

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION**

**MINUTES
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 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

Commissioners Absent: Williams

Others present: Lieutenant Dave Smith, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; Sergeant Jon Klaus, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; Kristin Cook, Public Safety Director; Bonnie Smith, Public Safety Supervisor; Laura Manukian, Neighborhood Services Coordinator; Maria Grycan, Los Angeles County Fire Department; Battalion Chief Ricky Lewis, Los Angeles County Fire Department; Joseph Tellez, Block by Block Security Ambassadors

4. **ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS**

Commissioner Sol requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of the 21 law enforcement officers and firefighters who have passed away since the last meeting.

5. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Norton to approve the November 10, 2014 agenda, seconded by Commissioner Clarkin, and approved.

POSTING OF THE AGENDA

The agenda for the November 10, 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 October 13, 2014 minutes as amended, seconded by Commissioner Sol, and approved.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Heidi Shink, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding Council Member Land's retirement and proposed that a women's working group be formed. Ms. Shink spoke in support of an election rather than an appointment if Council Member Prang's seat is vacated.

Michael Wojtkielewicz, resident of West Hollywood, spoke against the installation of AT&T cell towers at 1060 N. Sierra Bonita.

Stephanie Harker, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding the pedestrian safety public service announcement and the possible negative impacts of cell towers.

Cathy Blaivas, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding the possible negative impacts of cell towers.

8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND LIAISON REPORTS

Commissioner Sol spoke regarding Transgender Awareness Month events, Palm Springs Pride, toy drive, the next walkabout with the Captain on November 19, 2014, and the pedestrian safety PSA.

Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding the pedestrian safety PSA.

Commissioner Norton thanked the public for attending the meeting and for bringing the issue of safety concerns related to proposed cell towers to the attention of the Commission. Commissioner Norton also spoke regarding her attendance at the recent meeting of the Senior Advisory Board and reminded everyone about NCJW's upcoming elder abuse and senior scam prevention event, which the SAB is co-sponsoring.

Commissioner Burke spoke in support of the formation of a women's working group and the large amount of attention for the pedestrian safety PSA.

Commissioner Bazley spoke regarding the large amount of attention for the pedestrian safety PSA, Veteran's Day, the health of pet companions, and National Role Model month.

Commissioner Hoffman spoke regarding his attendance at the recent Transportation Commission meeting discussing pedestrian safety and also spoke about Veteran's Day.

9. ITEMS FROM STAFF

9A. NEWS FROM STAFF/MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS/TIME FOR DECEMBER MEETING

Staff spoke regarding a bicycle/pedestrian light give away to be scheduled in early December.

Staff spoke regarding the annual Don't Drink and Drive event and suggested moving the December meeting to 5 PM or canceling the December meeting.

Commissioner Sol asked if the Pick Up would be present at the Don't Drink and Drive event.

Staff stated that the Pick Up staff are considering having the Pick Up present, but that it would probably not be physically there as it is not a normal evening for service. Staff said that the Pick Up will be advertised and that printed materials are being updated to include information about the Pick Up.

Commissioners Hoffman and Norton suggested keeping the December meeting.

Commissioner Clarkin suggested starting the meeting at 5:00 PM.

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Hoffman to set a start time of 5:00 PM for the December 8, 2014 Public Safety Commission meeting, seconded by Commissioner Norton and approved.

Staff reminded all that the meeting will be held at the Sheriff's Station.

Staff spoke regarding the Transgender Day of Remembrance which was held on Thursday, November 20, 2014.

9B. PRESENTATION FROM LAURA MANUKIAN, NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Commissioners received a presentation from Laura Manukian, Neighborhood Services Coordinator regarding Neighborhood Watch.

Commissioner Sol said that some neighbors who had asked for information regarding Neighborhood Watch have already left the meeting.

Commissioner Clarkin thanked staff and said that more attendees come when there is a neighborhood challenge.

Commissioner Sol asked when the next Block Captain training will be.

Ms. Manukian said that the next Block Captain training will be held in the beginning of 2015 and that the training always has outstanding attendance. Ms. Manukian spoke regarding WeHo Direct and an extremely accessible COPPS team.

Commissioner Clarkin asked what the next steps should be and what awards the City receives for National Night Out.

Ms. Manukian described the awards that the City has received and spoke regarding the need for Neighborhood Watch to continue.

Commissioner Hoffman thanked staff for Neighborhood Watch and spoke regarding constituent involvement and the uniqueness of West Hollywood.

10. REPORT FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Ms. Grycan reviewed the suppression, rescue, and fire prevention activities during the month of October 2014 including inspections, fires, and emergency medical calls. Ms. Grycan spoke regarding the fire at the Tattoo Parlor on La Brea. Ms. Grycan spoke regarding Halloween responses. Ms. Grycan spoke regarding the upcoming CERT classes in January and February including a CERT reunion.

Commissioner Hoffman spoke in support of the pulse point app.

Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding the social media coverage on Halloween.

Ms. Grycan stated that Firefighter Ryan Fogg from Fire Station 7 is helping with increasing social media coverage of Fire Department activities.

Commissioner Clarkin spoke in support of the pulse point app and sidewalk CPR.

Commissioner Hoffman spoke regarding successful preparations and event execution for Halloween.

Ms. Grycan introduced Chief Lewis to the Commission.

11. REPORT FROM THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Sergeant Klaus reviewed the Sheriff's Department statistics for October 2014, including crimes, calls for service, and arrests. Sergeant Klaus stated that there were 7 DUI arrests and 2 DUI related accidents in October.

Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding a decrease in vehicle burglaries, an increase in aggravated assaults, 2 pedestrian vs vehicle accidents and 3 bicyclist vs vehicle accidents. Lieutenant Smith stated that there were five sexual batteries from

January – June 2014. Four batteries occurred in a club, and 1 occurred in a market. Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding a successful Halloween and a large deployment of Deputies throughout the City and thanked the Fire Department and Block by Block Security Ambassadors. Lieutenant Smith stated that there was 1 DUI arrest at Halloween. Lieutenant Smith said that 117 carts and a ton and a half of food were confiscated from illegal vendors in conjunction with the Health Department.

Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding a decrease in crime statistics and asked if it leads to a decrease in observations.

Lieutenant Smith said that observations and arrests do go hand in hand. Lieutenant Smith stated COPPS team deputies start their shifts in the parks.

Commissioner Sol asked if suppression is being continued and thanked Sergeant Klaus for his assistance with the Safe Trick or Treating event at the Gateway.

Lieutenant Smith stated that crime suppression teams are still being staffed and are deployed wherever and whenever needed.

Commissioner Norton spoke regarding a recent incident at 7969 Santa Monica Boulevard that involved a Sheriff's helicopter.

Lieutenant Smith gave a brief synopsis of the incident at 7969 Santa Monica Boulevard which included 2 arrests for assault on security officers.

Commissioner Hoffman asked for more information on the pedestrian vs vehicle where the pedestrian was at fault.

Lieutenant Smith stated that he will research the question.

12. REPORT FROM BLOCK BY BLOCK

Joseph Tellez, Block by Block, gave a brief report on October's activities.

Commissioner Burke asked for more information regarding contacts with homeless individuals.

Mr. Tellez described the typical interaction with homeless individuals including offering social services.

Lieutenant Smith said that the Block by Block Security Ambassadors do a tremendous amount of work.

Commissioner Sol spoke regarding the recent National Alliance on Mental Illness walk and work with homeless individuals.

Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding homeless issues training.

Commissioner Hoffman asked about staffing for Block by Block Security Ambassadors during the day.

Staff said that the City Council supported a significant increase to the Block by Block contract in the recent budget and stated that staffing went from 9 to 13 Ambassadors.

Commissioner Hoffman asked if Block by Block patrols the parks.

Mr. Tellez said that the Security Ambassadors do patrol the parks.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael Wojtkielewicz, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding Neighborhood Watch and safety concerns at 1060 N. Sierra Bonita Avenue.

Larry Block, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding narcotics use in bars and power outages.

14. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Bazley spoke regarding the recent election and voter turnout and wished all a Happy Thanksgiving.

Commissioner Burke spoke regarding the recent election and voter turnout. Commissioner Burke spoke regarding the importance of Veteran's Day.

Commissioner Norton wished all a Happy Thanksgiving.

Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding the upcoming "I Am West Hollywood" campaign.

Commissioner Sol thanked the public speakers for their attendance and spoke regarding the importance of personal responsibility and not leaving drinks unattended in bars. Commissioner Sol reminded all that World AIDS Day is December 1, 2014.

15. ADJOURNMENT

The Public Safety Commission adjourned at 8:08 PM in the memory of the 21 law enforcement officers and firefighters who have passed away since the last meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for December 8, 2014 at 5:00 PM at the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station.

Marcy L. Norton
Public Safety Commission Chair

[Signature]
Staff Liaison