

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION**

**MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2015**

WEST HOLLYWOOD LIBRARY - COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM

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

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

Commissioners Absent: None

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; Maria Grycan, Los Angeles County Fire Department; David Aguilar, Block by Block Security Ambassadors

4. **ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS**

Commissioner Hoffman requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of the 12 individuals who were killed in the terrorist attacks at Charlie Hebdo, the French police officer, and the 4 individuals killed at a Jewish supermarket.

Commissioner Williams requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of Senator Holly Mitchell's mother.

Commissioner Clarkin requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of Paul Chavez's grandmother.

Commissioner Sol requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of the 16 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 January 12, 2015 agenda, seconded by Commissioner Norton, and approved.

POSTING OF THE AGENDA

The agenda for the January 12, 2015 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 Clarkin to approve the December 8, 2014 minutes as amended, seconded by Commissioner Norton, and approved.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Stephanie Harker, resident of West Hollywood, thanked both the Sheriff's Deputies and Block by Block for their rapid responses to recent incidents. Ms. Harker spoke against the installation of a cell tower at the Sierra Bonita Housing Corporation building.

Laura Boccaletti, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding pedestrian safety and commented that the pedestrian "paddle" signs are flimsy and falling down. Ms. Boccaletti spoke in support of push button/traffic light crosswalks, such as the one in front of Canter's Deli.

Michael Wojtkielewicz, resident of West Hollywood, spoke against the installation of a cell tower at the Sierra Bonita Housing Corporation building and a meeting with Robin Conerly.

Larry Block, resident of West Hollywood, spoke in support of public safety goals, such as zero pedestrian accidents in a month and spoke regarding various pedestrian safety measures.

Cathy Blaivas, resident of West Hollywood, spoke against the installation of a cell tower at the Sierra Bonita Housing Corporation building.

8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND LIAISON REPORTS

Commissioner Sol thanked the public speakers for their comments and passion.

Commissioner Clarkin thanked the public speakers for their comments, reminded all to remember to vote, and encouraged all to use the "public stuff" app.

Commissioner Norton spoke regarding the cell tower proposed for the Sierra Bonita Housing Corporation building and asked staff to place the issue on the agenda. Commissioner Norton spoke regarding her recent attendance at the Senior Advisory Board meeting.

Commissioner Hoffman spoke regarding the cell tower proposed for the Sierra Bonita Housing Corporation building and asked staff to place the issue on the agenda. Commissioner Hoffman spoke regarding pedestrian safety, new measures put in place, and encouraged the City to review successes from other cities.

Commissioner Burke spoke regarding the cell tower proposed for the Sierra Bonita Housing Corporation and the purview of the Public Safety Commission.

Commissioner Williams asked regarding the timeline of the proposed cell tower proposed for the Sierra Bonita Housing Corporation.

9. ITEMS FROM STAFF

9A. NEWS FROM STAFF/MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Staff stated that the cell tower issue is not within the purview of the Public Safety Commission, but that staff would go back and find out more details of the issue and bring back information to the Commissioners at the next meeting.

Staff introduced Matt Magener, Public Works Department, who gave a brief presentation on Southern California Edison and Street Lights.

Commissioner Williams asked if the City were to take over the current street light system if that would lead to a utility tax.

Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding broken street lights and the length of time it takes to repair them.

Mr. Magener spoke regarding the current repair program.

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding the illumination and the wattage of the street lights.

Mr. Magener spoke regarding new lighting, such as LED and plasma lighting. Mr. Magener stated that the City is in the preliminary stages of exploring the possibility of taking over the street light system.

Commissioner Hoffman asked regarding the future repair and replacement options.

Commissioner Clarkin asked who owns the blue lights along Santa Monica Boulevard.

Mr. Magener stated that there is a consultant looking at the ownership of all the lighting in the City.

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding the history of the blue lighting along Santa Monica Boulevard.

9B. AGING IN PLACE STEERING COMMITTEE

Commissioners received a presentation from Gloria Aviles regarding the Aging in Place Steering Committee.

Commissioner Williams volunteered to participate.

Commissioner Norton volunteered.

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Clarkin to appoint Commissioner Williams as the primary representative and Commissioner Norton as the alternate representative to the committee, seconded by Commissioner Hoffman, and approved.

Commissioner Norton asked if the Senior Advisory Board and the Disabilities Advisory Board would be included.

Ms. Aviles stated that staff is visiting all Boards and Commissions.

Cathy Blaivas, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding the Detroit Bungalow project.

Stephanie Harker, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding aging in place and issues facing seniors such as mental health, housing, and safety.

Larry Block, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding aging in place, transitional housing, and senior assistance care.

Anne Marie Williams, resident of West Hollywood and Chair of the Human Services Commission, spoke regarding working together on shared issues and invited the Public Safety Commissioners and members of the public to attend Human Services Commission meetings.

10. REPORT FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Ms. Grycan reviewed the suppression, rescue, and fire prevention activities during the month of December 2014 including inspections, fires, and emergency medical calls. Noteworthy fires included one on Norton due to unattended candles, an arson/trash fire in the Sheriff's Station lobby, and a fire on Fountain Avenue due to an outlet malfunction. Ms. Grycan spoke regarding the Spark of Love Toy Drive

and the upcoming CERT classes which have 80 participants registered to be held on January 24, 31 and February 7, 2015, including a CERT reunion.

Commissioner Hoffman asked for clarification regarding the CERT schedule.

Kevin Burton, resident of West Hollywood, thanked the City and the Fire Department for hosting the CERT classes.

11. REPORT FROM THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Sergeant Klaus reviewed the Sheriff's Department statistics for December 2014, including crimes, calls for service, and arrests. Sergeant Klaus stated that there were 13 DUI arrests and 2 DUI related accidents in December. Sergeant Klaus spoke regarding the good work completed by the Sheriff's Volunteers including over 1600+ hours of service to the community.

Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding an increase in foot patrols in the City, and stated that the DUI checkpoint held in December netted 3 arrests.

Commissioner Norton asked for clarification regarding DUI checkpoints.

Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding the needs and procedures for DUI checkpoints.

Commissioner Norton stated that the decoy car has been on Rosewood for over a week and asked for clarification on the procedures for decoy cars. Commissioner Norton spoke regarding the Red Light Camera program and asked for more information.

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding a recent meeting held at The Huxley apartment building regarding reporting crime.

Sergeant Klaus stated that at the recent meeting at The Huxley the Sheriff's Deputies did a walk through, made security suggestions, and told residents and property management how to properly report crime.

Commissioner Williams asked staff to hold another meeting at the Huxley when possible.

12. REPORT FROM BLOCK BY BLOCK

David Aguilar, Block by Block, gave a report on December's activities, including assisting thousands of pedestrians cross the street.

Commissioner Williams thanked Block by Block for their excellent service.

Commissioner Norton spoke regarding the visibility of the Block by Block team.

13. NEW BUSINESS

13A. COMMISSION INFORMATION SHEET/SPEAKER SLIP UPDATE

Staff reviewed the public speaker slip and the Public Safety Commission information sheet with the Commission and asked for comments to be emailed to staff. Staff credited Commissioner Hoffman with the idea to update and create these documents.

Commissioner Norton reminded staff that speakers are given three minutes to speak.

Commissioner Clarkin asked for clarification on how the information sheet will be used.

Staff stated that the information sheet will be available at the check in table at each Commission meeting.

13B. EVENTS OF FERGUSON AND NEW YORK CITY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT/COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Commissioner Bazley spoke regarding the recent, national events involving law enforcement and spurring community criticism. Commissioner Bazley spoke in support of continuing to be a pioneering City and spoke in support of the successful National Night Out event and the Walkabout with the Captain. Commissioner Bazley spoke in support of body cameras and how this may assist both the community and law enforcement officers.

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding the awards that the West Hollywood Station has received for their community dedication, including the James Q. Wilson Award.

Commissioner Norton spoke in support of the sensitivity training that each West Hollywood Deputy receives and the special service public safety agencies provide to the West Hollywood community and how people can support other struggling communities.

Commissioner Burke asked how the unique populations such as seniors, LGBT, and Jewish community members are protected.

Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding the training that deputies receive regarding terrorism, critical facilities checks, and the specialized deputies that would be responding to a terrorist event.

Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding the service that JRIC provides.

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding NCJW procedures and alerts.

Staff spoke regarding the vast homeland security resources available to the City in both the Sheriff and Fire Departments.

Commissioner Clarkin asked for an update on the Sheriff survey.

Staff stated that the RFP deadline for the survey was earlier today and the item will be coming back to the next Commission meeting.

Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding body cameras and sensitivity training.

Lieutenant Smith stated that at this time, body cameras are optional and there may be direction from the new Sheriff at some point.

Commissioner Clarkin asked for clarification on equipment purchases.

Staff explained the difference between City and County purchases with regard to required and optional items.

Commissioner Hoffman thanked Commissioner Bazley for putting the issue on the agenda. Commissioner Hoffman spoke regarding the Walkabouts with the Captain and requested that more planning options be made available when setting the times, dates, or locations of the Walkabouts.

Staff stated that Lieutenant Smith can speak to the Captain with regard to scheduling the Walkabouts.

14. PUBLIC COMMENT

Kevin Burton, resident of West Hollywood, thanked the Commissioners for their participation in the bicycle light giveaway program, Operation Firefly.

15. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Clarkin spoke in support of Operation Firefly.

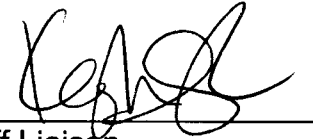
Commissioner Norton thanked Mr. Burton for his work on Operation Firefly.

16. ADJOURNMENT

The Public Safety Commission adjourned at 8:38 PM in the memory of the 16 law enforcement officers and firefighters who have passed away since the last meeting, the 17 individuals in France, Senator Holly Mitchell's mother, and Paul Chavez's

grandmother. The next meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2015 at 6:30 PM at the West Hollywood Library Community Meeting Room.


Public Safety Commission Chair


Staff Liaison