

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION**

**MINUTES  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2017**

**WEST HOLLYWOOD CITY HALL - COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM  
8300 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** at 6:31 PM
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** led by Captain Holly Perez
3. **ROLL CALL**

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

\*Commissioner Norton arrived at 6:40 PM

**Commissioners Absent:** None

**Others present:** Captain Holly Perez, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; Lieutenant Dave Smith, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; Battalion Chief Jim Sullivan, Los Angeles County Fire Department; Maria Grycan, Community Services Representative, Los Angeles County Fire Department; David Aguilar, Block by Block; Kristin Cook, Public Safety Director; Bonnie Smith, Public Safety Supervisor

4. **ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS**

Commissioner Williams requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of Sabato Fiorello and Tad Myroskov.

Commissioner Sol requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of Al Jarreau and the 20 law enforcement officers and firefighters who have passed away since the January meeting.

5. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**ACTION:** Motion by Commissioner Williams to approve the February 13, 2017 agenda, seconded by Commissioner Sol, and approved.

**POSTING OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda for the February 13, 2017 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 Williams to approve the January 9, 2017 minutes, seconded by Commissioner Waack, and approved.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Michael Wojtkielewicz spoke regarding safety issues at Sierra Bonita.

Robert Gamboa spoke regarding the Safe WeHo Leadership Council and its next meeting on February 27, 2017.

**8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND LIAISON REPORTS**

Commissioner Berger spoke regarding the crosswalk at Vista and Lexington, a customer service issue, the WeHo App, and a possible safety seminar.

Commissioner Sol spoke regarding National Condom Day and the Vagina Monologues.

Commissioner Waack said that he has resigned from the CERT sub-committee due to scheduling conflicts but would continue to support his colleagues.

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding her attendance at the last Eastside Taskforce meeting.

Commissioner Norton spoke regarding the long amount of time it took to park in the automated garage this evening. Commissioner Norton spoke regarding her attendance at the Senior Advisory Board and efforts to address the difficulties with loneliness and depression among seniors.

**9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**9A. REPORT FROM FIRE DEPARTMENT – MONTHLY REPORT**

Chief Sullivan reviewed the Fire Department statistics for January 2017, including suppression, rescue, and fire prevention activities. Chief Sullivan said that with the new dispatch system, the level of advanced care for the community is increasing without having to add additional units.

Commissioner Coleman spoke regarding the Public Safety Awards.

Commissioner Berger asked for clarification regarding who investigates fire code violations.

Chief Sullivan stated that it is the Fire Prevention Office.

Commissioner Norton asked for clarification on how the Department dispatches appropriate resources to emergency calls.

Chief Sullivan said that the dispatcher collects additional information to be able to get the correct resources to the scene.

**9B. REPORT FROM SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT – MONTHLY REPORT – “BEAT PATROLS”, REVIEW OF MUNICIPAL CODE TO ADDRESS BLOCKING PARADE ROUTES**

Lieutenant Smith reviewed the Sheriff's Department statistics for January 2017, including crimes, 1,826 calls for service, 52 felony arrests, and 124 misdemeanor arrests. Lieutenant Smith reviewed the pickpocket incidents. Lieutenant Smith stated that there were 0 DUI arrests and 0 DUI traffic collisions in the month of January. Lieutenant Smith stated that there were 5 vehicle vs. pedestrian accidents and 0 vehicle vs. bicyclist accidents in the month of January.

Commissioner Coleman reminded the Lieutenant to include the Chapel and Bar 10 in the pickpocket statistics.

Lieutenant Smith stated that vehicle burglaries continue to be an issue.

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding a past practice of putting a flyer on cars to remind people not to leave valuables in plain view.

Captain Perez said that it is a complicated issue as the flyer can tip off a potential thief to what is inside.

Commissioner Sol spoke in support of public education in conjunction with the Farmer's Market and walking the neighborhood.

Commissioner Coleman asked how many of the aggravated assaults were nightlife related.

Lieutenant Smith said that 5 were nightlife related.

Commissioner Coleman spoke regarding the data request he made to the Station regarding more detailed information on pedestrian and bicycle incidents and the request from the Transportation Commission to view public safety statistics.

Staff reminded everyone that the statistics are on the Public Safety Commission page of the website and that the staff liaison to the Transportation Commission has notified their Commissioners.

Commissioner Sol spoke regarding identifying and engaging new businesses.

Commissioner Berger asked if the Station still has a need for an additional fingerprint machine.

Lieutenant Smith stated that the Station has more than he thought.

Staff stated that any resource needed by the Station can be addressed via a memo from the Captain to the Public Safety Director.

Commissioner Coleman spoke in support of a greater police presence in the neighborhood and the possibilities of having beat patrols which focus on smaller geographic areas. Commissioner Coleman stated that some constituents do not notice Sheriff's vehicles patrolling their neighborhoods, and he spoke in support of more foot patrols. Commissioner Coleman spoke regarding the lack of depth in staffing in the Sheriff's Department countywide.

Commissioner Williams spoke in support of foot and bicycle patrols.

Commissioner Waack spoke in support of foot and bicycle patrols.

Captain Perez spoke regarding vacancies across the Sheriff's Department and the upcoming vote regarding the Metro contract later this month which may release some staffing to the contract cities. Captain Perez spoke in support of bike patrols.

Commissioner Coleman asked for more information regarding how a potential reduction in the Metro contract could help the West Hollywood Station.

Captain Perez said that the main personnel office of the Sheriff's Department manages the vacancies Department wide and would distribute the personnel from there.

Commissioner Berger asked for clarification on the Station's staffing capacity.

Captain Perez stated that it is not difficult to fill all the shifts and overtime spots that she requires to police West Hollywood.

Staff stated that all currently contracted deployment hours are filled, but as the Captain can add to her permanent roster, she can fill shifts with less overtime personnel.

Commissioner Berger spoke regarding the contract and service review sub-committee.

Staff said that contract and service review sub-committee will meet during the budget cycle.

Commissioner Berger spoke in support of foot patrols.

Lieutenant Smith outlined the current foot patrols deployed throughout the City.

Commissioner Coleman spoke in support of making foot beats permanent and spoke regarding the path of new Deputies from the Academy into the jails. Commissioner Coleman spoke in support of setting a goal for permanent community policing.

Commissioner Montemayor asked staff to give an update on the research into updating the City's municipal code regarding blocking parades.

Staff stated that they are in communication with the City of Pasadena, the Sheriff's Emergency Operations Bureau, and the West Hollywood City Attorney's Office to review options.

#### **9C. REPORT FROM BLOCK BY BLOCK SECURITY AMBASSADORS – MONTHLY REPORT**

David Aguilar, Block by Block, gave an update on monthly activities in January 2017, including pedestrian assistance, crosswalk assistance, homeless issues, and disturbances.

Commissioner Coleman spoke regarding safety issues at the Ogden crosswalk and a missing gate at the location.

Commissioner Williams said that the landscaping at the old crosswalk location is not high enough to be a deterrent to jaywalkers.

Commissioner Berger asked if there has been a reduction in homeless contacts since the food truck has relocated.

Mr. Aguilar stated that there is an improvement.

Commissioner Berger spoke regarding jurisdictional issues and the camps in other areas.

Lieutenant Smith stated that the Deputies are proactive with the homeless community and deter camps in West Hollywood.

Commissioner Sol spoke regarding the recent graffiti incident at the Los Angeles LGBT Center.

Commissioner Coleman asked for clarification regarding crowd control incidents on Sunset Boulevard.

Commissioner Sol spoke in support of increasing the Sunset team.

Mr. Aguilar said that he would bring the issue up at the next Sunset Strip Business Improvement District Board meeting.

**9D. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS – CAMERA RFP, PEDESTRIAN SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEE, PUBLIC SAFETY AWARDS, SUB-COMMITTEE WITH WAB**

Commissioners Berger, Montemayor, and Williams, Sheriff, and staff reviewed 13 camera RFPs. Vendor interviews are the first week of March.

Commissioner Waack spoke regarding his attendance at the last Transportation Commission meeting to discuss the potential pedestrian safety sub-committee.

Commissioner Coleman reviewed the recommendations from the Public Safety Awards sub-committee.

Commissioner Sol suggested reviewing the items point by point.

Commissioner Williams asked if either the Sheriff or Fire Departments have a band.

Commissioner Coleman asked Sheriff and Fire personnel present at the meeting to reach out to their colleagues about a musical performance. Commissioner Coleman spoke regarding possibly reaching out to Sunset venues to donate a musical act.

Commissioner Sol asked for input on the type of food to be served at the event.

Commissioners agreed that a food truck is popular.

Commissioner Sol asked Sheriff and Fire personnel present at the meeting to reach out to potential speakers and spoke in support of releasing nominations early.

Commissioner Montemayor spoke in support of many of the items but cautioned against a selection process that could be perceived as a game of favorites within the Sheriff and Fire Departments.

Sheriff and Fire personnel present at the meeting stated that one award per department is sufficient.

Commissioner Coleman spoke in support of having an award for a business and for a resident.

Commissioner Montemayor asked staff to give an update on the sub-committee work with the Women's Advisory Board.

Staff stated that this weekend's outreach will be postponed due to projected rain. Staff spoke regarding the new educational collateral materials and the work with Andrew Campbell on an arts and women's safety collaboration which may result in a mural or other art piece.

## **10. ITEMS FROM STAFF**

### **10A. NEWS FROM STAFF – MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS/MEETING LOCATIONS**

Staff discussed the scheduling issue with the June meeting and CSW. Staff stated that the walk-about on February 22<sup>nd</sup> will be postponed, but that the Coffee with the Mayor and the Captain is still scheduled for February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8 AM at Dialog Café.

## **11. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Robert Gamboa, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding Tweakers: 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the Love is All You Need film screenings.

## **12. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Berger spoke regarding the CERT sub-committee meeting including another hosted volunteer breakfast at Fire Station 7, plastic hand held manuals, insurance for volunteers, the ability to tier people's involvement, and a tailored system for West Hollywood.

Commissioner Coleman asked if staff could survey the bars to see if they prefer napkins or coasters. Commissioner Coleman spoke regarding asking code

compliance staff what the most common complaint in the WeHo app is. Commissioner Coleman asked for an update on the public safety education campaign.

Staff stated that the Communications Department has filmed the next episode of the WeHoans and is currently editing the piece.

Commissioner Coleman thanked staff for the year's worth of statistics online and thanked the constituents present for their attendance.

Commissioner Sol spoke regarding her attendance at the Baker to Vegas fundraising event.

Commissioner Montemayor asked for an update on the upcoming sensitivity training.

Staff stated that speakers have been selected and are currently working out the date with the Station.

Commissioner Norton asked to adjourn the meeting in the memory of those who lost their lives at the mosque in Quebec. Commissioner Norton asked the Sheriff's Department to clarify how it will work with Sanctuary Cities, including West Hollywood, and what type of training it will be providing to its personnel.

Commissioner Montemayor asked staff to place the topic on next month's agenda.


Commissioner Coleman spoke regarding the proposed pedestrian safety sub-committee.

### 13. ADJOURNMENT

The Public Safety Commission adjourned at 8:16 PM in the memory of Sabato Fiorello, Tad Myroskov, Al Jarreau, the victims who died in the terrorist attack on the mosque in Quebec, Canada, and the 20 law enforcement officers and firefighters who have passed away since the January meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2017 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.)***