

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION**

**MINUTES  
MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 2014**

**WEST HOLLYWOOD LIBRARY COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** at 6:30 PM
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** led by Heidi Shink
3. **ROLL CALL**

**Commissioners Present:** Bazley, Burke, Clarkin\*, Hoffman, Norton, Sol, Williams

**Commissioners Absent:** None

\*Commissioner Clarkin joined the meeting at 6:40 PM.

**Others present:** Lieutenant Dave Smith, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; Kristin Cook, Public Safety Director; Bonnie Smith, Public Safety Supervisor; Maria Grycan, Los Angeles County Fire Department; Battalion Chief Patrick Errett, Los Angeles County Fire Department; David Aguilar, Block by Block Security Ambassadors

4. **ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS**

Commissioner Bazley requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of Ramon Estrada, resident of West Hollywood, and Robin Williams.

Commissioner Norton requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of James Brady.

Commissioner Sol requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of the 7 law enforcement officers and firefighters who have passed away since the last meeting.

5. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**ACTION:** Motion by Commissioner Williams to approve the August 11, 2014 agenda, seconded by Commissioner Sol and approved.

**POSTING OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda for the August 11, 2014 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 Norton to approve the July 14, 2014 minutes as amended, seconded by Commissioner Williams and approved.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Wendy Goldman, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding Seniors Helping Seniors and the services that the organization provides.

Marv Auerbach, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding public safety concerns in the alley behind 8460-8490 Santa Monica Boulevard, in particular marijuana smoking in public areas behind Zen Healing.

Stephanie Harker, resident of West Hollywood, thanked everyone for attending National Night Out and encouraged more crime prevention awareness at the event.

Larry Block, resident of West Hollywood, encouraged the Commission to work more on crosswalks and pedestrian safety.

Heidi Shink, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding a new Neighborhood Watch group on the 900 block of Curson and the passing of Robin Williams.

**8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND LIAISON REPORTS**

Commissioner Bazley thanked everyone for their hard work at National Night Out, especially Laura Manukian, residents, local businesses, and event coordinators. Commissioner Bazley encouraged work on crosswalks and pedestrian safety. Commissioner Bazley spoke regarding the recent incidents of police brutality in Los Angeles, New York, and Ferguson, Missouri.

Commissioner Hoffman thanked everyone for their participation and hard work at National Night Out, especially residents, Sheriff's Deputies, and Fire Fighters. Commissioner Hoffman thanked Ms. Shink for creating a new Neighborhood Watch group and encouraged all to attend Neighborhood Watch meetings on their street or start a new group if one does not exist. Commissioner Hoffman spoke regarding the useful information covered at Neighborhood Watch meetings such as crime statistics, safety tips, and other resources.

Commissioner Williams thanked everyone for their participation and hard work at National Night Out. Commissioner Williams spoke regarding the bulky item pick up program by Athens. Commissioner Williams stated that NCJW is hosting a

program on November 12, 2014 regarding senior scams and elder abuse. Commissioner Williams spoke regarding her attendance at the recent Disabilities Advisory Board meeting and a presentation by NCJW. Commissioner Williams said that Public Safety Commissioners will be working with Transportation Commissioners on crosswalk issues.

Commissioner Norton thanked all for their participation and hard work at National Night Out. Commissioner Norton stated that information about the other National Night Out locations could be better publicized. Commissioner Norton spoke regarding her attendance at a recent Senior Advisory Board Meeting at which COPPS Team Deputies gave a presentation regarding senior scams and fraud. Commissioner Norton congratulated Ms. Shink on starting a new Neighborhood Watch meeting. Commissioner Norton expressed frustration with Transportation staff and the lack of information regarding crosswalk updates and the need for better lighting.

Commissioner Clarkin apologized for being a few minutes late. Commissioner Clarkin said that he will be attending the Rent Stabilization Commission meeting on Thursday. Commissioner Clarkin thanked all for their participation and hard work at National Night Out, especially Laura Manukian.

Commissioner Sol thanked the members of the public for their attendance. Commissioner Sol encouraged all to use WeHo Direct for any issues that need immediate response. Commissioner Sol thanked all for their participation and hard work at National Night Out. Commissioner Sol suggested that Laura Manukian attend a future meeting to answer neighborhood watch and crime prevention questions. Commissioner Sol reminded all that there will be several events regarding Day of Remembrance in the month of November hosted by the Transgender Advisory Board.

Commissioner Burke thanked all for their participation and hard work at National Night Out and spoke regarding complimentary comments from Jim McDonnell, candidate for Los Angeles County Sheriff, who attended West Hollywood's events. Commissioner Burke spoke regarding the wonderful work of West Hollywood's Commissions and Boards.

## **9. ITEMS FROM STAFF**

### **9A. NEWS FROM STAFF/MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Staff announced that the Walk About with the Sheriff's Captain will be rescheduled due to a conflict and that the Emmys will be held August 25, 2014.

### **9B. SEPTEMBER MEETING CONFLICT**

Staff updated the Commission on the City Council's September meeting schedule.

**ACTION:** Motion by Commissioner Sol to pass on the September Public Safety Commission Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Clarkin and motion failed.

**ACTION:** Motion by Commissioner Norton to reschedule the September Public Safety Commission Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Clarkin and approved.

Staff suggested moving the September meeting to September 15, 2014.

**ACTION:** Motion by Commissioner Norton to hold the September meeting on Monday, September 15, 2014, seconded by Commissioner Williams and approved.

#### **9C. ANNUAL CONGRESS**

Staff reminded Commissioners to turn in their photographs and stories for the annual congress to be held in October.

#### **9D. PUBLIC SAFETY SIX MONTH REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL**

Staff encouraged Commissioners to attend the Council Meeting on September 8, 2014.

### **10. REPORT FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Maria Grycan reviewed the suppression, rescue, and fire prevention activities during the month of July 2014 including inspections, fires, and emergency medical calls.

Commissioner Hoffman inquired about the number of trash fires.

Ms. Grycan and Chief Errett stated that there was no discernable pattern regarding the trash fires.

Commissioner Clarkin asked if fire personnel collaborate on information to determine trends.

Chief Errett said that all West Hollywood personnel examine statistics and collaborate on issues.

Ms. Grycan formally introduced Chief Errett to the Commissioners.

Chief Errett thanked the Commissioners and spoke briefly about his career with the Fire Department and said that he is very happy to be working in West Hollywood.

## **12. REPORT FROM THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

Lieutenant Smith stated that there were arrests made in the arson trash fires. Lieutenant Smith thanked the Commissioners for their kind comments regarding the Deputies working National Night Out. Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding the COPPS Team's attendance at the Senior Advisory Board. Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding the special traffic enforcement held on August 3, 2014 and said that both cars and pedestrians were cited.

Commissioner Williams encouraged better enforcement of bicyclists ignoring the vehicle code.

Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding a recent incident where a cyclist ran six stop signs before being stopped by Sheriff's personnel.

Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding the recent vehicle vs. pedestrian accident on El Tovar and Robertson.

Lieutenant Smith reviewed the Sheriff's Department statistics for July 2014, including crimes, calls for service, and arrests. Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding improved response times for routine calls for service. Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding a decrease in property crimes. Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding alcohol related assaults and two recent robberies on the east side.

Lieutenant Smith stated that there were 12 DUI arrests and 6 DUI related crashes in the month of July. In addition, there were 5 vehicle vs. pedestrian accidents, 0 vehicle vs. bicycle accidents, and 1 bicycle vs. pedestrian accident.

Commissioner Sol requested that the crash car for Labor Day weekend be more visible and to include one on Sunset Boulevard.

Staff and Lieutenant Smith will work on the crash car locations.

Commissioner Hoffman requested clarification on Grand Theft incidents.

Lieutenant Smith stated that there was a lot of high end shoplifting on the west side in July.

Commissioner Sol thanked Lieutenant Smith for his attendance at the last Walk About with the Captain.

Lieutenant Smith thanked Commissioner Bazley for his concern for police brutality incidents and spoke regarding the training and expectations of West Hollywood personnel.

Lieutenant Smith introduced Phillip Rothschild, Sheriff's Volunteer.

Mr. Rothschild spoke briefly about the Sheriff's Volunteer Program and the many services that the thirty-eight volunteers provide to the West Hollywood Station and to the West Hollywood community.

Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding the many services that the volunteers provide to the West Hollywood Station and to the West Hollywood community.

Commissioner Hoffman thanked Mr. Rothschild and the volunteers.

Commissioner Sol thanked the Station and the City's Public Information staff for their use of social media.

**12. REPORT FROM BLOCK BY BLOCK**

David Aguilar, Block by Block, gave a brief report on July's activities.

Commissioner Williams thanked Mr. Aguilar and his team.

Commissioner Clarkin thanked Mr. Aguilar and his team and asked Mr. Aguilar to thank the Sunset team as well for their participation in National Night Out.

**13. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**14. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

None.

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

The Public Safety Commission adjourned at 7:55 PM in the memory of Ramon Estrada, Robin Williams, James Brady, and the 7 law enforcement officers and firefighters who have passed away since the last meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for September 15, 2014 at 6:30 PM at a location to be determined.

  
Public Safety Commission Chair

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Staff Liaison