

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION**

**MINUTES
MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2012**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** at 6:32 PM

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** led by Renee Hilton

3. **ROLL CALL:**

Commissioners Present: Borelli, Clarkin, Kemper, Komskaya, Norton, Sol, Williams

Commissioners Absent: None

Others present: Sergeant Jon Klaus, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; Captain Kelley Fraser, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; Battalion Chief Larry Collins, Los Angeles County Fire Department; Kristin Cook, Public Safety Manager

4. **ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS**

Commissioner Norton requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of Alan Thomas and Bobby Khamvongsa.

Commissioner Williams requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of Rica Burton's husband.

Commissioner Sol requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of Ray Bradbury.

Commissioner Sol requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of the 9 law enforcement officers and firefighters killed in the line of duty since the last meeting.

5. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Williams to approve the June 11, 2012 agenda, seconded by Commissioner Norton, and approved.

POSTING OF AGENDA

The agenda for the June 11, 2012 Public Safety Commission meeting was posted at City Hall, Plummer Park, the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station, and the West Hollywood Library.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Sol to approve the May 14, 2012 minutes, seconded by Commissioner Norton, and approved with Commissioners Clarkin and Borelli abstaining.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Renee Hilton, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding the crosswalk at Crescent Heights and Norton.

Kevin Burton, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding the police blotter.

8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Borelli stated that he will attend the next Avenues Streetscape Task Force which is June 12, 2012 and report back to the Commission.

Commissioner Norton thanked all for their hard work at Gay Pride. Commissioner Norton spoke regarding bicycle safety and bicyclists riding while talking on cell phones and encouraged enforcement whenever possible. Commissioner Norton spoke regarding drivers who cause gridlock in intersections and encouraged enforcement. Commissioner Norton spoke regarding the recent murder of the MTA driver and asked if there are ways for bus drivers to better protect themselves.

Commissioner Norton spoke regarding a recent incident in CVS with an unruly patron who possibly had a weapon and asked if the City has any influence over private security. Commissioner Norton spoke regarding being stopped in a sobriety checkpoint in the City of Beverly Hills and wondered if it is a fact that law enforcement officers have to give drivers an opportunity to avoid the checkpoint.

Commissioner Kemper spoke regarding CVS and the poor security at the location and the many patrol checks by Sheriff's Deputies. Commissioner Kemper spoke regarding walking with the law enforcement contingent in the Pride Parade and thanked sheriff and fire for their participation. Commissioner Kemper spoke regarding the crosswalk at Crescent Heights at Norton and said that previously it had been discussed to install flashing lights. Commissioner requested that staff ask if the subcommittee with the Transportation Commission could be reinstated. Commissioner Kemper spoke regarding the police blotter. Commissioner Kemper spoke regarding her car being vandalized and requested more patrols in the area. Commissioner Kemper spoke regarding the construction project at the northwest corner of Melrose and La Cienega and said that the street lights were out and a neighbor had a difficult time on the phone with public works staff when she tried to report it.

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding meeting with the Transportation Commission subcommittee again in the future. Commissioner Williams congratulated Commissioner Borelli for his hard work and also thanked Sheriff and Fire.

Commissioner Komskaya expressed outrage regarding homophobic demonstrations on television in Russia. Commissioner Komskaya spoke regarding the Sheriff's Department's good handling of West Hollywood's Pride Parade.

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding a wonderful gay pride parade in Israel.

Commissioner Sol thanked everyone for their hard work on the many special events during the first week of June. Commissioner Sol spoke regarding a three day training hosted by the Sheriff's department a few summers ago for Serbian law enforcement officers and suggested that Commissioner Komskaya contact Council Member John Heilman's office to discuss the issues in Russia and possibly to write a letter. Commissioner Sol spoke regarding contacting CVS directly about its security hiring practices.

Commissioner Clarkin thanked Sheriff, Fire, City staff, and Pride staff – especially Commissioner Borelli - for their hard work during the Pride Festival and Parade. Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding taking a stance against the homophobia in Russia.

9. ITEMS FROM STAFF

9A. NEWS FROM STAFF/MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Staff spoke regarding a successful LA Pride weekend.

Commissioner Borelli spoke in support of continuous training for the Neighborhood Watch Captains to better equip them with information in their neighborhoods.

Commissioner Kemper spoke regarding reinstating the subcommittee with the Transportation Commission.

Staff said that she would speak with Melissa Antol.

Commissioner Borelli encouraged Commissioners to share information with each other and with members of other Boards and Commissions whenever possible to help speed up the communication process.

10. REPORT FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Collins spoke regarding the suppression, rescue, and fire prevention activities during the month of May 2012 including \$19,000 damage from vehicle fires. Chief Collins spoke regarding a very successful Pride Festival and Parade although there were many paramedic responses throughout the weekend. Chief Collins spoke regarding hosting sidewalk CPR at Plummer Park and doing more in the future. Chief Collins spoke regarding upcoming 4th of July celebrations and how the Fire Department tracks fireworks injuries and uses the data to prevent injuries in the future.

Commissioner Sol suggested that the Chief attend the upcoming City Council meeting to talk about fire safety.

Commissioner Norton spoke regarding hosting sidewalk CPR on the weekend in the future.

Commissioner Borelli asked if sidewalk CPR included the Heimlich maneuver. Chief Collins stated that the Department is focusing on the one skill at this time. Commissioner Borelli asked for more clarification regarding the vehicle fires. Chief Collins stated that there were no identifiable trends.

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding sidewalk CPR and said that it was not available in Los Angeles.

Commissioner Komskaya spoke regarding living in senior housing that has been renovated with new fire alarm systems and smoke detectors and asked who is responsible for changing batteries. Chief Collins suggested speaking with the building manager since it is a rental property.

Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding working with Maria Grycan on advertising the sidewalk CPR.

Chief Collins spoke regarding working on the Great Shake Out exercise with Dr. Lucy Jones and encouraged the community to participate in earthquake preparedness activities with the Fire Department.

11. REPORT FROM THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

In answer to previous questions, Sergeant Klaus stated that the Station does conduct DUI checkpoints and stated that bicyclists are required to follow the same rules as drivers.

Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding the MTA and its partnership with Sheriff's Transit Bureau Deputies. Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding the quality of private security being the business' responsibility.

Commissioner Norton spoke regarding gridlock. Staff spoke regarding passing on complaints to the Traffic Sergeant who can deploy resources to address this issue.

Sergeant Klaus reviewed the Sheriff's Department statistics for May 2012, including calls for service, arrests, and crimes. Sergeant Klaus stated that crime is down on the west side and up in the center city and east side. The majority of the incidents occurred at the Gateway. Deputies are being deployed to address the issues. Sergeant Klaus spoke regarding victims leaving items unattended.

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding the one rape.

Commissioner Sol thanked Sergeant Klaus for the Station's continuous presence at the Gateway and spoke regarding a recent donation of first aid kits by Target to the Station.

Commissioner Norton asked for more information about DUIs.

Sergeant Klaus stated that there were 15 DUI citations and 6 DUI collisions.

Commissioner Sol asked for a crash car to be placed out for long holiday weekends.

Commissioner Kemper spoke regarding decoy cars being left too long in one location. Commissioner Kemper spoke regarding working with Bonnie Smith and the COPPS Team to restart Buzz with the Fuzz.

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

12A. 2012 PUBLIC SAFETY EDUCATION OUTREACH – BUSINESS CARD SIZED MATERIALS

Commissioner Borelli spoke regarding the recent campaign by the Bicycle Task Force on street banners and would like to see more in the future. Commissioner Borelli spoke regarding scheduling a public safety outreach in July.

Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding Sheriff's Department's new website that was just launched.

13. NEW BUSINESS

13A. ANTI-CRUIISING SIGNS SOUTH OF SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD

Staff stated that a member of the Planning Commission had come to public safety and asked that the signs be removed. Staff requested that Lieutenant Smith run statistics for the area, and it was found that no tickets have been written for anti-cruising in several months.

Commissioner Kemper stated that she spoke with several neighbors who live in the area of the street signs and said that the neighbors support keeping the signs up even though there is not the level of cruising that there used to be. Commissioner Kemper said that the signs serve as a deterrent.

Commissioner Sol stated that she spoke with a Planning Commissioner about the signs and that the signs serve as a deterrent.

Commissioner Williams encouraged working with the Neighborhood Watch Captain.

Commissioner Norton stated that some neighbors have wondered why the signs are still up.

Commissioner Williams stated that neighbors can make the turns if they are residents.

Commissioner Sol stated that the signs are a deterrent and help keep the activity down.

Commissioner Norton suggested conducting a survey.

Staff reminded the Commission that it is just one person asking about the signs at this point.

Commissioners agreed that the signs serve as a deterrent and to keep them up at this time.

14. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

15. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Borelli thanked Commissioner Komskaya for her voice on the Public Safety Commission and agreed that contacting Council Member Heilman's office on international issues would be helpful.

Commissioner Komskaya spoke regarding a robbery prevention segment on television by the Sheriff's Department.

Commissioner Williams agreed that contacting Council Member Heilman's office on international issues would be helpful.

Commissioner Sol spoke regarding scheduling the next public outreach

and to avoid the July 21st weekend which is San Diego Pride.
Commissioner Sol suggested contacting Frontiers to do a safety article.

15. ADJOURNMENT

The Public Safety Commission adjourned at 8:08 PM in the memory of Alan Thomas, Bobby Khamvongsa, Rica Burton's husband, Ray Bradbury, and the 9 law enforcement officers and firefighters that have passed away since the last meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 9, 2012 at 6:30 PM at the West Hollywood City Hall Community Conference Room at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard.



Public Safety Commission Chair



Staff Liaison