the location, which can be a "moving target". Chevron will entertain conversation with the City if the Point Molate Casino project collapses. The renewal project will upgrade old equipment, process crude with higher sulphur content, is not going to be putting through "heavy crude", as it can only process "28 and higher", nothing heavier. There is a crude cap by nature of the permit they have now. Refer to www.chevronrichmond.com to learn about sensors, and crude monitoring.

Proposed Repair and Reconstruction of the Tunnel, Edric Kwan, Interim City Engineer. The Plunge is to open in July. It was paved around the Plunge recently. The funds for the tunnel project were "deobligated", shelving the project. Repair will proceed with 2 retaining walls on Scenic, "once we get the funding". The Bay Trail connection will require a bridge costing \$12 million, starting with design. "TRAC is so diligent". "Hopefully it will be 100% funded for construction". The sinkhole is being addressed at the cost of \$7.5 million. Questions re: undergrounding utilities and better safety measures for the tunnel were heard.

Report from Land Use/Design Review Committee. Rod Satre *Items to be considered at the Committee's June 3, 2010 meeting must be submitted to Rod Satre, Committee Chair, by June 14, 2010. Contact Rod at 510-232-5059 or rsatre@live.com. No projects were presented.*

Public Forum: Please sign up. As many as 5 speakers- 2 minutes each. *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, Must be submitted by June 1, 2010 to Peter Minkwitz (510) 465-2527 (B) 510-232-3663 (H) or to peter@sanfranciscomarinesurveyors.com or peter180@comcast.net*

