



Fellow Members,

## General Plan

During the September meeting, we will discuss one aspect of the City of Richmond's general plan: re-zoning the Northshore. The Northshore area is located south of Point Pinole Regional Park and between San Pablo Bay and the Richmond Parkway. This area was originally designated for industrial use. However, the General Plan draft proposes that this area is re-zoned as natural open space that would be available for recreation.

A general plan is supposed to be a look into Richmond's future. What do we want for our City? To help us ponder that question, we will have speakers on both sides of this issue.

The City of Richmond General plan is available for your review at:

<http://www.cityofrichmondgeneralplan.org/docs.php?ogid=1000000647>

## Membership

The PRNC has 443 members yet only 24% have up to date dues. We send 236 paper newsletters each month to our membership. Only 19% of the members receiving paper newsletters are up to date on dues. This month, I want to encourage members behind on dues to consider a couple options 1) submit your dues or 2) ask for a waiver of the dues if you are experiencing financial hardship. The money we collect helps defray administrative costs and supports community activities such as the Point Richmond Music Concert Series.

Paper newsletters are a great thing but if we are sending them to households that no longer need them it is a waste of resources and money. Therefore, starting in October the PRNC will not send newsletters to households that have not paid dues in over three years.

We would also like to make an appeal to new and current members who receive the paper newsletter to consider switching to the email version. You will receive it earlier than the paper version, and will save our resources to be used on other important issues. Please note that the newsletter is made available on the PRNC website and is posted on the Sante Fe Market storefront.

## Post Office

The US Postal Service has again proposed closing 3,700 postal facilities throughout the country. The Point Richmond Postal Office is not on the list. The next time you mail a letter please consider the Point Richmond postal office as your preferred office. Another item for action is to send a letter to our local congressman George Miller (3220 Blume Drive, Suite 281, Richmond CA 94806) as a friendly reminder of how much the community appreciates the local post office.

I hope to see you at the September Meeting.

Megan Bleckinger, *1<sup>st</sup> Vice President*  
POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL



# AGENDA

## POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Wednesday, August 31, 2011

Point Richmond Community Center

- 7:30 pm **Call to Order**
- 7:30 **Approval of Minutes from July 27, 2011**
- President's Report** by Megan Bleckinger, 1<sup>st</sup> V.P. 5 minutes
- 7:35 **Police Report** Officer Joe Anderson  
(510) 621-1212 Ext.7145 [janderson@richmondpd.net](mailto:janderson@richmondpd.net) 10 minutes
- 7:45 **Report on Membership** Sue Rosenof (510) 599-1197 2 minutes
- 7:47 **Treasurer's Report** Louise Fender (510) 260-0309 2 minutes
- 7:50 **Committee Reports and Announcements from non-profit groups**  
2 minutes each Up to 20 minutes
- Point Richmond Business Association, Margi Cellucci  
Women's Westside Improvement Club, Margaret Morkowski (510) 234-4219  
Knit and Such, Altha Humphrey (510) 232-2934  
Arts of Point Richmond, Altha Humphrey  
Red Oak Victory, George Coles  
PRNC Safety Committee, Tom Brichta 510-620-6538  
Friends of Richmond Tennis Committee, Garry Hurlbut [glh@tia.org](mailto:glh@tia.org)  
Point Richmond History Association, Mid Dornan 510-234-5334
- 8:10 **Introduction to Saffron Strand**, Yvonne Nair, CEO
- 8:20 **Update on Veolia and the Waste Treatment Plant**, Maureen Decombe
- 8:25 **Draft Formula Restaurant Ordinance**, Marsha Tomassi 510-215-6133
- 8:35 **Report from Land Use/Design Review Committee** Rod Satre  
*Items to be considered at the Committee's October 26th meeting must be submitted to Rod Satre, Committee Chair, by October 12th.*  
*Contact Rod at (510) 232-5059 or [rdsatre@live.com](mailto:rdsatre@live.com)*
- 8:45 **General Plan: North Richmond Zoning proposal**
- Open Land** – Patricia Jones, Citizens for East Shore Parks **7 minutes**
- Industrial** - Josh Genser, Richmond Development Company **7 minutes**
- 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 for consideration by the October 14, 2011 to Megan Bleckinger (510) 242-2288 or <http://www.pointrichmond.org/contact.cfm>*

**Adjourn**

# IMPORTANT DATES

- \*\* September 28**    **Next Regular meeting of the PRNC**  
**Wednesday**        **7:30 pm, Point Richmond Community Center**
  
- \*\*October 12**        **Last day to submit proposed projects to the**  
**Wednesday**        **Land Use/Design Review Committee**
  
- \*\*October 5**         **Next meeting of the PRNC Board of Directors**  
**Wednesday**        **Call Megan Bleckinger for the time and place**
  
- \*\*2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday**    **Next meeting of the Point Richmond Business Assoc.**  
**12:00 noon**         **The Baltic Restaurant**
  
- \*\*October 15**        **2011 Home Front Festival by the Bay**  
**11 am-6pm**         **Craneway Pavilion**
  
- \*\* Every**             **The Point Richmond Farmer's Market**  
**Wednesday**        **4-8 pm**
  
- \*\*1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>**        **Richmond City Council meets**  
**Tue 6:30 pm**



## **Minutes Point Richmond Neighborhood Council General Membership Meeting, August 31, 2011**

1. **The meeting was called to order at 7:30.** Minutes of 7/27/11 were approved with the following corrections/additions (in bold) to “Report from Land Use/Design Review Committee: “Design Review Committee supported the project with the following conditions: **1) No trespass during construction**, **2) Maintain trees as screen on Adams property**, **3) Move hot tub**, **4) Rail on SE side opaque or translucent to maintain privacy.** Linda **Newton** reporting.
2. **President's Report** Megan Bleckinger, 1st VP (832-493-1416)  
Peter Minkwitz, is on a 6 months medical leave. We all wish him well.  
Contributions being accepted to assist family in North and East who suffered a home invasion with death of a family member. Contributions can be made to “The Kumar Family Benefit” at Mechanics Bank. The last day to register for a tour of the Chevron Refinery is September 1.
3. **Police Report** (Officer Longacre reporting for Officer Anderson) Officer Anderson did not have crime stats. Will report 2 months in September. Member expressed concern about groups of children with an adult going door-to-door in the community. All-door-to-door soliciting must be permitted by the city. Call police with concerns.

A bank-owned apartment building at 153-157 Santa Fe has been a nuisance for several years with unauthorized inhabitants, drug activity, etc. One tenant is legal. City pressuring bank to evict him to be able to board up the building. Call police with concerns. Trespassing at Terminal One. Many are people fishing, etc. Call police if you see trespassers.

4. **Report on Membership:** Sue Rosenof not present. Will give report at September meeting.
5. **Treasurer's Report:** Louise Fender (510-260-0309) Balance Forward: \$5722.42; Expenses: \$149.87; Dues Collected: \$125; Bishop Alley Fund: \$711.06; Ferry Point Fund: \$1989.58; Wig Wag Fund: \$2970.94; **Total Balance: \$11369.13.**
6. **Committee Reports/Reports from Non-Profits**
  - Point Richmond Business Association (Margaret Morkowski 510-234-4219) Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. of month at noon at the Baltic. All welcome. Need add'l committee members for Farmers Market.
  - Women's Westside Improvement Club (Margaret Morkowski) First meeting of year Tuesday, September 13 at the Methodist Church.
  - Knit and Such (Altha Humphrey) Meets 12:30-2:30 in the Community Center on the first Wednesday of month (9/7). All welcome.
  - Arts of Point Richmond (Altha Humphrey) For local artists and all interested. Meeting 9/20 from 7-9P at Community Center. Featured artist will show and discuss art. Refreshments.
  - Red Oak Victory Ship (George Coles) Fundraising going well. Plan to be in and out of drydock and ready to go in time for Homefront Festival and October Pancake Breakfast.
  - PRNC Safety Committee (Tom Brichta 510-620-6538) National Night Out was a big success with 21 parties throughout city. Because metals (gold) have increased in value there is an increase in incidents of snatching gold necklaces. Need to be watchful.

- Friends of Richmond Tennis Committee (Gary Hurlbut, [glh@tia.org](mailto:glh@tia.org)) USTA Nor Cal Advocacy will donate up to 20% to refurbish tennis courts in Richmond. Courts by Plunge are not in good shape but are useable. Community Garden: Maureen will bring diagram of space to next meeting.
  - Formula Restaurant Ordinance Committee (Marsha Tomassi 510-215-6133) After standardized review of many similar ordinances, draft is ready. Has been submitted to Jeff Ritterman and Jeff Lee. Will be submitted to PRNC Board and Land Use Committee. After City Attorney review will be discussed at community meetings.
  - Point Richmond History Association (Pat Pearson) Still working on plaques
7. **Introduction to the Point Pharmacy** (Vern Verling, PharmD. Opened July 26 as a full service pharmacy with prescription services, holistic products (homeopathic, herbal, etc.), diabetic and medical equipment center, and state-of-the-art computer technology to help prevent medication errors. Currently working on an immunization program. Point Pharmacy: 139 W. Richmond Ave., Hours: 9-6:30, Phone: 510-232-7879
8. **Update on Veolia and the Waste Treatment Plant** (Maureen Decombe)  
Continuing odor problems (50 in this calendar year). Complaints and monitor readings do correlate. Air Board has put 22 new conditions on permitting (including monitoring digester gasses). In addition to increasing likelihood that the system will run better, this development will give the city more power to enforce compliance.
- Digesters will be turned on soon which will provide opportunity to identify sources of problem and allow the plant to operate until other options for waste management are identified. E-mail [Maureen@greenwillowgardens.com](mailto:Maureen@greenwillowgardens.com) for copies of the permits and new conditions. For more information from Veolia contact Aaron Winer at [aaron.winer@veoliawaterna.com](mailto:aaron.winer@veoliawaterna.com) or go to the website: [www.veoliawaterna.com](http://www.veoliawaterna.com).
9. **Proposal to privately manage the Point Richmond Community Center**--Marjorie Moore, Ki Society, introduced for discussion proposal that a new management model is needed for program planning at the Center. Ki Society wants to offer programs, donating their efforts initially until the program makes a profit. The building would remain city property, but city employees would likely be replaced. Discussion: PRNC members expressed some concerns about the current issues with the Community Center—high rental costs, minimal programming, poor maintenance, and difficulty getting the key. While interested in better programming, members expressed concern about the Ki proposal including lack of a plan or business proposal and possibility that city employees would lose their jobs.
- Connie Portero, Chair of Parks and Recreation Commission, requested that concerns and ideas be brought to the Commission. Groups that want to start classes can negotiate a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the city. To defray costs of using center, community groups can also negotiate a MOU with the city. All requests to use the facility must be made through our Recreation Department, 620-6793. Margaret Morkowski (510-234-4219) has an MOU that covers some Point Richmond community organizations. Sharilyn Babb, Center Manager, would like to know what activities community would like to see at the Center and is trying to recruit people to teach classes. No action was taken on Ki proposal.
10. **Report from the Land Use/Design Review Committee** (Rod Satre)  
Moved, seconded, passed to accept recommendation of the Design Review Board to approve without conditions 221 East Scenic Rehabilitation, Tom Butt, owner. Add a door to the south (rear) elevation and add two skylights

Re: Street closing at Martina, applicant didn't show. Committee voted NOT to recommend the proposal as it includes closing off a public walkway that can't be privatized. Committee needs drawings and proposals two weeks before meeting. Look on city website for Planning Department requirements (same for Design Review). Streetscapes/photos are helpful.

**Public Forum**

- Linda Newton: Large item trash drop-off was poorly attended. Linda has concerns about pigeons being fed in downtown area and requests that this be stopped.
- Garry Hurlbut reported that the lagoon that drains near Keller Beach does not contribute to problem of harmful bacteria. Seacliff Community is doing better. Rescinded recall petition. Holding constructive town hall meetings.
- Margaret Morkowski: 100 year anniversary of Washington School. Asking that former students submit "before/after" photos and 1/2 page description of their life since being a student at Washington. Submissions can be given to Margaret. Homefront Festival will be October 15; Lady of Mercy Pancake Breakfasts 9/18, 10/16 at Lady of Mercy Church.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm

Margaret Jordan  
Secretary, Point Richmond Neighborhood Council

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**PLEASE SUPPORT THE PRNC.**

The dues help cover our administrative expenses and are minimal. Rates are \$10 for individuals and \$15 for a household. New and renewed membership covers the period May 1, 2011 to April 30, 2012. Lifetime memberships are available for \$500. If the amount of the dues is a financial hardship, a waiver is gladly granted.

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**POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

**New**

**Membership Application**  
May 1, 2011 to April 30, 2012

**Renewal**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Bring dues to the next meeting or mail check and this application to:

**PRNC**  
**P.O. Box 70386**  
**Point Richmond, CA 94807**

**Do you want to receive the Newsletter by mail ?**

**Yes  No**

**Do you want to receive the Newsletter by e-mail ?**

**Yes  No**