



ON POINT *January 2019*

Happy January from the PRNC. This meeting looks to be a busy one!

Hope everyone had a happy holiday! Did you attend our new ferry's inauguration? Well, Thomas Hall, from the San Francisco Bay Ferry will be at the January meeting to answer any questions you might have regarding our new transportation link. Service began on January 10th, and takes passengers from Richmond to the San Francisco Ferry Building in just 35 minutes!

Also, Menbe Aklilu will tell us about the Menbe's Way. The foundation supports vulnerable members of our community, including victims of domestic violence, homelessness and low income families. Menbe is well known as the former owner of Salut  e Vita Ristorante.

Last but not least, city traffic engineer Dane Rodgers from DIMO will have a few minutes to answer questions regarding the Point's short and long term transportation needs and their efforts to achieve the City's long term mobility goals for the Point and the City of Richmond.

Because our agenda is packed, the membership report will not be given at the meeting and is as follows: We have 131 active members. If you aren't sure if you are paid up for the 2018/2019 year, please see June during the meeting.

Also, several community groups have kindly provided their community briefs in writing as follows:

Point Richmond Business Association: The PRBA luncheon is on Thursday, Jan. 31, 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at Hotel Mac. Demnlus Johnson is the featured speaker. Register online at www.pointrichmondbusiness.com.

TRAC: Attached to the newsletter email, please find the Richmond Bay Trail New Year Report.

RNCC: Stan Anderson, immediate past president of the RNCC passed away unexpectedly Dec. 22. Celebration of life is Saturday, Jan. 26 (1p-3p Harbor Master Building).

Masquers: We are optimistic about re-opening! We've signed a contract with Interactive Resources and are working on the scope of work for what exactly needs to be done in order to re-open and are currently waiting to get a detailed cost estimate. Based on very preliminary estimates, we think the work will be between \$400K and \$600K. How soon depends on several factors. First, determining the precise scope of work and associated costs. Second, how quickly we can raise the necessary funds. And third, the availability of quality contractors to do the work. We're getting our fundraising ducks in a row. You will definitely know when you can support us financially. We'll hold a kick-off and other events where you'll have an opportunity to give us your money! We are VERY thankful for your concern. The beam took us out of our areas of expertise, but we've learned a ton and are moving forward with confidence and enthusiasm.

I hope to see everyone on the 30th!

Peter Thelin

President

Point Richmond Neighborhood Council

*The PRNC and LUDRC are advisory only capacity, and cannot approve or deny anything beyond "Recommendations for Development" to the City of Richmond. Our role is to mitigate conflict at the local level.



Point Richmond Neighborhood Council
Wednesday, January 30, 2019, 7:30pm
Point Richmond Community Center
PointRichmondNeighborhood@gmail.com

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- 7:30 **Call to order and approval of minutes from the December 5, 2018 meeting** **2 minutes**
- 7:32 **Police Report, Richmond Police Department, Officer Ben Mendler** **5 minutes**
- 7:37 **President's Report, Peter Thelin** **2 minutes**
- 7:39 **Treasurer's Report, Buzz Baylis** **2 minutes**
- 7:41 **Traffic in the Point** **20 minutes**
Dane Rodgers, City of Richmond Traffic Engineer
- 8:01 **Point Richmond Community Center management & Plunge Re-opening** **5 minutes**
Maryn Hurlbut, Chair, Rec.& Parks Commission
- 8:06 **Land Use/Design Review Committee** **10 minutes**
- Addition, Western Drive, Point Richmond (within TESP)--Cottrell Smith
Items to be considered at the LUDRC meeting must be submitted to Rod Satre, Committee Chair, rdsatre@live.com, (510) 232-5059, at two weeks prior to the General Membership meeting. The LUDRC Committee meets monthly prior to the PRNC General Membership meeting at 6:00pm at the Point Richmond Community Center at 139 Washington Ave. Please plan to attend the LUDRC meeting and General Membership meeting at 7:30pm if your project is being considered.
- 8:16 **Community Briefs (2 minutes each)** **12 minutes**
- **Richmond Tennis, Garry Hurlbut, (510) 547-8111** www.rta-ca.org
 - **USS Red Oak Victory Ship, Graham Perrett, (510) 234-1045**
 - **Women's Westside Improvement Club, Diane Diani**
 - **Arts of Point Richmond, www.artsofpointrichmond.com**
 - **PRCert, Edie Sellers and Shaun Partlow** <https://www.prcert.org/>, <https://www.facebook.com/prcert>
 - **Magick Lantern, Kate Spaulding** MagickLantern.org, magick-lantern@att.net, (510) 232-2559
- 8:28 **Menbe and Richmond Community Foundation, Menbere Aklilu** **15 minutes**
- 8:43 **Thomas Hall, San Francisco Bay Ferry** **15 minutes**
- 8:58 **Public Forum: Please sign up. As many as 3 speakers (2 minutes each).** **6 minutes**
Issues brought to the attention of the Council in the Public Forum cannot result in Council action at this meeting. Instead, submit issues to Peter Thelin at pthelin1@yahoo.com prior to the next PRNC Board Meeting.
- 9:04 **In Remembrance and Celebration/Adjourn**



Point Richmond Neighborhood Council
General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 5, 2018
PointRichmondNeighborhood@gmail.com

- 1. Called to Order and Approval of Minutes:** Meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm; board members present: Peter Thelin, Dave Bleckinger, June Hight, Buzz Baylis, Charmain Tyler, Gary Hurlbut and Hilary Brown. Minutes from the meeting on October 24, 2018 were approved with no amendments.
- 2. Eric Govan, Richmond Fire Marshal:** Eric has worked in many different capacities with the Richmond Fire Department and is currently tasked with developing comprehensive fire plans for the city. The recent fires in Paradise promoted interest in understanding local fire hazards and mitigating risk in our area. Ingress and egress were big factors in Paradise; there was limited road access for residents fleeing the area and responders getting access to problem areas. Point Richmond has narrow streets and steep hills, and may have similar ingress and egress risks. Managing this risk may entail creating additional access which might impact parking. Point Richmond is considered a high risk area for fires because of its proximity to the park; all land adjacent to large open spaces and regional parks is considered "very high fire zone" because of vegetation. Richmond is working with EBRPD, Chevron, PG&E, BNSF and other large landowners to identify and mitigate hazards. Q&A: The BNSF easement over the rail tunnel is overgrown with vegetation. A: businesses must follow the same rules homeowners follow. Businesses get notices from the city to mitigate fire risk areas and if they do not abate the hazard then they face fines. Q: What is best way to stay informed about changing conditions in the event of an emergency? A: Recommend getting notices on Nixel and other push notifications alerting residents about incidents and what access roads are available for use. Q: Castro Street is narrow, has limited parking, and is currently a two way street. A: For purposes of risk management, we may need to consider changing directions of streets, however this is politically sensitive and the ultimate decision would have to be decided by the city council. Q: What is a homeowner's responsibility? A: Homeowners must keep the immediate land within 30 feet from their home free from easily combustible plants, and keep the area within 100 feet from their home clean and maintained. Q: What can community do with regards to blocked access at train crossings during an evacuation event? A: Currently there is no evacuation plan in place and the planning process going on this year is to coordinate all of these aspects of risks and hazards. The goal is to manage day to day operations while developing a comprehensive fire evacuation plan before start of the next fire season.
- 3. Gateway Foundation, Margi Cellucci:** The Gateway Foundation is a local foundation that gives all profits back to local non-profit organizations. Grants were awarded this afternoon to a variety of local causes including: PRAM is going to start a pre-school Spanish class, the Washington School is starting an educational edible garden, the Methodist Church is upgrading their bathrooms, the History Association is updating their panel in the kiosk, Richmond Swims is giving lessons to children, the PTA at Washington School is continuing the children's arts program and a volunteer reading program. Funding was provided to the Summer Music festival, the Women's Westside Improvement Club is continuing ongoing maintenance at the map garden. Point Richmond CERT received funding for a radio and generator. Richmond Tennis received funding for the mural restoration, Arts of Point Richmond received funding for a TV in the community center.
- 4. Police Report, Officer Mendler:** Requests for traffic enforcement on the streets approaching the I-580 toll plaza resulted in about 700 citations. At the Castro / Cottage area there were 347 citations and another 300+ citations at the onramp at Canal. There was an increase in the number of stolen vehicles which tends to happen when it rains; someone who doesn't want to walk or ride a bike and who is handy with a tool will just take a car. Packages getting stolen from porches is a problem at this time of year; recommendation is to schedule a signature delivery.
- 5. Treasurer's Report, Buzz Baylis:** General fund currently has \$4,061.

6. **Membership Report, June Hight:** We currently have 73 paid members. Note that we are going to send out gentle reminders to members who let their memberships lapse.
7. **Bard Clan Wines, Craig Riordan:** Bard Clan Wines is a local boutique winery making unique wines catering to a niche consumer. Two wines presented tonight are traditional; a semi-sweet white and a blueberry red. The white consists of 75% apple wine and 25% buttery chardonnay. The red is a Bordeaux blend including a blueberry wine. All wines are made with 100% sustainable and organic wines. Hungarian Oak barrels are used and are tap sized (smaller) barrels so there is more contact with the wine and the wood. Craig is a retired professor of organic chemistry from Humboldt state and got interested in developing his own wines. The wines are produced at a custom crush facility in Sebastopol and selling online only at “BardClan.com.” Wine club members get emails; wines cost around \$20 for white and \$35 for red and if you buy 11 bottles you get the 12th for free. Virtual tasting room, free local delivery.
8. **Wigwag Restoration, Don Woodrow and Charmain Tyler:** Back in 2002 BNSF said they were going to tear out the wigwags at the crossing on E. Richmond. Dave Door started the movement to save the wigwags and got people’s attention by making a “Save the Wigwags” sign and waving it back and forth, much like a wigwag. The PRNC and Richmond History Museum raised money to pay for restoration of the wigwags but the project stalled out after concerns from BNSF. Victor Morales reviewed the contract between the city and BNSF which allowed the city to work on the wigwags as long as they were a certain distance from the railroad. Once it was determined we were legally allowed to work on repairing the wigwags, Dan Furtado started on the actual repairs. Currently it seems the project will be completed in about 6 weeks. The next question is should they appear with the paint scheme we have seen for the past twenty years which is black and white, or should they appear the way they were originally built which was black and red. When these are operational they will only be turned on for ceremonial purposes since they are no longer to code. More info available at: http://www.trainweb.org/dansrailpix/pt_richmond_resto_main.htm Another project for the PRNC: The museum will need people to plant and care for plantings in the wigwags. Originally the wigwag planters held California poppies, which later were replaced with red flowers, and then later they were planted with succulents which can tolerate heat and drought.

9. Community Briefs

- **RNCC, Margaret Jordan:** The December meeting will be held on Monday, December 10 at 6pm at the Senior Center (see the flier in the December Newsletter). There will be a meet and greet with the new city manager, Carlos Martinez. Guests are asked to either bring a toy or \$49 to the Rotary Club for the Richmond Police and Fire toy drive. RNCC meetings are now being recorded and cast so you can see them remotely.
- **Women’s Westside Improvement Club, Diane Diani:** We are doing maintenance at the map garden and working on installing an interpretive panel showing the names and locations of the native plants. On Wednesday, December 12 at Kaleidoscope (if it is raining) and at the map garden (if there is no rain) at 2pm Maureen Decombe will give us gardening knowledge. Our holiday luncheon was yesterday and was fabulous.
- **Magick Lantern, Kate Spaulding:** The December movie is called “Pick of the Litter” and is the story of guide dogs for the blind. It costs about \$80,000 to train one guide dog. Magick Lantern has been informed that the shade will be installed in the community center in February, which means we can start showing movies throughout the year. Final comment: Judge Carroll Park is commonly used as dog park, but since the waste cans were moved closer to the street and away from the park entrance, some people are not carrying their dog waste to the garbage cans. Suggestion has been made to the Parks Department to install dog bags at the entrance of the park.
- **Arts of Point Richmond:** The annual holiday party will be held here in the community center on Saturday, December 8th from 11 – 4:30. There will be guitarists, entertainment, and goodies.
- **Richmond Smart Lighting Coalition, June Hight:** BNSF’s hazardous lighting by the freeway has been mitigated. BNSF has promised to mitigate the rest of the lighting including the lot on Canal & Cutting, but they said it would be done “this week” about four weeks ago. Stay tuned.

- **CERT, Kate Spaulding:** We are thrilled that we got funds from Gateway for radio and generator and we are exploring purchasing sea (shipping) containers and exploring where in the city they can be placed. Currently we are considering a location next to the Washington School.
- **Red Oak Victory, Graham Perrett:** Movie nights on the 3rd Thursday are still going on at the Red Oak Victory! The December movie is “It’s A Wonderful Life.” This holiday season we will be open Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. If you have out of town visitors or if you just want to get out of the house, please come to see us!
- **Point Richmond History Association, Kathe Kiehn:** Kiosk has a new display as of this past weekend. Also please sign up to get our fabulous newsletter This Point In Time.
- **Masquers, Kathe Kiehn:** Carl Smith is our new general manager. We are continuing to put on shows in other venues including a radio plan upstairs at Hotel Mac and is currently showing “An Appalachian Christmas” in Castro Valley playing through Dec 16. Funds raised at these productions pays our operating expenses but does not cover our capital improvements at our theater. Currently we are looking at possibly opening in another year.

10. Open Forum

- **Cordell Hindler:** Tomorrow evening: “Santa Needs a New Sleigh” at East Brother’s Beer. Santa Fe Hug a Bear Dinner: \$40 at The Galileo Club on Thursday, December 6th. The next Crime Prevention Meeting will be the 3rd Wednesday in February, Feb 20th at 7pm at the Rec Center. Suggestion to the Board to invite Officer Lande to discuss cyber bullying and Ariel Mercado from Bart to discuss about safety and security in the transit system. The next RNCC meeting is Jan 14th at 7pm in Council Chambers.
- **Garry Hurlbut:** Please enjoy the cookies provided courtesy of Hotel Mac. Bay Area Rescue Mission is doing a big holiday drive; please drop off groceries for them. Finally: please watch your driving this time of year. A deer jumped right in front of my car and fortunately I was able to avoid him, but it was a close call. Please drive carefully!

11. In Remembrance and Celebration/Adjourn: Garry’s son got married in Lake Arrowhead over the weekend and his adorable great-granddaughter came from Oklahoma. Closing in memory of President George H. W. Bush, who passed away last week and for whom the nation observed a day of mourning today.

12. Meeting adjourned at 8:58 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Hilary Brown, PRNC Secretary; “hilarybrownie “at” hotmail.com” (510) 326-5946



RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND PAY YOUR DUES! The dues help cover our administrative expenses and are minimal: \$20 for individuals and \$25 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.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> New | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal | <input type="checkbox"/> Household |

Name _____
Mailing Address _____
Telephone _____ e-mail _____
Date _____



***Point Richmond Neighborhood Council Meeting:
January 30, 2019, 7:30 p.m.
Point Richmond Community Center***

- * Traffic in the Point
- * Menbe and Richmond Community Foundation
- * San Francisco Bay Ferry update

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