

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2018
6:30 P.M.**

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

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

Commissioners Present: Berger, Laflen, Norton, Sol, Waack

Commissioners Absent: Oliver, Williams

Others present: Sergeant Jon Klaus, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; Battalion Chief Mike Brown, Los Angeles County Fire Department; Kristin Cook, Public Safety Director; Rob Winrader, Public Safety Administrative Analyst

4. ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS

Commissioner Sol requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of the 23 law enforcement officers and firefighters who have passed away since the August meeting.

5. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Norton to approve the October 8, 2018 agenda, seconded by Commissioner Sol and approved.

POSTING OF THE AGENDA

The agenda for the October 8, 2018 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 Sol to approve the August 13, 2018 minutes, seconded by Commissioner Laflen, and approved.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Rick Watts, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding Disabilities Awareness Month activities and a problem tenant previously from his building who is still in the area.

Kevin Burton, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding an upcoming bicycle law panel hosted by the West Hollywood Bicycle Coalition on October 18th at Plummer Park.

Michael Wojtkielewicz, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation issues at the Sierra Bonita apartments.

8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND LIAISON REPORTS

None.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9A. REPORT FROM FIRE DEPARTMENT – MONTHLY REPORT

Battalion Chief Mike Brown reviewed the Fire Department statistics for August 2018, including suppression, rescue, and fire prevention activities. Chief Brown said that the September statistics will be provided by Chief Williams when they are available.

Michael Wojtkielewicz, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding a recent talk by the Los Angeles County Fire Department regarding mental health issues and first responders and spoke regarding the Blue Hibiscus project and the West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation.

9B. REPORT FROM SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT – MONTHLY REPORT

Sergeant Klaus reviewed the Sheriff’s Department’s statistics for August and September 2018, including crimes and calls for service. Sergeant Klaus reviewed the DUI arrests and accidents, the vehicle/pedestrian and vehicle/bicycle accidents, and pickpocket thefts. Sergeant Klaus spoke regarding an increase in burglaries and thefts, but that approximately two weeks ago two suspects were arrested for multiple burglaries in the West Hollywood area. Sergeant Klaus spoke regarding upcoming “pop ups” to be scheduled on the east side to increase the Sheriff’s visibility in the neighborhood.

Michael Wojtkielewicz, resident of West Hollywood, expressed concern for the Sheriff's Department's customer service regarding an alleged theft in January 2018.

Commissioner Sol spoke regarding some edits needed to the entertainment establishment's names on the pickpocket reports. Commissioner Sol asked for an additional DUI checkpoint due to the recent increase.

Commissioner Berger asked Sergeant Klaus to look into the allegation made by Mr. Wojtkielewicz.

Commissioner Norton spoke regarding alcohol related sexual assaults and asked if there is anything of note adding to the recent increase.

Sergeant Klaus stated that alcohol is often involved.

Commissioner Laflen asked for more information regarding a pedestrian accident at Sunset and Londonderry.

Sergeant Klaus said that he would look into the traffic collision.

Commissioner Waack asked if there is a specific reason for the increase in the recent DUI arrests.

Sergeant Klaus offered to look further into the DUI statistics.

Commissioner Waack asked if there were any recent accidents involving scooters and spoke regarding the lower number of burglaries.

Sergeant Klaus said he would ask the station's statistician how scooters are noted in traffic collision reports.

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

David Aguilar reviewed the monthly reports from August and September 2018, including pedestrian assistance, crosswalk assistance, homeless issues, and disturbances.

Commissioner Sol spoke regarding the new Sheriff's Mental Health Evaluation Deputy and Clinician and asked if the Block by Block Ambassadors have what they need to do their jobs.

Mr. Aguilar said that the Block by Block Security Ambassadors have a close relationship with the Sheriff's Deputies, and they call them when necessary.

Mr. Aguilar thanked the eastside neighbors for their recognition of the Security Ambassadors.

10. ITEMS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES

Staff spoke regarding the recent Women's Advisory Board and Public Safety Commission sub-committee meeting and the upcoming "Only Yes Means Yes" campaign activities on Halloween and during the week of Thanksgiving. Staff said that the next Joint Ad Hoc Pedestrian Safety Sub-committee meeting will be held soon.

Commissioner Sol suggested that the Public Safety Awards should be placed on the December meeting agenda in order to choose a sub-committee to work on the event.

Staff stated that December 12th may be the date for the Don't Drink and Drive campaign.

Commissioner Sol said that she will follow up with staff on The Abbey's Undie Run.

11. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff spoke regarding a strategy moving forward for green bike lanes and that the City Engineer said that green bike lanes will be installed on future projects whenever possible.

Staff spoke regarding a decrease in the use of scooters in the City.

Staff spoke regarding the AB 1234 training on November 10th at 10 AM and the Annual Congress of Commissions and Advisory Boards on November 28th. Staff announced that the CERT classes will begin on October 13th and that the Annual Shake Out Drill will be held on October 18th.

Staff spoke briefly regarding Halloween preparations.

Commissioner Sol spoke regarding the difficulties with using the trolleys on Halloween due to the tremendous amount of traffic. Commissioner Sol spoke regarding illegal food vendors.

Staff spoke regarding the work with the Los Angeles County's Environmental Health Services staff and said that two teams of inspectors accompanied by Sheriff's Deputies will be deployed on Halloween this year.

Commissioner Waack spoke regarding illegal food vendors.

Commissioner Laflen spoke regarding illegal food trucks on Sunset Boulevard.

Commissioner Waack asked staff to place safety cameras on the December agenda.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

13. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Sol spoke regarding National Coming Out Day on October 11th and an event at Beaches. Commissioner Sol spoke regarding the "It Gets Better" campaign and her participation in a photo shoot for Teen Vogue. Commissioner Sol spoke regarding the Transgender Day of Remembrance on November 20th.

Commissioner Waack wished Commissioner Williams a speedy recovery.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The Public Safety Commission adjourned at 7:37 PM in memory of the 23 law enforcement officers and firefighters who have passed away since the August meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 10, 2018 at 6:30 PM at Plummer Park – Rooms 5/6 at 7377 Santa Monica Boulevard, CA 90046.


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.)