



ON POINT *May 2014*



The first “Point to Point” event on Saturday, May 10, was a great success, with lots of fantastic art, good spirit, and good neighborly conversation. Watch for the next one.

Summer is Here! The first Point Richmond Summer Music Festival will be Friday, June 13, at 5:30.

Recently the PRNC has reviewed and made recommendations on two proposed construction projects. In addition we have discussed a controversial “Land Use” issue. Since we won’t be able to hear updates on these projects of interest at the May 28 meeting, brief updates are below.

- *The “Shea/Bottoms” Development is a proposed 60-unit development to be built south of Seacliff Estates. The major point of contention is building heights. The developers are asking that the current 35’ height limit be increased to 50’, significantly impacting the views of nearby neighbors and a public park. The Draft EIR (DEIR) proposes a General Plan amendment as well as rezoning to accommodate this request. The Design Review Board (DRB) has approved the project. The concerned residents spoke at a Planning Commission Study Session on May 8. The Commission will review and vote on the final EIR in June. City Council will likely consider the project and the request to amend the General Plan in July. Concerned residents will meet individually with the Commission and Council members to resolve the issue.*
- *A single-family residence is proposed at **70 Belvedere**, by a possible buyer of the property. On April 30 the Design Review Board approved the design with the understanding that community concerns related to the stability of the hill and the construction work plan will be dealt with in the permitting process. The DRB concluded that maintaining the integrity of the Bishop Alley Path (a “condition” of PRNC approval) was outside their purview. Property owners next to 70 Belvedere will be appealing to the City Council arguing that the neighborhood has established an easement (historic right to access) across 70 Belvedere, and will request that the possible buyer’s construction plan make a reasonable accommodation for the path. Neighbors are currently developing a comprehensive legal analysis (federal, state, and local law) to support the path easement across the property. For information contact Andria at andriayeo@hotmail.com.*
- *The General Plan designates “**Tiscornia Estates**” the area running along the downhill side of Pacific Ave. between Santa Fe and High Street as “Open Space.” Recently realty signs have appeared. The land was apparently sold in auction and the individuals who bought it were unaware of its designation, which precludes residential construction. Residents in the area have come together to insure that the General Plan is upheld. A group of residents presented Planning Director Richard Mitchell with a petition with 162 signatures requesting that the City uphold the General Plan to maintain the area as Open Space.*

Highlights of the PRNC Membership Meeting on May 28:

- You may have wondered about the new business, *Thrive*, on Tewksbury. The proprietor will be at the meeting to tell us about it.
- We will get an update on the progress of the Plunge Garden.
- A representative from Veolia will tell us about a new project at the Waste Water Treatment Center.
- We will hear about the Chevron Modernization Project.

I look forward to seeing you at our meeting, May 28, 7:30 PM in the Community Center.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margaret Jordan".

Margaret Jordan, President
Point Richmond Neighborhood Council



Point Richmond Neighborhood Council
General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 30, 2014

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:37 p.m. and the minutes of the March 26, 2014 meeting were approved.

2. Police Report (Sergeant Armando Moreno amoreno@richmondpd.net, (510) 965-4916) (Non-emergency number for police assistance 510-233-1214) and PRNC Safety and Crime Prevention Report (Jon Sutinen, jsutinen@yahoo.com): Sgt. Moreno reported 3 recent burglaries. He highlighted that with warmer weather it is important to lock doors and windows before leaving, as it is the season of opportunity. He also said the thefts of packages left by Fed Ex trucks has been on the rise and neighbors should pay attention and report if anyone is following and taking the left packages from homes. Call with any information to help stop these crimes. John Sutinen attended a meeting addressing auto and identity theft and crime prevention through environmental design. We will have an officer come to speak at our meeting in the near future on these issues.

3. President's Report (Margaret Jordan, President 510-412-3673): Margaret gave a brief explanation of Measure C, mail in ballot due mailed May 6. She also addressed the Minimum Wage issue that goes to City Council next week. Margaret encouraged us to attend the Cinco de Mayo events that are happening this weekend in Richmond.

4. Membership Report (Charmain Tyler (510) 334-7267): Reminder to pay dues for May 2014-2015. We already have over 113 new or renewed members paid.

5. Treasurer's Report (Garry Hurlbut (510) 547-8111): General Fund \$9677.31, Bishop Alley Fund \$711.06, and WigWag Fund \$2,970.94. **Total Balance: \$13,359.31**

6. Report from Land Use Design Review Committee

- 0 Cliffside (Jeffrey and Jennifer Madden, owners) With variance at 3 points, recommended approval. Vote unanimous for recommendation
- Terminal One Presentation (Paul Menzies, CEO Laconia Development) This was a study session, so no official vote, but it was asked that Laconia compromise to preserve views. Paul Menzies gave a presentation on this project, which is in the initial design process. They are gathering opinions and ideas. The concept is currently a 326-unit project with 4,5 and 6 story structures, 2-3 story townhomes and mini villas (2400 sf average size) on a 13 acre site. Mr. Menzies fielded many questions from the audience following his presentation. Laconia will return to the PRNC as the project progresses.

***Items to be considered at the Committee's May 28, 2014 meeting must be submitted to Rod Satre, Committee Chair by May 8, 2014. Contact Rod at rdsatre@live.com or (510)232-5059. The LUDRC meets monthly prior to the PRNC Meeting at 6 p.m. at Interactive Resources, 117 Park Place. Please attend if your project is being considered.*

7. Election of PRNC Officers - Margaret Jordan for President unanimously elected and Noelle Harmon for Secretary, unanimously elected.

8. Update on Tiscornia Estates (Ralf Morgan) Ralf gave an informative history to the Tiscornia Estates Specific Plan and discussed the threat to its open space provisions. The property was purchased in the 1980's by Leonard Gross/Del Mar Commerce with the intent to create a high density development. After objections from the neighborhood, an EIR was commissioned by the City. The result was the Tiscornia Estates Specific Plan (TESP). The EIR deemed that a significant portion of the plan area should be dedicated to open space and the rest made available for restricted development. TESP was passed by the City Council in 1986 and subsequently amended in 1988. More recently, the TESP was incorporated in the 2030 Richmond General Plan. Under the 1988

revision, Mr. Gross was given some benefits including, but not limited to, rights to some paper streets and properties. He accepted these benefits. The Tiscornia Open Space map was revised to reflect the concessions to Mr. Gross/Del Mar Commerce along with a few other changes. Mr. Gross retained title to the open space properties. He continued to pay taxes until 2009. Mr. Gross has passed away. Recently, Contra Costa County sold the delinquent properties at a lien sale. The lots were sold to speculators. The lien sale properties are clearly shown as dedicated open space per the 2030 General Plan and in TESP. Two properties are currently for sale. A community group has been formed, called Friends of Tiscornia Estates Open Space (FOTOS), with the goal to encourage the City to keep its promise of open space. FOTOS is asking for PRNC support of the Tiscornia open space provision. Currently the group is circulating a petition, which will be submitted to Richard Mitchell, head of City Planning Department. Mr. Mitchell was invited to the meeting, but did not respond to the invitation. Don Mill, who stated he was in contract for one of the open space lots spoke, questioning the open space. Questions from Mr. Mill and the audience were answered.

9. Update on Shea Homes (Kathryn Dienst) Kathryn updated us that the next step in this project is that it goes to the Planning Commission. The EIR closes May 12th. The Mitchell Memo has been rescinded. An Abuse of Discretion has been filed against Mr. Mitchell. Shea Homes is now seeking an amendment to the General Plan to achieve their goal of exceeding the 35 foot height limit. Shea will be making a presentation to the City in June or July. An attorney hired by a concerned group of neighbors will be reviewing the EIR.

10. Committee Reports and Announcements from Non-Profit Groups
(Regularly scheduled meetings are listed in the monthly newsletter)

Point Richmond Business Association: (David Schoenthal, dbschoen@hotmail.com) No report. PRBA meetings are the 4th Wednesday each month.

Women's Westside Improvement Club: (Norma Jean Wallace (510) 439-8360). No report. Meetings are 11:30 a.m. on the 1st Tuesday each month at the Methodist Church. The new street map was unveiled April 5th.

Knit and Such: (Terri Phillips (510) 237-6865) Meeting 1st Wednesday from 1-3 p.m. in the Community Center.

Arts of Point Richmond: (Altha Humphrey (510) 232-2934) Reported events for May.

Red Oak Victory Ship: (George Coles (510) 234-1045) Pancake Breakfasts will resume 2nd Sunday.

Friends of Richmond Tennis: (Garry Hurlbut, glh@tai.org, (510) 547-8111) No report.

Point Richmond History Association: (Mid Dornan (510) 234-5334)

TRAC (Bruce Beyaert) No report.

Masquers Playhouse: (Kathe Kiehn, www.masquers.org) Masquers Memorial Day Garage Sale is Monday, May 26, Memorial Day.

11. Public Forum

- Cordell Handler invited group to performance of August - Osage County may 4 at Contra Costa Civic Theater
- Pat Pearson announced that WWIC is receiving an award for the city map. Bruce Beyaert will also be receiving an award from Historic Preservation at City Council Chambers on May 12.
- Matthew Perry from Rebuilding Together East Bay-North announced they have a grant for free critical home repair to seniors. For more info contact him at matthew@rtebn.org or call 510-644-8979.

PLEASE NOTE - 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 before the next PRNC board meeting to Margaret Jordan (510) 412-3673 or <http://www.pointrichmond.org/contact.cfm>

13. In Remembrance/Adjourn: Remembering Troy Cameron and Paul Thompson. 9:22 p.m. meeting adjourned.

Becky Garcia, PRNC Secretary, 510-237-1752 or bgonthego@gmail.com

CALENDAR

| Date | Event | For more information |
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| Saturday May 24 10 a.m.-2 p.m. | Rosie the Riveter Visitor Center Rededication and SF Bay Trail 25 th Anniversary at Rosie the Riveter Visitor Center | www.pointrichmond.com |
| Monday May 26 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | Masquers Playhouse Annual Garage Sale Central Point Richmond | www.masquers.org |
| Wednesday May 28 7:30 p.m. | Pt. Richmond Neighborhood Council General Membership Meeting Point Richmond Community Center | Margaret Jordan, (510) 412-367 |
| Thursday May 29 7:30 p.m. | Magick Lantern Mystery Classics Dressed to Kill (1946) Free Admission | www.themagicklantern.com |
| Friday May 30 8 p.m. | Masquers Playhouse Dead Man's Cell Phone Until June 28 | www.masquers.org |
| Friday May 30 7:30 p.m. | Point Richmond Jazz Kit Eakle & Djangosphere United Methodist Church | www.pointrichmond.com/ |
| Monday June 2 | Pt. Richmond Neighborhood Council Board Meeting | Margaret Jordan (510) 412-3673 |
| Monday June 2 | NY Times Bestselling Author Cara Black Westside Branch Library | www.pointrichmond.com/ |
| Friday June 13 5:30 p.m.-7:45 p.m. | Point Richmond Music Twice as Good and Major Powers and the Lo Fi Symphony Central Point Richmond | www.pointrichmondmusic.com |
| Sunday June 15 9 a.m.-1 p.m. | SS Red Oak Victory Pancake Breakfast Shipyard 3 | www.ssredoakvictory.com |

Regularly Scheduled Events:

- Knit and Such: 1st Wednesday, 1 – 3 p.m., Community Center.
- Point Richmond Business Association: 4th Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Hotel Mac. Go to www.prba.us/ to view the program and make reservation.
- Women's Westside Improvement Club: 1st Tuesday, from September through June, Point Richmond Methodist Church Hall. Bring your lunch at 11:30 a.m. and we'll provide dessert and beverages.
- City Council Meetings: 1st and 3rd Tuesday, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers, Richmond.

Be sure to visit www.pointrichmond.com for the most up-to-date "goings-on" around the Point.

PAY DUES NOW AND YOU'RE COVERED UNTIL MAY 2015! 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. Bring dues to next meeting or mail check and application to: **PRNC; P.O. Box 70386; Point Richmond, CA 94807 – DO NOT mail membership to PRNCC address in front of mailer – delivery will be delayed.**

New

Renewal

Individual

Household

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Telephone _____ e-mail _____

Signature _____ Date _____

*Masquers Playhouse
Annual
Point Richmond
Garage Sale*



*Memorial Day
Monday
May 26, 9-4*

POINT RICHMOND
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
P.O. Box 70386
Pt. Richmond, CA 94807