



Tennis Court Behind the Plunge

The official opening of the newly renovated tennis court behind the Plunge was a great celebration with good food, good music and many acknowledgements of individuals who worked on the project. Garry and Maryn Hurlbut received special recognition from the City of Richmond and The Friends of Richmond Recreation for their hard work and contributions, that resulted in greater access to tennis courts. Stop by to see the engraved stone by the entrance to the courts. Thanks again Garry and Maryn!

Proposed Shea Homes Development on Bottoms Property

At the July PRNC meeting, members supported the LUDRC recommendation for a conditional approval of the “concept” of a proposed 74 unit development to be built near Seacliff. The conditions included: “1) clarifying how the access point to Canal Blvd will be handled, 2) revising the planting plan to use native plants, and 3) the easement on which the Bay Trail is to be built is different than the illustration and needs to be resolved.”

Although a majority of those voting approved the concept, several attendees expressed concerns about issues related to views both at the meeting and after. I think it is important to understand that approval of the concept was the *beginning* of the process and that there will be many opportunities for continued input from the public. The following paragraph is Bruce Beyaert’s summary of the CEQA process which will need to be followed before the project can be realized:

“There will be many opportunities for public review and comment if Shea Homes decides to file an application with the City of Richmond for approval of the housing project it is considering on the Bottoms property. The first will be via the City’s steps to comply with the [California Environmental Quality Act \(CEQA\)](#) prior to making decisions on the project. This will lead to a public notice seeking comment on the scope of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) followed by the opportunity to comment on the DEIR and then the Final EIR (FEIR). The project’s land use, planning and aesthetic impacts are among those evaluated in an EIR with mitigation required to avoid significant effects if feasible. Once the City has certified the FEIR, the project will be reviewed by the City’s Design Review Board, perhaps the Planning Commission, and finally the City Council.”

Candidates’ Night: The PRNC is pleased to host a Candidates Night on **Thursday, September 27** from 7 pm to 9 pm to provide an opportunity for residents of Point Richmond, including those who live in Brickyard and Seacliff, to hear from the 11 candidates running for Richmond City Council. We will hear each candidate’s platform and their thoughts on the major issues of concern for the future of our city. There will be a Q&A and we welcome questions in advance. Although not confirmed, we expect that the Candidates Night will be held in the Brickyard area. ***Please note that the event will replace the regularly scheduled PRNC September Membership meeting.***



The PRNC General Meeting on August 29 will include several interesting topics for discussion.

- Representatives from Richmond’s **Operation Ceasefire** will discuss the community-based national program that focuses on stopping urban gun violence. The program targets those most likely to commit violence and provides them with positive alternatives. The documentary, *The Interrupters*, a moving documentary on the Ceasefire program in Chicago, is available through Netflix.
- Representatives from **Chevron** will be at the meeting to provide information and answer questions about the recent refinery fire.

Hope we see you at the meeting (and don’t forget the Farmers’ Market every Wednesday from 4 to 7 pm through September 26).



PRNC President



Point Richmond Neighborhood Council
General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 25, 2012

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m.

2. Minutes of June 27, 2012 meeting were approved.

3. **Police Report (Steven Andretich-sandretich@richmond.net)** (non emergency number for police assistance-510-233-1214) There was no officer in attendance.

4. President's Report (Margaret Jordan, President, 510-412-3673)

- National Night Out is Tuesday, August 7th. An event is planned at the City Hall starting at 5:30 pm.
- **Nutiva®** -There will be a Job Fair for the first wave of hiring at **Nutiva** on Monday August 6 from 12-4 pm at 213 West Cutting. Nutiva is an organic food brand dedicated to "nourishing people and planet". More information about jobs can be found at www.nutiva/jobs.
- **NextDoor.com** is a new social network for neighborhoods. Joan Garrett and Megan Bleckinger are looking in to setting it up for Pt. Richmond.
- We need volunteers for the Farmer's Market booth, for the refreshments at the PRNC meetings and for raising more money for the tunnel mural honoring Peter Minkwitz, our former PRNC President.

5. Report by Megan Bleckinger, First Vice President -- A new ferry is proposed in Richmond from the Craneway Pavilion to the Ferry Building in San Francisco. It will start service in 2014. There will be a rebuilding of the floating berthing space and a new vessel. The public comment was positive. The public wanted service to AT&T Park as well.

6. Report on Membership (Sue Rosenof 510-599-1197) We now have 60 members on "snail mail" with 18 paid and 255 members on e-mail, with 46 paid. May 1st is the membership renewal date each year.

7. Treasurer's Report (Louise Fender 510-260-0309) Balance forward: \$6251.98; Expenses \$667.58; Dues collected: \$105; Bishop Alley Fund: \$711.06; Ferry Point Fund \$6,270; Wig Wag Fund: \$2,970.94; General Fund:\$5689.40; Total Balance: \$15,641.40

8. Report from City on Tewksbury Steps (City Planning Department) Warren Williams from the City received comments of concern regarding the safety of the well-worn steps and path. With the budget cuts, there is no money to move ahead to address the safety issue. The plan is to keep it barricaded until there are funds available for its repair. The sidewalk and stairs will be boarded up with metal barricades and permanent metal signs in the interim. The cost of the project and the current safety codes will be addressed through the Engineering Department with Mr. Williams following up on a report within the next couple of months.

9. Committee Reports and Announcement from Non-Profit Groups

Point Richmond Business Association (Margi Cellucci 510-237-0101) 35 members attended the July meeting at Salute restaurant. You may come as a visitor; however, the association wants people to join the group. The next meeting is August 8 at noon at Salut .

Point Richmond Farmer's Market (Margi Cellucci) The Market was light in vendors this evening. It is doing OK but could use more support from the community.

Westside Woman's Improvement Club (Margaret Morkowski) There will be meetings starting in September. They also need help staffing the Community Groups' table at the Farmer's Market on the 3rd Wednesdays of the month.

Knit and Such (Altha Humphrey 510-232-2934) The group meets the 1st Wednesday of the month. Everyone is welcome.

Arts of Point Richmond (Altha Humphrey) There will be an extravaganza program in September with all artists showing their work together. More information will be forthcoming.

Red Oak Victory (George Coles) George expressed his appreciation to all those who attended the City Council meeting to challenge the idea of paying \$10,000 per month for the berthing of The Red Oak Victory Ship. There are summer films on certain Thursday nights during the summer. The next pancake breakfast will be August 12th, 9 am to noon.

Point Richmond Safety Committee (Tom Brichta 510-620-6538) Tom was not available.

Friends of Richmond Tennis Committee (Garry Hurlbut (glh@tai.org) The Nichol Court has been finished with a big event July 7 with Al Adles (of Warrior fame) attending. The Point Richmond court will be finished July 27. A dedication will be held August 9th, with Richmond Chamber of Commerce, music and food from local restaurants. There is interest in developing the garden behind the Plunge near the courts.

Point Richmond History Association (Mid Dornan 510-234-5334) No report

TRAC Bruce Beyaert -- The mission of this group is to complete the Bay Trail. Bruce had copies of the Mid-Year Report. Shipyard 3 Trail is complete and progress is being made to close the other gaps in the Trail. Bruce passed out a new trail guide, paid for by the EBRPD. A new trail is planned by where the Shea Homes are proposed. The new Interpretive Exhibit was discussed.

10. Reports from Land Use/Design Review Committee (Rod Satre):

- **Deck Replacement**, 616 Western Drive. LUDRC approved the project without conditions. It was seconded and approved by PRNC membership.
- **Shea Homes** Don Holfer reported on the proposed 74 units (town homes and condos) to be built on The Bottoms Property near Sea Cliff. The architecture will be specific to this site with shingles and a painted metal roof. There will be two-story buildings in the front and three- and four-story buildings in the back. The height of these buildings was a concern to the current owners whose view would be blocked by this development. The Brickyard HOA appreciated the community input, the extensive details and was quite pleased. The Sea Cliff community representatives were opposed to the excessive height and wanted restrictions of 35 feet as per the guidelines outlined in the general plan.

The parking issue was addressed, the grading issue has been considered, Veolia representative stated the sewage capacity would not be affected with the additional dwellings and the lighting issue from the port would be considered. One problem about the junction of Sea Cliff and Canal was expressed as well as concerns regarding property value. The consultant team for Shea Builders has completed extensive outreach efforts. They were requesting “conceptual approval”, approving the plan in concept. It would then need to be approved by the City and then CEQA documents; engineering and grading assessments, etc. would take place. The BCDC has requested a 55 inch accommodation for the sea level rise. A vote was held as to whether or not we endorse the LUDRC recommendations to support the general concept subject to the three conditions. This is an advisory vote and will then go to the Planning Department, who makes the final decision. Of those voting, there were 12 votes in support and 4 votes opposed.

- **LUDRC Recommendations:** Conditional approval of the concept, from the information presented, includes the following conditions: 1) clarifying how the access point to Canal Blvd will be handled, 2) revising the planting plan to use native plants, 3) the easement on which the Bay Trail is to be built is different than the illustration and needs to be resolved. With these conditions, LUDRC was willing to approve the concept.

*** Items to be considered at the Committee's August 29 meeting must be submitted to Rod Satre, Committee Chair, by August 6. Contact Rod at (510) 232-5059 or rdsatre@live.com*

11. WriterCoach Connection (Shelli Fried) This program will be starting in the fall at Richmond High School. The program was established 12 years ago and has had 530 coaches serving 200 students in 4 communities and now would like to expand to Richmond. There is a need for 80 volunteers. Every student will have a coach to allow them to see that their ideas are valuable, helping them “find their voice”. The training program for the coaches involves two 3-hour sessions. There is a site coordinator at each school as well as a separate “writing room”. The work is done during class hours, however, there are also after school tutoring possibilities. The time commitment is to one student in one class for one period per week (90 minutes). Typically, with holidays, it is 2-3 times per month. The response from the community has been “fantastic!” The response from current participants was very positive and encouraging.

12. Public Forum

- **Aaron Weiner-Veolia Water.** Aaron wanted to let us know he was always available to answer our questions. The digester-cleaning project is going on now. The sewer replacement project on Santa Fe was successful. There will be a project to improve drainage on the northern 2/3 of Railroad Avenue soon.
- **Linda Newton** expressed a concern regarding the trashcans at Santa Fe Market and the trash behind the Richmond Market. The code enforcement staff will be attending the meeting next month.

PLEASE NOTE: Issues brought to the attention of the Forum cannot result in Council action at this meeting. Instead, the issue should have been resented to Council for consideration by July 3, 2012 to Margaret Jordan (510) 412-3673 or <http://www.pointrichmond.org/contact.cfm>.

13. In Remembrance/Adjourn

Remembered are Jean Ekels, Warren Winkelstein, and Chris Spencer

Meeting adjourned. Louise Fender, Acting PRNC Secretary (510-260-0309, my76scout@aol.com)

Calendar

Wednesday, August 29	Point Richmond Neighborhood Council Meeting: 7:30 – 9:00 pm Community Center
Thursday, August 30	San Francisco Mime Troupe: <i>The Last Election</i> -- Nicholl Park, 6:30 –9:00 pm
Tuesday, September 4	Meeting of PRNC Board of Directors. Call Margaret Jordan for time and place. (510-412-3673)
Saturday, September 8	Picnic in the Park Benefit for Washington School 12 Noon– 6 pm at Judge G. Carroll Park (See www.pointrichmond.com for details)
Sunday, September 9	Red Oak Victory Ship-Pancake Breakfast—9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Wednesday, September 12	Point Richmond Business Association 12 Noon For reservation contact Andrew Butt (Andrew.butt@intres.com)
Friday, September 14	Point Richmond Music Festival 5:30-8:00 pm featuring <i>Delta Wires</i> , Blues and <i>GG Amos</i> , Blues.
Thursday, September 27	Point Richmond Neighborhood Council Candidates Night. 7–9:00 pm – location TBD.*
Friday, September 28	Point Richmond Music Festival 5:30 – 8:00 pm featuring <i>Calevaras</i> , Folk and <i>Con Brio</i> , Funk, Soul, Blues.
Tuesday, October 9	Submissions for projects to Land Use/Design Review Committee (LUDRC) to be considered at meeting on October 31 are due October 2. Contact information can be found in Agenda.*
Farmer's Market	4 –7:00 pm (every Wednesday through September 26)
Point Richmond Art Walk	6 – 9:00 pm (every third Thursday)
1 st and 3 rd Tuesday	Starting up again in September – City Council Meetings (City Council Chambers)

Candidates Night will replace September PRNC Meeting. Projects to come before the LUDRC will be considered at the regularly scheduled meeting on October 31.

Dues for everyone are due the same time every year – May 1st.

This year's dues covers May 1, 2012 to April 30, 2013. If you have paid dues in the last few months, you're up to date. The dues help cover our administrative expenses and are minimal: \$10 for individuals and \$15 for a household. If this is a financial hardship, a waiver is gladly granted. Lifetime memberships are available for \$500.

PRNC MEMBERSHIP

New

Renewal

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Telephone _____ e-mail _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Bring dues to next meeting or mail check and application to: **PRNC; P.O. Box 70386; Point Richmond, CA 94807**

