MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, March 22, 2012

LOCATION: Annex Senior Center, 5801 Huntington @ Santa Clara

STARTING TIME: 7:00 PM SHARP

(Length of time per agenda item is only approximate; more time allotted if necessary.)

1. Call to order: Pledge of Allegiance; welcome and introductions; announcements – 3 min.


4. Board Officer Announcements: Correspondence – 3 min.


6. Special Guest: Kieron Slaughter, Project Manager from the Richmond Planning Department will give presentation on the Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan for the Richmond Annex area.

   a) No new projects at this time.

8. In brief – Reports; project & committee updates: 5 min. ea.
   a) Streets/Traffic Committee Update: I-80 Central Avenue Interchange Improvement Project; Carlson Corridor Upgrade Project, Unsigned intersections, Jeff Jones, chair
   b) Planning/Zoning Committee Update: Richmond General Plan, Mary Selva, chair
   c) Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council Update: Garland Ellis and Jerry Yoshida, RNCC representatives and board members
   d) 74th public meeting of the Community Advisory Group (CAG) is Thurs. 3-8-12, 6:30-9pm, Richmond Multi-Purpose Room (located in basement) of 440 Civic Center Plaza (the old Hall of Justice at the downtown City Hall). CAG is a group of volunteers who provides an opportunity for all affected and interested citizens to openly learn, discuss and provide advice to the CA Dept. of Toxic Substances Control regarding cleanup activities at the former Stauffer Chemical/Zeneca site. Public participation is strongly encouraged. CAG provides an open forum for public input. To serve on CAG, contact Carolyn Graves at 625-4459. For more info: http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile_report.asp?global_id=07280002#.

9. Good of the Order limited to brief general interest announcements; adjournment. Contact RANC, 375-7769.

Our 37th Year! – “Together We Continue To Make A Difference!”

YOUR PARTICIPATION in this wholly independent volunteer group is significant in our City’s decision-making process.

Many thanks to March mailer volunteers: Richmond Annex Seniors and Tom Hoffman, Treasurer.
Richmond Annex
Senior Center

Spring Egg Hunt

Date: April 7, 2012
Day: Saturday
Cost: Free
Time: 10:00am – 12:00pm
Location: Richmond Annex Senior Ctr
5801 Huntington Avenue

Join us for our 2nd Annual Spring Egg Hunt at the Richmond Annex Senior Center. The Easter Bunny will be visiting us from the Hoppity Trail to enjoy the egg hunt at 10am, face painting, arts and crafts, and delicious baked goods and drinks. We will also have a special appearance from the Richmond Fire Department.

Please Note: Children must be accompanied by an adult, egg hunts will be by age group.

For more event information contact

510-620-6812

“Richmond Recreation, Rich in People, Rich in Play”
Minutes of the Richmond Annex Neighborhood Council General Monthly Meeting
Thursday, February 23, 2012

1. Call to Order: Mary Selva, President presiding. Pledge of Allegiance.


3. Announcements: Good News! Mary Selva announced the City approved $500,000 needed to finish Phase I of the Carlson Corridor Improvement Project. She also thanked Suzanne Abushi, Annex Seniors Barbara St. Michaels, Tsuyuko Hooki, Linda Li, Ens Fortich, and Eve Nanko for their help in assembling February’s Newsletter. Jeff Jones announced USS Iowa Battle Ship is docked at the Port of Richmond, 1411 Harbor Way So., Pier 3 . . . said it’s well-worth touring before it returns to So. California in May. Jeff’s brother, Ron Jones, is docent for USS Red Oak Victory and USS Iowa. It’s open Sat. & Sun. 10am-4pm, $10. Emergency Preparedness classes will not be held at the Adult Ed School this spring. Classes will be held at the Richmond Fire Department Training Center, 3506 Cutting, Wednesdays, 6:30-9pm, March 7th to April 25th and Shields Reid Community Center, 1410 Kelsey, Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6:30-9pm, April 3rd to 26th. Call 620-6866. Jeff Jones is one of the trainers for the class.

4. Minutes of January 28, 2012 were approved.

5. Richmond Police Dept. Report: Capt. Williams who was unable to attend meeting, sent Sgt. Opdyke to address neighborhood concerns about the 81-year old woman, who was brutally attacked and raped on San Pablo Ave. This occurred next to Big-O Tires in Richmond Annex nr. the motels. Healthy for her age, she was doing her routine walk in the early morning when it happened. She is acquainted with some of the Annex seniors and was a resident of the Eskaton Hazel Shirley Manor (senior housing), three blocks north of Big-O Tires. The attacker punched or kicked the victim’s head severely. She is now in a skilled nursing center and is unable to speak, due to brain trauma. Richmond Police asks anyone with information about the Saturday morning assault (1-28-12), or anyone who passed the 10700 to 11000 block of San Pablo Avenue (between Burlingame and Madison) between 5 to 6am, to call Detective Sgt. Stina Johanson at 510-232-8477. The police department is offering a $10,000 reward for information leading to arrest and conviction in the attack.

Crime Stats for February 2012: 3 Residential Burglaries: 1200 blk. So. 56th, 5600 blk. Panama, 2600 blk. San Mateo. 3 Auto Thefts: 5700 blk. Jefferson, 1200 blk. So. 50th, 1000 blk. So. 57th. Residential burglaries have gone down this month. We believe this is due in part to neighbors becoming more alert and watching out for each other. While these crimes need attention, more serious crimes have occurred near the area where the elderly woman was assaulted: Armed Robbery on the 1600 blk. of Mendocino nr. Tehama and Assault with a Deadly Weapon on the 1900 blk. of San Benito nr. Plumas. Crime infiltrates into residential neighborhoods whenever the motels harbor illegal activity. This draws a negative element into residential neighborhoods (assaults, armed robberies, drugs & prostitution), all of which go hand in hand. So it’s important that these residential neighborhoods keep a log (dates & times, make, model, color, and license plate number of vehicle/s; description of person/s involved—i.e. gender; race; age range; hair color; detailed description of clothes they were wearing) and report any suspicious activity to the Police Dept. at 233-1214.

Ofc. Tagorda, Annex Beat Officer, is in attendance this month. He was called to the Hilltop area last month. So it’s a good idea for residents to keep a hawk eye for any suspicious activity occurring in their neighborhoods. This is where Neighborhood Watch can help, since there can’t be law enforcement patrolling our neighborhood all the time. The majority of burglaries that occurred in the past 3 months were due to residents leaving their bathroom windows open a crack to let the steam out, or leaving their curtains open when they leave home. There were a few where front doors where kicked in. If your street light is burnt out, your neighborhood becomes dark. If the poles are wooden, there should be a number on it. Contact PG&E, give them the number, and ask them to replace the light. For metal poles, contact the Public Works Dept. at 231-3010 to replace light. If you’re interested in starting a neighborhood crime watch on your block or getting signs, warning criminals that “Neighbors are Watching Out for Each Other,” contact the City’s Crime Prevention Coordinator at 620-6538 or Richmond Annex Neighborhood Council at 375-7769 to get you started. Ofc. Tagorda can be reached at (510) 621-1212, Ext. 7152 or chtagorda@richmondpd.net for CPTED Evaluation (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design); his patrol hours are Mon. thru Thurs.11:30am – 9:30pm.

6. Jim Trombley has been a neighbor in the Annex community since 2001. Formerly Vice Principal of the Alvarado Adult Ed Campus, he’s now Executive Director of Manzanita Middle School, 1615 Carlson. He wants us to know about the school in this area. It’s a free public charter school with highly qualified teachers, right here in the Richmond Annex community. On March 31st they’re having a Mexican Fundraiser Dinner, Mariachi and Folkloric dance show (award winning in CA), 6pm in the Alvarado Auditorium; $25 per person. They have many other fundraiser events—all to raise money for technology. There’s something new there—Facility Rentals, which is available for corporate mixers and meetings, social and formal dinners, cocktail receptions, holiday parties, family gatherings, workshops and lectures. The Community Room will accommodate up to 100 guests in theater-style seating. Access to large outdoor area with picnic tables and adjacent caterer’s kitchen make it the perfect venue for a holiday party or wedding reception. Rental fees are very reasonable. All proceeds support Manzanita Middle School, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. So please come by and check them out and attend some of their functions. Jim Trombley can be reached at 524-5500 or www.manzy.org.
7. **Streets/Traffic Committee Update:** Jeff Jones reported that EBMUD completed installation of new water main on Butte St. . . . said that monies left over from project on Butte will be rolled over into street repavement for Butte St. Butte is one of the top ten worst streets in the Annex in deplorable condition. (Neighborhood Survey identifies other streets in equally or worse condition are 6000 blk. of Plumas, 1500 blk. of Santa Clara, 1600-1700 blk. of San Benito, 5500-5800 blk. Madison, 5700-5900 blk. of Alameda, 6000 blk. of Sacramento and others that haven’t been repaved since 1975.)

8. **Community Advisory Group (CAG) for the cleanup of the toxic Stauffer Chemical/Zeneca site Update:** Beryl Golden, RANC Representative, attended 2-9-12 CAG meeting. CAG is doing an excellent job in monitoring the toxic cleanup. Yvette LaDuke, Public Participation Specialist for the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) said there’s no new information about the cleanup of the Richmond Field Station site yet. One of the CAG members mentioned the first construction is going to start near the Field Station. There’s still soil testing going on at the Richmond Field Station and Marina Bay. At the Rosie the Riveter Monument site, there’s a large mound of 30 to 50 pine trees and they’re all dying, due to asbestos buried there. Yvette LaDuke was asked if the wood could be tested from the trees. The Heckathorn Superfund site at the Richmond Harbor was brought up. There was a huge cleanup done by EPA, where 107,000 tons of sediment were removed and DDT levels had gone way down, and today it’s back up! The site was used to process DDT, dieldren and other now-banned compounds/pesticides through 1966. The hazardous waste clean-up in the mid-1990s left hazards on-site which triggered the requirement of a US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Review every five years. Despite the EPA directed cleanup, the September 2011 United Heckathorn US EPA Five Year Review (third five-year-review) concludes that levels of DDT and dieldren in channel fish are higher today than before the 1998 remediation . . . and are a threat to human health and the environment. The EPA attended the City Council Meeting last month and is trying to find out from other universities what kind of options to consider and what to do next. Chances are there won’t be anything done to the Heckathorn site until 2015, but there’s going to be a meeting on March 19, 2012 about the Heckathorn Superfund site, with the EPA. A member of the audience discussed the LBNL and mentioned that it might be doing Synthetic Biology. She’s part of another group that’s concerned about it (recommended read: Is Public Health & Safety Being Considered in the Construction of LBNL’s New Biolab in Berkeley? (News Analysis, including 16 references) Aug. 8, 2011, www.BerkeleyDailyPlanet.com). There will be a meeting at The David Brower Center, 2150 Allston Way, near the UC Berkeley campus, on Thursday, March 29th, 7:00-9:30 p.m. regarding Synthetic Biology. The CAG meets on the 2nd Thursday, 6:30-9pm, Richmond Multi-Purpose Room (located in basement) of 440 Civic Center Plaza (the old Hall of Justice at the downtown City Hall). CAG is a group of volunteers who provides an opportunity for all affected and interested citizens to openly learn, discuss and provide advice to the CA Dept. of Toxic Substances Control regarding cleanup activities at the former Stauffer Chemical/ Zeneca site.

9. **Children’s Spring Egg Hunt,** Sat. April 7th, 10am (Sharp), at the Richmond Annex Senior Center, 5801 Huntington. Free Egg Hunt includes children accompanied by an adult; egg hunt by age; pictures with the special bunny; arts & crafts; face painting; baked goods & drinks will be available (cash only). Registration Information, 620-6812.

10. **Easter Potluck & Celebration:** Wed. April 11th, 12pm, at the Richmond Annex Senior Center. Advanced reservations required. Call 620-6812 one week prior to event.

11. **Senior Scam Stopper:** Senator Loni Hancock and the Contractors State License Board invite you to attend a free seminar on Fri. May 11th, 11am-12pm, Richmond Annex Senior Center, 5801 Huntington, 510-620-6812. Learn from experts how to protect yourself from fraud relating to home repair, insurance, finances, identity theft, and more. Seniors, their families, and caregivers are welcome to attend this free seminar. RSVP, contact Senator Hancock’s office at 510-286-1333.

12. **Neighborhood Cleanup & Membership Drive:** There’s a slot open in November 2012. Many volunteers are most definitely needed to make this happen!!! The Neighborhood Cleanup encourages Annex residents to clean up their yards, garages, attics, basements, and become members. Large dumpsters are provided by the City for this one day event. The City Program pays the disposal cost and provides large roll-off dumpsters, giving residents a chance to dispose of their items right in their own neighborhood. The Alvarado School yard can accommodate this event. Sims Metal recycles our scrap metals and Richmond Sanitary recycles or disposes most everything else. They even take mattresses and couches. However, hazardous waste, tires, construction/demolition materials are not accepted. There is only one collection event per calendar year for the Richmond Annex area. Volunteer traffic monitors will be needed to single-file usually long lines and direct traffic; bins must be monitored at all times; Cleanup Coordinator is responsible for working with the designated hauler to schedule pickups for seniors, including disposal of illegal dumping at the program’s conclusion. Again, we need many volunteers for this event. Please contact Jerry Yoshida, 525-0454 or jerry.yoshida@gmail.com.

13. **Do Your Duty & Pickup After Your Dog’s Dooty:** Annex residents are complaining about dog owners letting their dogs poop on neighbors’ yards and curbstrips, while on leash. It’s these owners who are giving dogs—who after all, are only doing what comes naturally—a bad name. If your good neighbor policy fails, contact Animal Control at 510-374-3966, and they will assist you on how to handle this problem. Here is the Contra Costa County Code:

**Title 4 Health & Safety, 416-12.204 Animal Wastes:**

Any person having the ownership, custody, or control of any animal which defecates on public walks, in public recreation areas, in public buildings, or without the owner’s consent on private property, shall immediately remove the excrement from any such place to a site not prohibited by law. This restriction shall not apply in areas identified as horse trails or areas specifically set aside for exercise of animals. (Ord. 80-97 § 2).
From the Richmond Fire Department Office of Emergency Services:

**Earthquake Preparedness Classes—4.0 in El Cerrito is a Wakeup Call!!**

The City of Richmond, as part of its emergency preparedness program, regularly sponsors REACT (Richmond Emergency Action Community Teams) classes. These classes are available to residents and to people who work in the city. Classes give training in:

- Disaster Preparedness
- Fire Suppression
- Disaster First Aid
- Light Search and Rescue
- Terrorism Awareness
- Shelter in Place
- How to Organize Your Neighborhood
- Prepare! Prepare! Prepare!

The series of classes will begin **March 7th** at Richmond Fire Department Training Center & **April 3rd** at Shields Reid Community Center. To register for classes, call 620-6866. Sign up to be informed of future classes on website: [http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/reactinquiry](http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/reactinquiry) or phone Office of Emergency Services at 620-6866. Together we can prepare more effectively and efficiently to respond to and recover from next major emergency.

The Richmond Annex Neighborhood Council, a wholly volunteer non-partisan council, is dependent upon the cooperation of its members toward shared goals. Our long success has resulted from the trust and good faith of neighbors able to place community beyond purely personal agendas. It is a record we share with pride.

Your membership is encouraged. Our Council depends upon its members to participate, help their neighbors, and community.

**Annual membership dues are due each spring:** $5 per household, $3 for seniors, and $10 for businesses.

Please return completed application below for renewal or new membership. You will receive the monthly mailer with the meeting agenda, minutes of prior meeting, and other information concerning the Greater Richmond Annex area and our City. Below, you may also add your name to our RANC Email List to receive information about important updates or events. Your private information WILL NOT BE SHARED OR USED FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Our meetings are on the 4th Thursday of each month, at the Richmond Annex Senior Center (the old firehouse), 5801 Huntington Avenue (corner of Santa Clara St.).

Note: An asterisk * on your mailing label means it’s time to renew your annual membership. Please remit dues, along with completed membership application below. Thank you

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**RANC Membership Application**

Please complete form and send it with your annual membership dues, $5 per household, $3 for seniors, and $10 for businesses to: **Tom Hoffman, Treasurer, Richmond Annex Neighborhood Council or RANC, P.O. Box 5436, Richmond, CA 94805.** Make check payable to RANC or Richmond Annex Neighborhood Council. Do not send cash.

Name_________________________________________ Phone # __________________ Fax # __________________

Address________________________________ City __________ State __________ Zip __________

Email address (if you have one)________________________________ Date __________ Amount ________

☐ New Membership ☐ Renewal ☐ * Willing to do Volunteer Work

* If you are interested in joining any one of the RANC committees, please ✔ check one of the boxes below:

- Parks & Shoreline
- Planning/Zoning
- Code Compliance
- Alvarado School
- Fairmont School
- Streets/Traffic; Carlson
- Annex History
- Annex Block Party
- REACT
- Neighborhood Cleanup
- Stauffer/Zeneca Cleanup Advisory Group
- I-80 Sound wall Landscape Maintenance
- Welcome Wagon
Important Meeting Date: Thurs. March 22, 2012

- **Special Guest:** Kieron Slaughter, Project Planner
  will give presentation on Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan
- Richmond General Plan - City Council Hearings
- Earthquake Preparedness Classes, March 7th & April 3rd
- Annex Spring Egg Hunt for kids, Sat. April 7th, 10am
- Annex Senior Center - Easter Potluck, Wednesday,
  April 11th, 12pm; reservations required, 620-6812

REMINDER: Annex Street Sweeping, 4th Thursday odd address #s, 4th Friday even address #s, 8 am-1 pm

Richmond Annex Neighborhood Council
Founded 1974  PO Box 5436, Richmond, CA  94805  *Neighbors Helping Neighbors*

WE THE ANNEX

Working together nearly 60 years, local residents have built and nurtured the stable, uncrowded, family-oriented character of the Greater Richmond Annex.

We enjoy the traditional low-density neighborhoods, public access shoreline, and healthy environment rare in urban areas today.

**THIS IS NO ACCIDENT!**

Since the 1940’s, Annex residents and businesses have organized to preserve and enhance these special qualities, now increasingly threatened by economic and political pressures.

Good neighborhoods, as good families and sound businesses, succeed by working together for common benefit. Just as we don’t expect others to pay our taxes or cast our vote, we can’t expect others to bear our share of keeping the Annex the kind of neighborhood we want for our families.

If not already serving on one of our committees or special projects, please join your neighbors as an active voice in our shared Greater Richmond Annex neighborhood where . . .

“**TOGETHER, WE CONTINUE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!”**