



Get to the Point! **Your Point Richmond Neighborhood Update**

**Our next meeting is Wednesday, January 30th at 7:30 pm
Point Richmond Community Center, 139 Washington Avenue**

We are pleased to have **Mayor Gayle McLaughlin** speaking to us this week at our January 30th meeting regarding the **Chevron Energy Renewal and Hydrogen Project**. The next evening on January 31st Chevron will be going before the Design Review Board for approval of this project – if you want to attend that meeting the meeting details are under “Important Dates” in your newsletter.

Our February meeting will focus on Code and Ordinance enforcement, which has been a source of frustration and confusion for so many of us. So we hope to have lots of information and tips on how to make sure that codes and ordinances are enforced in our neighborhoods.

One thing became evident over the past several months with the oil spill, the storms and barges bumping into our bridges – quick and accurate information to the community is important. And this is where the PRNC and the Neighborhood Council system can be of the greatest service to you. WE NEED YOU TO JOIN SO THAT WE CAN CONTACT YOU. Membership fees are minimal and we’ll grant a waiver of fees if you write the word “waiver” on your membership application. If you are a member, please make sure your information is current, please ask your neighbors and friends to make sure that they have joined the PRNC.

SPECIAL OFFER – If your membership has lapsed or you have never been a member, when you sign up right now your membership will start immediately and go through May 2009. (Membership is May 1st – April 31st of each year)

When you share your email address and contact information with us it is kept completely confidential and will never be shared. When emergencies occur or there is a need for immediate information to go out to the community we send emails and we post the information on the doors of the community center and the markets.

OIL SPILL UPDATED INFORMATION AS OF 1/22/07

The entire City of Richmond shoreline including the Bay Trail is open as of January 11, 2008 except for marshlands, which are protected areas and are always inaccessible to foot traffic. Concerned citizens should call (415) 701-2311 to report any sightings of oiled wildlife. The public is still urged to avoid oil impacted areas and wildlife that are affected without first receiving appropriate training, as untrained people can cause further damage to the environment and stress on the wildlife.

The public is also reminded that allowing your dogs to run on impacted beaches will create even greater stress for injured wildlife by forcing birds back into the cold water. Reminder - dogs are not allowed off-leash on the Bay Trail at any time.

The City of Richmond and the Incident Command Post's (US Coast Guard, OSPR/Fish & Game and the Responsible Party) SCAT Team (Shoreline Cleanup and Assessment Team) are working to assess and take remedial action on the entire Richmond Shoreline including the Hoffman Marsh and other marsh areas.

Members of the public without proper training should not attempt to collect the oil or oil contaminated debris, since it needs to be disposed of properly to prevent broader contamination and exposure to the oil can be hazardous to your health.

If you have collected oil, it should NOT be added to regular trash, as this may negatively impact the environment. Oil and trash containing oil (such as rags or paper towels) should be double bagged, labeled as oily waste, and picked up for proper disposal by calling (415) 398-9617.

The Richmond shoreline is unique in that it is mostly rocky rip-rap and sensitive habitat. These are two types of areas where only official contractors can work during the clean up effort. It is only on the sandy beaches that volunteers with training have been allowed to help with the clean up. But we do still need your help! If you know any specific areas that are in need of clean up or where you are seeing oiled birds please contact the numbers below:

For oil sightings: 415-398-9617 For oiled wildlife: 415-701-2311 Public Information: 415-399-7305

Volunteer/Private Agencies: Members of the public who wish to volunteer for wildlife recover efforts are asked to go online to www.owcn.org to signup. You will be notified by email of future trainings. Also visit www.baykeeper.org.

REACT/CERT trained volunteers may be eligible to attend a future HAZWOPER training. For information on the prerequisite 20-hour REACT/CERT training or the HAZWOPER training contact Kathrine Selkirk at the City of Richmond Office of Emergency Services 510-620-6866.

KEEP INFORMED!

As well as being a member of the PRNC you may want to stay locally updated by subscribing to the Mayor's newsletter by emailing mayornewsletter@yahoo.com, or visit Tom Butt's Forum <http://www.tombutt.com/e-forum.htm> or <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/> or www.pointrichmond.com. CHECK COMMUNITY CENTER DOORS FOR UPDATES FROM PRNC! Also Katherine Tam of the Contra Costa Times is providing excellent coverage of issues in our community and has written several recent articles: go to www.contracostatimes.com

IMPORTANT DATES

- | | | |
|--------------|---|---------|
| January 31: | Design Review Board Special Meeting
Council Chambers - 1401 Marina Way South –
Hearing regarding the Chevron Energy Renewal and Hydrogen Project. | 6:00 pm |
| February 11: | Last day to submit projects to the Design Review and Land Use Committee for their February 27, 2008 meeting. Projects submitted after January 11 th may be heard but action cannot be taken on them at this meeting. Contact Rod Satre at 510-232-5059 or rdsatre@netzero.net with your agenda item. | |
| February 11: | Last day to suggest topics for the February 27, 2008 Council meeting. Submit suggestions to Robin Carpenter at balsora@aol.com or call 510-232-8175. | |
| February 27: | February Meeting of the Design Review and Land Use Committee
Interactive Resources, 117 Park Place, Point Richmond | 6:00pm |
| February 27: | February 2008 Meeting of the Neighborhood Council
Point Richmond Community Center, 139 Washington Avenue | 7:30 pm |

PRNC Minutes November 29th, 2007 – Pt. Richmond Community Center

President Robin Carpenter called meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

- A) **Agenda** was reviewed and the September **Minutes** were approved with the correction of Steve Spencer's phone #233-3050
- B) **Reports, Police, Fire Departments & Safety:** there was no police report. Fire Station Report - #1 problem - locking keys in car, 5 people are in training for new fire fighters. Business as usual, please be careful with Christmas trees and make sure you are ventilating you home for space heaters. Richmond and Oakland going to 16-hour shifts to keep on top of activities. Odor last evening, 11-27-07 was noted in town and by Brickyard. Need to call Bay Area Air Quality District; Fire station does have 24hour air monitoring. Please call if this is evident. The more calls the better response. Keep a log of time of day, direction and strength of the wind and description of the odor.
- C) **Forum on the Oil Spill**

EBRPD-Kevin Parks, Supervisor Miller Knox, - Battalion Chief, Ken Bolonski - PRNC Spill Coordinator, Chris Spencer

Robin Carpenter talked about how the Mayor's office and Neighborhood Council worked together directly and coordinated during the emergency. Chris Spencer, VP of the PRNC, was designated by the PRNC board as our Spill Coordinator and worked with the various agencies that were involved; including the Coast Guard, Dept of Fish and Game, EB Regional Parks and the Richmond Police. The PRNC posted printed updates in town and sent emails out as the information came in.

Hierarchy is that the Coast Guard is the lead agent then the Department of Fish and Game City of Richmond and OES Office of Emergency Services all met at Treasure Island, Battalion Chief was at level of "Liaison" The activities were disorganized and volunteers were confusing the organization The people that generated the spill were managing the incident. The plan around Richmond was to use volunteer vessels; only two vessels passed the Coast Guard test, so the teams were redeployed. Instead, fire department joined forces with OES and did two county team, the incident command system [ICS] was evolving slowly and disjointed. Volunteers, if they had run out without training could have harmed themselves or the coast. Berkeley signed off on accepting liability for volunteers without training and Richmond was unwilling to do so. It would have been better to have boomed the shoreline before the oil drifted to the wetlands. Better communications are needed. Leadership needs to know what resources are available and understand the skill sets available. Parks had reports of persons at the parks getting nauseous. Early reports were that "baby oil" had been released, updates showed 58,000 gallons of bunker fuel oil in the bay. Fire responds to all but oil spills which Coast Guard handles. Fish and Game and others were not specially trained in this incident, the jurisdictional authority screw up, but fire departments through OES has plenty of training and experience other than oil spills as that is been maintained by Coast Guard.

City of Berkeley wanted to know why EBRP was not doing more but oil spill incidents are not covered, The Incident Command Post went to Treasure Island and coordination via that post. EBRPD booms did not have curtains that are required for heavier oils. The Parks persons "branched" and managed the incident. Liability to Parks and others had to have 24 hour training so volunteers had limited utility. The bunker fuel contained the sludge of the refinery cut and benzene etc. The last spill was in 1988 and lessons learned were lost because it had been a generation ago. The access to resources was limited to MOU's and authority levels Brooks Island was the hardest hit natural resource and took the brunt of the oil spill on Richmond's shoreline. The Coast Guard did not want to block off navigable routes so some shores were more seriously impacted. Hard hit were Keller Beach requiring multiple cleaning, Vincent Park and Shimada still getting cleaned. PRNC met HazMat on Friday at noon and posted emails and updates on poinrichmond.com web site and Save the Bay with Marilyn Latte reviewed Keller Beach and Kosy Cove. Volunteers helped as they could and helped direct clean up teams to beach access points. As well, guidelines to the community helped move things along. Emails also got posted at the Community Center and the Markets for awareness communications. Dead birds take to Berkeley Animal Rescue on 2nd Street and record date and location of finding and place in bag. Richmond's eelgrass beds are a resource and impact will affect crab, lingcod and salmon fisheries.

D) Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council (RNCC) Robin reported that the RNCC is working to convince the City Council to change the decision to merge the DRB and the Planning Commission and to try to enact the recommendations of the Zucker Report which was an independent audit of Richmond's Planning and Building Departments.

E) Membership Report: Thank everyone for their membership dues; membership has grown from 96 in April 07 to 216 members.

F) Treasurer's Report: Margaret Morkowski The General Fund Balance is approximately \$8,260

G) Updates from other committees: The Women's Westside Improvement Club will be celebrating their Centennial in 2008. There will be a Progressive Dinner Fund Raiser on Friday, December 7th. Point Richmond Community Center: Amy Aldrich, teacher at the Adult School comes on Fridays to coordinate activities on This Friday Bruce Moody, on writing memoirs. Fabulous Fridays aimed at older adults and is open to all, please attend. First Friday in December High Tea, Second Friday Making Christmas Wreaths using surplus tree trimmings, Third Friday Santa Surprises. To stay up and running, need 15 in attendance or the program will expire. Thursday at 7 to 9pm knitting, crochet and other similar events will be hosted at the Community Center.

H) Landscape Advisory Committee presentation:

The point Richmond landscape committee advisory for planting in the triangle in Point Richmond. Two professionals are employed, and arborist and landscape gardener. The advisory committee is focusing on Triangle Park first, seeking a safe well lit and easy walk through the area. Emphasis is drought tolerant plants. The Gateway Foundation provided a grant for materials more trees; currently there are 15 trees in the tree well. 5 will be removed that are not doing well, add 5 new tree wells and plant hybrid Crepe Myrtle with 20 tree plantings. Under the Christmas tree location three types ferns. Behind the History museum, ferns, more crepe myrtle and perhaps a seating area behind the building. The raised planting area by community center, another crepe myrtle and ground cover that would drape over the wall. Meetings are at 5:30PM second Tuesdays 237-7888 Connie Lompa. Percentage of natives? As much as we can, but local natives have some dormant periods. So flowery colored plants will be added and local volunteers helping the city Gardner will do trimming chores. This can begin? Money is in the kitty, go ahead very soon, the first phase is around the triangle, but other sections of the Point will be addressed in future years. The pear and the eucalyptus will be removed; no other plants will be removed. Perhaps one more tree, spruce/cedar might be limbed, and the Chinese Elms are challenging the other trees and might be pruned. Supporting motion of plan moved, seconded and passed to approve 505 Washington Avenue with conditions of Cedar shingles, wood trim all around each window with deep red or hunter green and no living space above the ceiling of the first floor.

I) Solar Power Offer – Steve Spencer

Steve Spencer talked about solar power with good experience in client service, willing to help to organize group purchase programs. Tandem "solarizing Point Richmond" Solar-Craft wants to bring 10 homeowners to gang together for a commercial project. The two owners are responsive. Jessie West also likes Solar Richmond, which has a professional attitude. The city of Richmond has not put together a "green plan" at this point. Question about the fact that anything over 9 feet above grade should go to DRB

J) PRNC's Design Review & Land Use Committee:

442 Golden Gate, new home/remodel of existing (Between Mono and Vaca): Continued to next meeting.

Washington Ave, South West corner at Crest, add viewing deck, Curt Rocca owner: Conditionally approved: conditions - Cedar shingles. Deep red or hunter green on wooden window trim around sash. No living space above the current top[first] floor ceiling height.

K) Old Business: None L) New Business: None

M) Public Form: (each speaker has 2 minutes each) - RAP4Richmond update by A. Olmsted: Telecommunications Moratorium extended on permits until March 18th 2008. Mapping of sites of current antennas under supervisions by Council Members Butt and Thurmond. Permit on 260 Water Street should go to public revocation hearing in January. Lots of homeless people are on Nichol harassing residents. Reinstate the light in front of the Historic Building to keep the community safe. Overhangs of the community center could have lights replaced for safety. John Gioa did get information between the Police Department and County Health on the "inspections of food industry."



**Robin Carpenter, President; Don Woodrow, First Vice President;
Chris Spencer, Second Vice President; Rod Satre, Secretary;
Margaret Morkowski, Treasurer**

**Agenda - Wednesday, January 30, 2008 7:30 pm
Point Richmond Community Center, 139 Washington Avenue**

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|------|---|-------------------|
| 7:30 | Call to Order. | <i>1 minute</i> |
| 7:31 | Agenda Review and approval of the minutes from the November meeting – announcements from the Executive Board | <i>2 minutes</i> |
| 7:33 | Police Department Report: Beat Officer or Sgt. David Harris, Non-emergency calls 233-1214. | <i>5 minutes</i> |
| 7:38 | Our representatives to the RCPC (Richmond Crime Prevention Commission) Tom Brichta 415-686-1522 and Steve Spencer 510- 233-3050 | <i>2 minutes</i> |
| 7:40 | Fire Department Report - Shift Captain for the Point on Duty | <i>5 minutes</i> |
| 7:45 | Discussion with Mayor McLaughlin on Chevron Energy Renewal and Hydrogen Project | <i>30 minutes</i> |
| 8:15 | RNCC (Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council) Report | <i>2 minutes</i> |
| 8:17 | Membership report - Chris Spencer | <i>2 minutes</i> |
| 8:19 | Treasurer's report – Margaret Morkowski | <i>2 minutes</i> |
| 8:21 | Community Center report –Vincent Seymour 233-6881 | <i>3 minutes</i> |
| 8:24 | Odors exploratory committee for the Point – Susan Glendenning | <i>3 minutes</i> |
| 8:27 | Arts Guild and Knit and Such - Altha Humphrey | <i>2 minutes</i> |
| 8:29 | Updates from other Neighborhood, City and PRNC Committees 1 minute each | <i>5 minutes</i> |
| | The Plunge – Margaret Morkowski | |
| | Point Richmond History Association (PRHA) – Mid Dornan | |
| | Landscape Advisory Committee (Free Standing Community Committee) – Connie Lompa 237-7888 | |
| | Women's Westside Improvement Club (WWIC) – Margaret Morkowski 234-4219 | |
| | Point Richmond Business Association (PRBA) – Marsha Tomassi 215-6133 | |
| 8:34 | Summary of Land Use & Design Review Committee recommendations -Consent | <i>10 minutes</i> |
| | Two projects have been brought to the committee this month: | |
| | Project at Terrace and Vine and 442 Golden Gate Avenue – new home | |
| 8:44 | LU/DR Committee items removed from the consent calendar will be considered | <i>10 minutes</i> |
- If you are aware of someone planning to construct or modify a building in the Point, please have him or her contact Rod Satre at 510-232-5059 or rdsatre@netzero.net to arrange a review by this Committee. The Committee meets on the same evening as the Council, at 6 pm, in the meeting room of Interactive Resources, 117 Park Place, Pt. Richmond.
- NOTE: It is important that applicants discuss their project with their neighbors before review by this Committee.
- | | | |
|------|---------------|------------------------------|
| 8:54 | Old Business: | <i>3 minutes</i> |
| 8:57 | New Business | <i>5 minutes</i> |
| 9:02 | Public Forum | If needed: <i>16 minutes</i> |
- As many as eight speakers speaking for 2 minutes each. Please sign up at the meeting.

Note: Public Forum items are for public information only; no action can be taken on them. If you have an action item, please contact a board member prior to February 11th to have it considered for the agenda of the 2/27 meeting.

9:18 Adjourn

For further information regarding the agenda, excluding Design Review and Land Use Committee matters, contact Robin Carpenter at 510-232-8175 or balsora@aol.com. PRNC members who provide an e-mail address will receive the Newsletter electronically and get email updates. Members who wish to receive the Newsletter by surface mail as well as email should make their wishes known to Chris Spencer at prncvp2@yahoo.com

We invite you to join the Point Richmond Neighborhood Council and get our updates and newsletters. You're also invited to participate in our meetings when you can. We meet to inform ourselves about important issues, to discuss them (often with the main players involved) and to advise the City Council and other governmental bodies of our viewpoints, recommendations and concerns. In this time of growth and change in our city, the PRNC provides a forum where you can express your views and affect outcomes. We need your ideas, support and your numbers- **the more members we have – the more power we have when we speak for Point Richmond!** We urge you to join your neighbors and become a member! All are welcome at our meetings, but we do require you to be signed up as a member to participate in voting. **Dues are set a modest levels and cover our administrative expenses. \$10 for an individual and \$15 for a household. Those for whom dues are a hardship may simply ask for a waiver by writing “waiver” on the application.**

New and Renewal Membership Application for May 1, 2007- April 30, 2008

****If you renew now your membership goes through April 30, 2009!!!!**

Name _____

Mailing Address

Telephone

E-Mail

New or Renewal

Signature

Date

Bring to the next meeting or mail to: PRNC, P.O. BOX 70386, RICHMOND, CA 94801

**RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD
COORDINATING COUNCIL
P.O. BOX 485, STATION A
RICHMOND, CA 94808**

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