



Fellow Members,

### Change in Newsletters

The City of Richmond has historically paid for printing and mailing of all the neighborhood council's newsletters. However, this year, as a result of financial pressures, the City has placed a budget-conscious limitation on the frequency of newsletters they will print and mail at four issues per year (as opposed to, in our case, 12). The PRNC Board discussed the ramifications of this decision and brainstormed a few stop-gap scenarios. Likely the solution for this year may be a combination of the following ideas, which we will continue to discuss:

- The PRNC will pay for the annual remaining eight issues of *On Point* -- printing and delivery will be paid out of the General fund
- Increase dues of those members who receive paper copies unless the member requests a waiver
- Just mail those newsletters that the city has agreed to produce annually (four).
- Send newsletters to members in good standing only
- Encourage members to switch to electronic distribution
- Provide hard copies at local businesses and Community Center

### Farmer's Market

The Point Richmond Farmer's Market will kick off May 2<sup>nd</sup>. The PRNC will host a booth on May 30<sup>th</sup>. In cooperation with the Farmer's Market organizers, the PRNC will host a booth once per month for the duration of the Market season, and we are looking for volunteers to help staff the booth. Please let the PRNC board know if you are interested in volunteering a few hours this summer.

### Peter's Mural Fund

In memory of Peter Minkwitz, donations are being accepted to fund the bay side Ferry Point Tunnel Mural. The mural is estimated at \$7,500 for completion (see later in this newsletter for the projected completed image). Please send donations in Peter's name to the Point Richmond Neighborhood Council, P.O. Box 70386, Point Richmond, CA 94807 designated for the Ferry Point Tunnel Mural fund.

### March Meeting

The March meeting agenda is very full. The nominating committee will announce their nominations for April's election. Also several agenda items relate to air monitoring throughout the point. We will be facilitating a vote for the new Veolia monitoring station either in Seacliff/ Brickyard (Brickyard Cove Lift Station) or Nevin Ave (A lift station). Lastly, we will hear a presentation on the clean water initiative. This initiative seeks public funding for water clean-up programs throughout the county. This property-owner-only election has ballots due by April 6. More information can be found at the following website: <http://www.cccleanwater.org/cleanwaterinitiative/faq.html>

I hope to see you at the March meeting.

Megan Bleckinger, *Acting President*



# AGENDA

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**POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
**Wednesday, March 28, 2012**  
**Point Richmond Community Center**

- 7:30 pm **Call to Order**
- 7:30 **Approval of Minutes from February 29th, 2012**
- President's Report** by Megan Bleckinger, Acting President 5 minutes
- 7:35 **Police Report** 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 [gla@tia.org](mailto:gla@tia.org)  
Point Richmond History Association, Mid Dornan 510-234-5334  
Nominating Committee, Bruce Beyaert (5 minutes)
- 8:10 **Report from Land Use/Design Review Committee** Rod Satre  
*Items to be considered at the Committee's April 25th meeting must be submitted to Rod Satre, Committee Chair, by April 10th.*  
*Contact Rod at (510) 232-5059 or [rdsatre@live.com](mailto:rdsatre@live.com)*
- 8:15 **Introduction to a New Non-Profit, Love Delivers**, Diana Paul
- 8:20 **Veolia New Air Monitors Location Vote** 10 minutes
- 8:30 **Chevron Air Monitors** 15 minutes
- Joe Puleo 5 minutes
- Chevron 5 minutes
- 8:45 **Contra Costa Clean Water Initiative** 20 minutes
- 9:05 **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 April 10th, 2012 to Megan Bleckinger (510) 242-2288 or <http://www.pointrichmond.org/contact.cfm>*

**Adjourn**



**Point Richmond Neighborhood Council**  
**General Meeting Minutes**  
**February 29, 2012**

**1. The meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm.**

**2. Minutes of January 25, 2012 meeting were approved with the addition of the non-emergency number for police assistance (510-233-1214)**

**3. President's Report (Megan Bleckinger, President)** Megan announced the sad news that PRNC President Peter Minkwitz passed away February 11, 2012. She described him as a kind-hearted man, one who welcomed others with open arms, and a great mentor. Bruce Beyaert thanked Megan for stepping up and taking Peter's place while he was sick. Bruce described Peter's equanimity in dealing with the issues that arose as Peter and Doreen were building their "dream house" on Bishop Alley.

Bruce announced that in lieu of flowers the family is asking those who would like to honor Peter to give donations in Peter's name to Point Richmond Neighborhood Council to be used to complete the Keller Beach tunnel mural. Estimated cost is \$7,500. Chevron donated has \$1,000 to that fund in Peter's memory.

A nominating committee has been appointed to identify candidates for president and secretary. The following individuals are on the nominating committee-- Nate Trevor, Art Mowry, Megan Bleckinger, Bruce Bayert, Sue Rosenof.

**4. Police Report (Stephen Andretich-sandretich@richmondpd.net) (Non-emergency number for police assistance--510-233-1214.** Officer Andretich will be driving Car #10 or #1. Crime stats for Point Richmond for February 2012 included 2 thefts from cars, 3 vehicle thefts, 6 residential burglaries, and other assorted incidents. There were no violent crimes reported.

**5. Report on Membership (Sue Rosenof 510-599-1197)** Membership renewals are coming in and are being moved over to the 2012-2013 year. April is beginning of the PRNC calendar year.

**6. Treasurer's Report (Louise Fender-510-260-0309)** Balance Forward: \$5,880.70; Expenses: \$21.80; Dues collected: \$130, Bishop Alley Fund: \$711.06; Ferry Point Fund: \$1,989.58; Wig Wag Fund: \$2,970.94; General Fund: \$5,988.90 **Total Balance: \$11,660.48**

**7. Committee Reports and Announcements from Non-Profit Groups**

- Women's Westside Improvement Club (Linda Newton) Meets at the Methodist Church on the 1st--Tuesday of March at 11:30 am. Bring bag lunch. Dessert and drinks provided.
- Knit and Such (Altha Humphrey 510-232-2934) Will meet at March 7 in Community Center from 12:30-2:30 pm. All welcome.
- Arts of Point Richmond (Altha Humphrey) The Spring Art show will be Tuesday, March 20 from 6-9 pm in the Community Center.
- Red Oak Victory Ship (George Coles) George recommends coming to see the USS Iowa and then touring the Red Oak Victory Ship. Need more docents to lead tours (tours include 10 flights of stairs). Contact George or the crew in the gift shop for a training tour.
- Friends of Richmond Tennis (Garry Hurlbut [glh@tai.org](mailto:glh@tai.org)) The City council approved the expenditure to resurface Nichol Park and Plunge courts. Expect completion by the April. They have great youth program. There will be an adult tennis program. Also have space for community garden. Can apply to city to adopt an area.
- Point Richmond History Association (Mid Dornan 510-234-5334) Newsletter is out and is available at Santa Fe or Point markets. Have some free calendars left. As part of the 100 year Washington School celebration, past presidents are being honored. Nominations for the annual Historic Preservation wards are due by March 30.

**8. Report from Land Use Design Review Committee** Items to be considered at the Committee's April 25 meeting must be submitted to Rod Satre, Committee Chair, by April 10th. Contact Rod at 510-232-5059 or rdsatre@live.com

**9. Caltrans Project Scofield Ave. Bridge Deck Replacement Project (Gary Purcell ([gpurcell@dot.ca.gov](mailto:gpurcell@dot.ca.gov); Allyn Amsk ([allyn\\_amsk@dot.ca.gov](mailto:allyn_amsk@dot.ca.gov)))** Presentation was in response to various community concerns about a multi-year closure of the Western Drive Eastbound onramp from Point Molate that would have required an 11 mile detour across the bridge and back. Caltrans has proposed a new plan which will shorten the Western Ave ramp part of the project to 3 months and has put in place measures to allow almost all cars (except oversized and trucks) to avoid the detour. An estimated 40 vehicles will have to use the detour during the night. Toll passes will be available for these 40 cars.

For more details contact Amsk or plan to attend a community education session which will be held before the project begins. Several members made an unrelated suggestion that the Fastrak lanes be switched to the right side of the toll plaza. A PRNC resolution to recommend this idea will be discussed at a future meeting.

**10. Childhood Obesity Epidemic, Jeff Ritterman, City Council ([jeffritterman@yahoo.com](mailto:jeffritterman@yahoo.com))** Dr. Ritterman described the current childhood obesity epidemic, which if not reversed, will result in huge increases in adult obesity, illness, mortality and social costs. Children cannot be blamed for their obesity. He likened the issue as both an individual and social problem similar to tobacco use, which must be addressed at the society level. The problem will disproportionately affect poor communities of color. Many studies point to a great increase in fructose (sugar consumption) as the cause, primarily through increased consumption of sweetened sodas. Dr. Ritterman is encouraging individuals and groups to join with the **Richmond Fit for Life Coalition** to participate in develop activities to promote a healthy Richmond through healthy eating programs, physical fitness programs, etc.

In addition, the City Council has recommended two measures for the November ballot. The first will levy a 1 cent/ounce tax on sweetened sodas. The second will designate that monies raised be used to support a healthy Richmond—more play fields, nutrition programs, etc. To address concern about Richmond citizens will go to neighboring cities to buy sodas, Dr. Ritterman described attempts in the works to have similar taxes in surrounding cities. If you are interested in joining **Fit for Life Coalition** or discussing this further contact Dr. Ritterman by e-mail or “friend” him on Facebook.

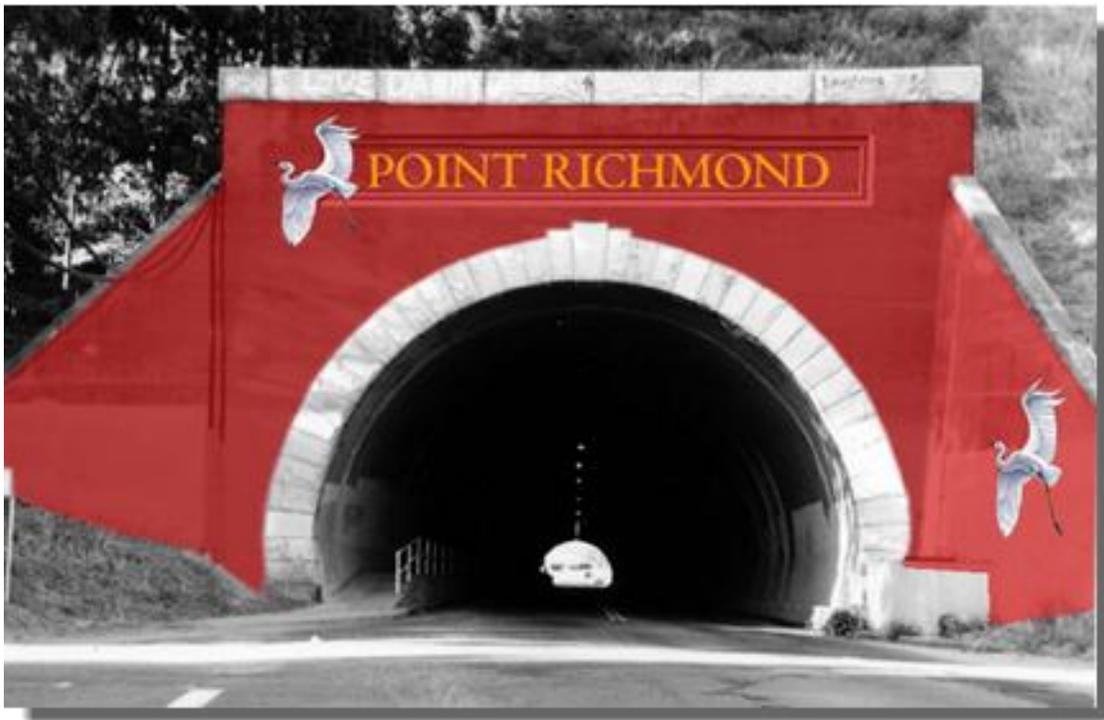
### **11. Public Forum**

- Joe Puleo announced the petition drive to get the Millionaires Tax on the ballot. The initiative raises the money exclusively from those who make \$1,000,000 or more annually and allocates the money to schools, social services, and infrastructure improvements.
- There will be an International Fair at Washington Elementary School Friday, March 23.
- Linda Newton reminded us that Peter had resurrected the custom of closing the meetings in honor of Point Richmond residents who had recently died. Linda announced the recent death of Marie Miller who passed away in January from a brain tumor. Marie worked hard to improve the garden in the triangle area by the library. She also announced the death of Betty Dornan, longtime Richmond resident.

Several people talked about Peter Minkwitz, remembering his commitment to the PRNC, his kind, rational, articulate ways, his willingness to work hard for Point Richmond, his involvement in large and small community issues.

**12. The meeting was adjourned at 9 pm in memory of Betty Dornan, Marie Miller, and Peter Minkwitz.**

Submitted,  
Margaret Jordan (510-412-3673)  
PRNC Secretary



This is John Wehrle's mural design that was selected by the PRNC for the Bay side of the Ferry Point Tunnel entrance. Funds are being collected in memory of PRNC president Peter Minkwitz to complete the project. If you'd like to contribute, please send donations in Peter's name to the Point Richmond Neighborhood Council, P.O. Box 70386, Point Richmond, CA 94807 designated for the Ferry Point Tunnel Mural fund.

### **For our snail mail newsletter recipients – two things:**

1) Many of you have wondered why we write **“Or Current Resident”** on your mailing label. It doesn't have ANY negative connotation – it's just that the United States Post Office requires that phrase to be added in order to continue to mail the newsletters at the reduced bulk rate/non-profit cost. That's it! Happy reading!

2) While I have your attention, please consider, if possible, switching over to the email version of the newsletter. As Megan outlined in “On Point”, we need to reconsider the current mailing out of hundreds of newsletters each month. Email me at [suenjca@aol.com](mailto:suenjca@aol.com) and let me know if you'd like to switch over.



## **IMPORTANT DATES**

- \*\* March 25th  
Wednesday**      **Next Regular meeting of the PRNC  
7:30 pm, Point Richmond Community Center**
- \*\*April 10<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday**      **Last day to submit proposed projects to the  
Land Use/Design Review Committee**
- \*\*April 4th  
Wednesday**      **Next meeting of the PRNC Board of Directors  
Call Megan Bleckinger for the time and place**
- \*\*2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday  
12:00 noon**      **Next meeting of the Point Richmond Business Assoc.  
The Baltic Restaurant**
- \*\*1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Tue 6:30 pm**      **Richmond City Council meets**
- \*\*April 8  
Sun 9am-1PM**      **Red Oak Victory Pancake Breakfast**
- \*\*April 14th  
Sat 11-11:32 AM**      **6th Annual Richmond Silly Parade**

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RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COORDINATING COUNCIL  
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