

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

**MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2019
6:00 P.M.**

**PLUMMER PARK COMMUNITY CENTER,
ROOMS 5 & 6
7377 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD, WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** at 6:00 PM
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** led by Commissioner Laflen
3. **ROLL CALL**

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

Commissioners Absent: None

Others present: Acting Captain Bill Moulder, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; Lieutenant Ed Ramirez, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; Sergeant Jon Klaus, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; Battalion Chief Brian Kane, Los Angeles County Fire Department; Kristin Cook, Public Safety Director; Rob Winrader, Public Safety Administrative Analyst

4. **ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS**

Commissioner Williams requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of David Mitchell and Jim Chud. Commissioner Williams requested that the meeting be adjourned in honor of Marcy Norton's birthday.

Commissioner Sol requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of the 12 law enforcement officers and firefighters who have passed away since the February meeting.

Commissioner Norton joined the meeting at 6:06 PM.

5. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Sol to approve the March 11, 2019 agenda, seconded by Commissioner Williams and approved.

POSTING OF THE AGENDA

The agenda for the March 11, 2019 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 February 11, 2019 minutes, seconded by Commissioner Williams, and approved.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND LIAISON REPORTS

Commissioner Berger reminded all that he will be representing the Public Safety Commission at the next Human Services Commission meeting.

Commissioner Waack said that he will be attending the next Transportation Commission meeting.

Commissioner Sol requested that staff speak with Hernan Molina to see if the City is going to support SB 233 immunity from arrest.

Commissioner Waack requested that staff put the election of a new Vice-Chair on the April meeting's agenda.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9A. REPORT FROM FIRE DEPARTMENT – MONTHLY REPORT

Battalion Chief Kane reviewed the Fire Department statistics for February 2019, including suppression, rescue, and fire prevention activities.

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

Sergeant Jon Klaus reviewed the Sheriff's Department's statistics for February 2019, including crimes, response times, and calls for service.

Lieutenant Ramirez spoke regarding vehicle burglary prevention and the various patrols conducted by the station.

Commissioner Berger asked if there is a reason for the jump in vehicle burglaries during the past month.

Lieutenant Ramirez said that in most cases, people are leaving items in plain view in their vehicles.

Commissioner Sol asked if there is an update from the Homicide Bureau on the investigation into Ed Buck.

Lieutenant Ramirez said that there is no update from the Homicide Bureau since the last meeting.

Commissioner Sol asked if it is apparent to law enforcement how Mr. Buck connects with people, for example via social media.

Lieutenant Ramirez said that since it is an ongoing investigation, they are not privy to that information from the Homicide Bureau.

Commissioner Norton asked for additional information regarding the vehicle versus pedestrian accidents.

Sergeant Klaus said that there is not an obvious pattern among the February accidents.

Commissioner Williams asked if there is any additional information from the District Attorney's office and thanked Acting Captain Moulder for his update at the last Council meeting.

Commissioner Williams asked for traffic enforcement at Lexington at Curson and Lexington and Gardner.

Lieutenant Ramirez asked if there is a particular time for traffic enforcement at the Lexington locations.

Commissioner Williams said that it is busy all times of day, including during rush hour.

Commissioner Sol asked if the Sheriff's Department could conduct a DUI checkpoint before spring break.

Commissioner Sol spoke regarding the increase in pickpocket incidents at Micky's and asked if the Sheriff's Department has spoken to the staff there.

Sergeant Klaus said that the Entertainment Policing Team has been making contact with locations regarding the thefts.

Commissioner Berger spoke regarding the traffic improvements made on Fountain Avenue and asked if the Sheriff's Station has enough officers available.

Lieutenant Ramirez said that the traffic officers have increased their citation numbers, and Acting Captain Moulder said that a new traffic officer will be added by the end of the month.

Commissioner Berger asked if there is any information regarding a recent case regarding a transgender victim who has a Go Fund Me page.

Lieutenant Ramirez said that the alleged crime was not reported to the Sheriff's Station, but that he did check.

Commissioner Berger spoke regarding those afflicted with Alzheimer's disease and asked if the recent missing elderly person was found.

Lieutenant Ramirez said that the individual was located.

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding drivers ignoring the signage at Fountain and La Brea.

Commissioner Berger spoke regarding pervasive traffic throughout the City of West Hollywood.

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

Commissioner Waack thanked David Aguilar for his work in the City of West Hollywood and congratulated him on his new position.

Commissioner Williams congratulated Councilmember Meister on her re-election.

Mr. Aguilar reviewed the monthly reports from February 2019, including pedestrian assistance, crosswalk assistance, homeless issues, and disturbances.

Mr. Aguilar thanked all for supporting him over the years and introduced Shea Gibson who is the new Operations Manager for Block by Block in West Hollywood.

Commissioner Norton asked for more information on Mr. Aguilar's new project.

Mr. Aguilar said that he will be working on a project in downtown Los Angeles.

Commissioners thanked Mr. Aguilar for his hard work and dedication to the City of West Hollywood.

10. NEW BUSINESS

10A. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION INPUT ON SOCIAL SERVICES PRIORITIES

Joan Mithers, Social Services Division, gave a brief review of the questions that the Human Services Commission is asking the Public Safety Commission to provide input on, including (1) significant social service needs, (2) changes to service needs or service delivery, and (3) barriers to access to services.

West Seegmiller, Sex Workers Outreach Project, spoke regarding SB 233 and support for the sex worker community.

Commissioner Laflen asked that drug addiction and care for our seniors be included.

Commissioner Williams asked if the City still continues to needle exchange programs. Commissioner Williams thanked the City for its support of seniors. Commissioner Williams said that she has received complaints from people regarding rental assistance.

Ms. Mithers said that she will follow-up with the Public Safety Commission on needle exchange programs.

Commissioner Sol asked for more clarification about the budgeting process for social services programs.

Ms. Mithers said that the next step is for the Human Services Commission to set priorities. Ms. Mithers reviewed the RFP process that will then be coming which includes multiple opportunities for people to share concerns.

Commissioner Waack spoke regarding reduced rates for those that need medical cannabis.

11. ITEMS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES

Commissioner Laflen spoke regarding the WAB/PSC subcommittee meeting on February 13, 2019, including the topics of outreach at LA Pride, human trafficking, and domestic violence prevention. Commissioner Williams also mentioned that she and WAB Board Member Amanda Bleich will be working with Councilmembers Horvath and Meister on a Human Trafficking project.

Commissioner Berger spoke regarding upcoming training for CERT.

Commissioner Sol requested that the Social Services Guides be available during Public Safety Commission meetings.

Commissioner Berger thanked the personnel at Serco for their work in the community.

12. ITEMS FROM STAFF

None.

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Manny Rodriguez, resident of West Hollywood, thanked Block by Block for their patrols in the West Hollywood West neighborhood.

14. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Norton wished Commissioner Williams a happy birthday.

Commissioner Waack wished Commissioner Norton a happy birthday

Commissioner Berger spoke regarding the Sunset Experience Project.

15. ADJOURNMENT

The Public Safety Commission adjourned at 7:00 PM in memory of David Mitchell, Jim Chud, and the 12 law enforcement officers and firefighters who have passed away since the February meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2019 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.)