

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION**

**MINUTES
MONDAY, JULY 11, 2016**

CITY HALL – COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM

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

Commissioners Present: Berger, Coleman, Montemayor, Norton, Sol, Waack, Williams

Commissioners Absent: None

Others present: Captain Holly Perez, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; Lieutenant Dave Smith, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; Sergeant Jon Klaus, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; Maria Grycan, Community Services Representative, Los Angeles County Fire Department; Kristin Cook, Public Safety Director; Bonnie Smith, Public Safety Supervisor

4. **ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS**

Commissioner Sol requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of the 33 law enforcement officers and firefighters who have passed away since the May meeting. Commissioner Sol requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of the Dallas Police Officers killed in the line of duty.

Commissioner Norton requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of Iana Kasian, Alton Sterling, Philando Castile, and cyclists Debbie Bradley, Suzanne Joan Sippel, Fred Anton, Melissa Ann Fevig-Hughes, and Lorenz Paulik.

5. **ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

Commissioners elected Commissioner Montemayor to serve as Chair and Commissioner Williams to serve as Vice-Chair.

6. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Williams to approve the July 11, 2016 agenda, seconded by Commissioner Waack, and approved.

POSTING OF THE AGENDA

The agenda for the July 11, 2016 Public Safety Commission meeting was posted at City Hall, Plummer Park, the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station, and the West Hollywood Library.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Williams to approve the June 13, 2016 minutes, seconded by Commissioner Sol, and approved.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Carlo Caccavale, resident of Los Angeles, spoke in support of the City hosting crisis management seminars.

Tom Demille, resident of West Hollywood, spoke in support of better street lighting.

Michael Wojtkielewicz, resident of West Hollywood, spoke in support of automated audible pedestrian signals, asked staff to better advertise safety seminars, and spoke regarding the dangerous misuse of the loading zone and the parking lot.

Tod Hallman, resident of West Hollywood, shared comments from his neighbors regarding various quality of life and criminal issues at their buildings.

Lieutenant Dave Smith spoke regarding increased deployment on the eastside and collaboration with social services.

Stephanie Harker, resident of West Hollywood, thanked Block by Block for their assistance, spoke in support of quicker solutions, expressed frustrations over crosswalks, and requested that the Public Safety Commission be televised.

A resident of West Hollywood who wished to remain anonymous spoke regarding nuisance issues with Airbnb units on her street.

Cynthia Blatt, resident of West Hollywood, spoke in support of assisting the east side residents and for hosting crisis management seminars, and spoke regarding Commission purview.

9. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND LIAISON REPORTS

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding lighting, homeless issues, public art, trash issues, Airbnb, and Commission purview.

Commissioner Berger spoke in support of the suggestions from the public.

Staff stated that they would follow up on Commissioner and public comments.

Commissioner Berger spoke in support of changing the Commission's meeting location back to a larger room.

Commissioner Coleman spoke in support of improved lighting and televising all meetings. Commissioner Coleman spoke regarding Airbnb. Commissioner Coleman spoke regarding a successful Kirk Strong – Safety Saturday event and thanked staff and Sheriff for their attendance. Commissioner Coleman spoke regarding a recent eastside Neighborhood Watch meeting that was highly attended where various issues were discussed. Commissioner Coleman spoke regarding the upcoming meeting with Mayor Meister and Council Member Ryu.

Staff gave an update on the mobile command post which is getting logos placed this week.

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding Neighborhood Watch meetings on the eastside.

Commissioner Coleman spoke regarding the dangers of illegal hot dogs.

Commissioner Waack spoke in support of crisis management seminars, televised meetings, and the Public Safety Awards. Commissioner Waack spoke regarding pedestrian safety, audible crosswalks, the possibility of a joint Public Safety/Transportation sub-committee, and illegal hot dog vendors.

Commissioner Sol asked staff to send a condolence letter to Orlando and Dallas. Commissioner Sol spoke regarding the added pressure to law enforcement during Pride Weekend. Commissioner Sol spoke regarding nightclub safety and the recent Captain's Walk About.

Commissioner Montemayor spoke regarding the recent Captain's Walk About. Commissioner Montemayor spoke in support of televised meetings and asked for an update on the availability of podcasts for meetings.

Commissioner Sol suggested not meeting the day after Pride. Commissioner Sol spoke regarding the Public Safety Awards.

Commissioner Norton thanked the public speakers for their attendance. Commissioner Norton spoke in support of crisis management seminars and spoke regarding the County's Active Shooter Training video. Commissioner Norton spoke regarding the successful Coasters and Posters Sexual Assault Awareness event. Commissioner Norton spoke regarding receiving the Senior Advisory Board award. Commissioner Norton congratulated Commissioner Williams on the Rainbow Key

Award. Commissioner Norton thanked everyone for their support of her as Chair during the past year.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

10A. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION PURVIEW

This item was heard out of order after item 7.

Yvonne Quarker, City Clerk, spoke regarding Commission purview and passed out the relevant municipal code section.

Commissioner Coleman asked for clarification between code compliance and public safety.

Jeffrey Aubel, Code Compliance Manager, spoke regarding the role and responsibilities of code compliance.

Commissioner Sol spoke in support of people using the Public Stuff City app.

Commissioner Norton asked for clarification on which Commissions are most closely aligned with code compliance and spoke regarding the overlap with public safety.

Commissioner Coleman asked for clarification on the process to handle a request from the community including an example where a female resident desired that bars be installed on her apartment windows.

Mr. Aubel explained the process generally, and then he said that there is no code that requires a property owner to install security bars.

Commissioner Berger spoke regarding the confusion of finding the correct department to handle issues that arise at Commission meetings.

Ms. Quarker stated that the staff liaisons should handle all issues by referring the matter to the appropriate department.

Mr. Aubel spoke regarding the administrative remedies process.

Commissioner Berger stated that it is hard to find the purview in the municipal code on the City's website.

Ms. Quarker suggested that she add a link on each Commission page on the website to make it easier.

Nir Zilberman, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding public safety and corruption.

Kevin Burton, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding purview and having a better process.

Cynthia Blatt, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding her work with HUD and purview and spoke in support of expanded responsibilities.

Larry Block, resident of West Hollywood, thanked Sheriff's personnel for their work at Pride, congratulated Commissioners Montemayor and Williams, and spoke regarding crosswalk safety and homeless issues.

Michael Wojtkielewicz, resident of West Hollywood, stated that the current meeting room is too small and spoke regarding purview, crosswalks, and safety issues at Sierra Bonita.

Ms. Quarker reminded Commissioners that the Chair or liaison can always communicate concerns to other Boards and Commissions.

Commissioner Montemayor asked who has purview over Commission purview.

Ms. Quarker stated that the City Council is ultimately responsible.

Commissioner Williams spoke in support of staff working to ensure that issues are routed to the proper department.

Commissioner Waack asked for an update about a potential sub-committee with Transportation.

Ms. Quarker outlined the types of sub-committees, standing and ad-hoc.

Commissioner Sol spoke in support of utilizing the liaison structure to communicate with other Boards and Commissions.

Commissioner Coleman spoke in support of a potential sub-committee with Transportation.

Ms. Quarker asked Commissioner Coleman to briefly outline the issue.

Commissioner Coleman spoke regarding crosswalk safety.

Ms. Quarker said that she would follow up.

Commissioner Berger spoke in support of asking the City Council to review purview.

Commissioner Montemayor recommended identifying specific issues before sending the issue to the City Council.

Ms. Quarker suggested placing an item on the August agenda to discuss what to include in any possible recommendation to City Council regarding purview, to hear from community, and then staff could develop a report to forward to the City Council.

Commissioner Williams recommended orientations for new members of Boards and Commissions.

Ms. Quarker agreed to follow up on the orientation suggestion.

Commissioner Berger spoke in support of simplifying the process for residents.

Commissioner Montemayor spoke regarding the ability for City Council and staff to follow up on issues since West Hollywood is a small City.

10B. REPORT FROM FIRE DEPARTMENT – MONTHLY REPORT

Maria Grycan, Community Services Representative, reviewed the Fire Department statistics for May and June 2016, including suppression, rescue, and fire prevention activities. Ms. Grycan discussed incidents of note, including a possible arson at an ATM machine, an “attempt to burn” at DASH, and an accidental fire on Fairfax in June where a worker was injured and residents received a “save” card (a gift card for the resident’s use in addition to American Red Cross’ assistance). Ms. Grycan stated that the County Fire Department switched to a new electronic system in late May, and there is a glitch in reporting specific statistics which will limit reporting for a few months.

Commissioner Norton asked if the incident at DASH was a second incident.

Ms. Grycan stated that there was only one incident at DASH.

Commissioner Coleman asked about the new fire captain at Station 7.

Staff stated that it is Captain David Rathke.

10C. REPORT FROM SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT – MONTHLY REPORT

Lieutenant Smith reviewed the Sheriff's Department statistics for June 2016, including crimes, calls for service, and arrests. Lieutenant Smith stated that there was a decrease in assaults, robbery, and vehicle burglaries. Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding ongoing issues on the eastside and work with McDonalds and the Gateway. Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding collaborative work with various agencies and City staff regarding active shooter scenarios including future training for Deputies and entertainment venues.

Lieutenant Smith reminded all to call the Sheriff's Station first for true emergencies, not Block by Block.

Commissioner Williams asked for details regarding the sexual assaults.

Lieutenant Smith gave additional information about the 5 sexual assaults. All cases were alcohol related.

Sergeant Klaus stated that there were 4 DUI arrests and 3 DUI traffic collisions in the month of June. Sergeant Klaus stated that there were 3 vehicles vs. pedestrian accidents and 1 vehicle vs. bicyclist accident in the month of June.

Commissioner Montemayor asked for an update on the DUI checkpoint.

Lieutenant Smith stated that the checkpoint went well and that there were 5 DUI arrests.

Commissioner Coleman thanked the Sheriff's Department for its difficult work. Commissioner Coleman asked for details about increased deployment. Commissioner Coleman spoke in support of a drone for the Sheriff's Station. Commissioner Coleman commended the Station for its response to an alleged attack that was not as it seemed. Commissioner Coleman spoke regarding the WeHoville article regarding the recent alleged homicide. Commissioner Coleman thanked the Station for the crime blotter.

Commissioner Berger thanked the Sheriff's Station for the direct work with the businesses on the crosswalk operations.

Commissioner Coleman asked for details on the crosswalk operation.

Lieutenant Smith stated that Deputies were at various locations and wrote multiple citations.

10D. REPORT FROM BLOCK BY BLOCK SECURITY AMBASSADORS – MONTHLY REPORT

David Aguilar, Block by Block Santa Monica Boulevard, gave a brief update on monthly activities in June, including pedestrian assistance, crosswalk assistance, homeless issues, and disturbances.

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding a driver traversing the streets attempting to sell fruit from the back of the truck. Commissioner Williams spoke regarding two women with full shopping carts.

Commissioner Berger spoke regarding the article in Beverly Hills regarding Block by Block and the homeless.

Commissioner Norton spoke regarding Block by Block providing services to various cities. Commissioner Norton spoke regarding being thanked by a homeless constituent for her work as a Public Safety Commissioner and stressed how helpful Block by Block has been to him.

10E. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS – SAFETY CAMERA SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT BACK TO PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION

Commissioner Norton said that the report does not fully reflect what she recommends. Commissioner Norton spoke regarding a larger emphasis on privacy.

Staff spoke regarding the amount of time given to the sub-committee to review the item.

Commissioner Montemayor asked Captain Perez the recommended time to keep camera data.

Captain Perez stated that 60 days is a minimum, and 90 days is better.

Commissioner Montemayor spoke regarding cameras in public spaces and spoke in support of being able to watch live feed when necessary in addition to using footage for investigative purposes.

Captain Perez spoke in support of live feed and cameras that pan, tilt, and zoom.

Commissioner Montemayor asked Captain Perez if she recommends any additional locations on Sunset Boulevard.

Captain Perez suggested the City parking lot.

Lieutenant Smith suggested near the new hotels.

Commissioner Montemayor spoke regarding privacy and spoke in support of keeping footage for 90 days and including successes from other cities, such as London.

Commissioner Sol asked for clarification for adding footage into evidence as timing of an investigation exceeds 90 days.

Captain Perez explained that footage is burned onto a CD for evidence and kept.

Commissioner Berger asked for clarification regarding rules on how cameras and footage can be used.

Commissioner Coleman spoke regarding including language on where camera data is held, what the camera sees, what type of camera is used, what is the range of the camera, what types of crimes do cameras solve, how often does the Sheriff's Station predict viewing the data, what types of cases will be aided, if the Sheriff's Station expects the cameras to prevent crime, will there be signs to notify the public of cameras, and what is the cost.

Staff stated that a lot of Commissioner Coleman's questions can only be answered during a RFP process but would acknowledge these questions in the staff report.

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Montemayor to include language for 90 day data retention, to add Sunset at La Cienega as a suggested location, to include information from comparable cities, to include the possibility of live feed, and to include Commissioner Coleman's questions, seconded by Commissioner Williams, and approved.

Commissioner Norton spoke regarding the possible benefit of having had cameras to review the Kirk Doffing incident.

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Montemayor to direct staff to forward the updated report to the camera sub-committee for review before sending it to City Council, seconded by Commissioner Williams, and approved.

10F. PUBLIC EDUCATION

Tabled.

11. NEW BUSINESS

11A. PUBLIC SAFETY EVENTS

Tabled.

11B. WEBSITE – WEHO.ORG (PUBLIC SAFETY PAGES)

Staff requested that Commissioners review the website pages and make recommendations for improvement.

12. ITEMS FROM STAFF

12A. NEWS FROM STAFF – MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Staff spoke regarding National Night Out.

Staff requested two volunteers to sit on the AED RFP review panel.

Commissioners Berger and Norton volunteered.

Staff requested input on a future Public Safety Awards.

Commissioner Coleman spoke regarding expanding Kids Fair, a Sheriff's Station Open House, and a fall BBQ.

Commissioner Berger spoke in support of what is easiest for public safety personnel.

Commissioner Williams spoke in support of hosting a Sheriff's Station Open House.

Captain Perez spoke in support of a Sheriff's Station Open House.

Commissioner Waack spoke regarding the large attendance at Kids Fair and suggested building upon existing crowds.

Commissioner Sol spoke in support of adding a "back to school" element to a fall Sheriff's Station Open House.

Commissioner Montemayor spoke in support of a Sheriff's Station Open House and spoke in support of recognizing all first responders.

Commissioner Norton reminded all to include the Fire Department and Block by Block.

Captain Perez suggested a September event.

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Williams to host a fall Sheriff's Station Open House to include a "back to school" element and the Public Safety Awards, seconded by Commissioner Berger, and approved.

Commissioner Coleman suggested having a debrief in October to see if the new format is best.

Staff spoke regarding the City's Emergency Plan update to be sent to the state this year and asked Commissioners to participate in the upcoming review process.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

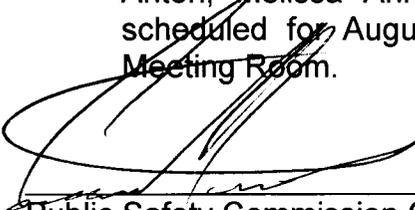
14. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Norton thanked all for supporting her as Chair.

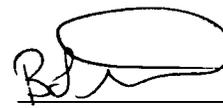
Commissioner Williams thanked Commissioner Norton for her work as Chair.

15. ADJOURNMENT

The Public Safety Commission adjourned at 10:30 PM in the memory of the 33 law enforcement officers and firefighters who have passed away since the May meeting, the Dallas Police Officers killed in the line of duty, Iana Kasian, Alton Sterling, Philando Castile, and cyclists Debbie Bradley, Suzanne Joan Sippel, Fred Anton, Melissa Ann Fevig-Hughes, and Lorenz Paulik. The next meeting is scheduled for August 8, 2016 at the West Hollywood City Hall – Community Meeting Room.



Public Safety Commission Chair



Staff Liaison

A copy of the audio recording of this meeting can be obtained from the City Clerk's office upon request.

(Disclaimer: Staff records the meetings for the sole purpose of composing the official meeting minutes; therefore the recordings are not of commercial quality.)