

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION**

**MINUTES
MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2013**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** at 6:34 PM
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** led by David Aguilar
3. **ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Burke, Clarkin, Norton, Sol, Szyskowski, Williams

Commissioners Absent: None

Others present: Sergeant Jon Klaus, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; Battalion Chief Kevin Klar, Los Angeles County Fire Department; Bonnie Smith, Community Programs Relations Coordinator

4. **OATH OF OFFICE**

Newly appointed Commissioner Mary Ann Szyskowski was sworn in by public safety staff.

5. **ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS**

Commissioner Williams requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of the individuals killed at Santa Monica College.

Commissioner Clarkin requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of Lieutenant James Farrell.

Commissioner Sol requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of the 17 law enforcement officers and firefighters who have passed away since the last meeting.

6. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Norton to approve the June 10, 2013 agenda, seconded by Commissioner Williams, and approved.

POSTING OF THE AGENDA

The agenda for the June 10, 2013 Public Safety Commission meeting was posted at City Hall, Plummer Park, and the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station, and the West Hollywood Library.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Clarkin to approve the May 13, 2013 minutes, seconded by Commissioner Norton, and approved.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

David Eichman, Transportation Commissioner, gave an update on the Transportation Commission's activities.

Steve Levin, resident of West Hollywood, thanked the Commission for their hard work and discussed "Nextdoor.com" and problems at the Formosa pocket park.

Stephanie Harker, resident of West Hollywood, stated that the Public Safety Commission agenda was not updated on the website. Ms. Harker advocated for a stronger relationship between Public Facilities and the Public Safety Commissions. Ms. Harker spoke regarding a tree near the children's playground at Plummer Park.

Troy Legg, resident of West Hollywood, thanked the Commission for helping to work with Ralphs and spoke regarding needles and trash on the street and security issues at Starbucks.

9. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND LIAISON REPORTS

Commissioner Williams requested that staff place the Starbucks issue on the agenda and requested that staff look into the tree at Plummer Park. Commissioner Williams requested that staff place the work plan on the agenda with the recent changes to the Commission. Commissioner Williams suggested that staff investigate "Nextdoor.com". Commissioner Williams wished Cathy Blaivas a happy birthday.

Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding the recent CERT graduation.

Commissioner Norton thanked the members of the public for their attendance. Commissioner Norton welcomed Commissioner Szyskowski. Commissioner Norton spoke regarding a recent Senior Advisory Board meeting and would like to see more senior meetings held at the parks not just at the senior buildings.

Commissioner Szyskowski said that it is nice to be on the Public Safety Commission. Commissioner Szyskowski said that residents have noticed that the construction workers at La Brea and Santa Monica are smoking marijuana before work.

10. ITEMS FROM STAFF

David Aguilar, manager for Block by Block Bike Ambassador Team, introduced himself and gave out his hotline number, 323 821-8604.

10A. PRESENTATION FROM NCJW-COMMUNITY RESPONSE TEAM

Commissioners received a presentation from Ava Rose, Director of Women Helping Women, on the activities of West Hollywood Domestic Violence Response Team since January 2013.

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding the recent, successful clothesline project and encouraged all to attend next year.

Commissioner Clarkin thanked Ms. Rose for her work and requested information on the Male Violence project so that he can reach out to the community for financial support.

10B. NEWS FROM STAFF/MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Staff stated that there will be an emergency exercise held on July 31, 2013.

11. REPORT FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Klar reviewed the suppression, rescue, and fire prevention activities during the month of May including inspections, fires, and emergency medical calls. Chief Klar spoke regarding a busy, but successful Pride event.

Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding the use of Nixle during Pride.

Chief Klar spoke regarding the ease of using Nixle for special events, a recent Sidewalk CPR, and gave additional detail about two incidents from Pride that included a male falling from a tree during the Festival and an assault at Eleven.

Sgt. Klaus spoke regarding the assault at Eleven.

Commissioner Sol suggested contacting WeHo Dodge ball to participate in a future Sidewalk CPR.

Commissioner Williams suggested that the City warn residents about the dangers of ceiling heaters and fans.

Commissioner Burke stated that the Factory was still open at 7 AM this morning.

12. REPORT FROM THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Sergeant Klaus reviewed the Sheriff's Department statistics for May 2013, including calls for service, arrests, and crimes. Sergeant Klaus said that there were 14 DUI arrests and 4 DUI Collisions.

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding the issues at Formosa pocket park.

Staff said that Pacwest Security, Block by Block, and Sheriff's Deputies regularly patrol Formosa pocket park.

Commissioner Sol asked if the person who had a recent issue at Starbucks had spoken to security at the Gateway.

Commissioner Clarkin stated that he contacted both the local Starbucks and the district manager of Starbucks regarding the recent issue.

Sergeant Klaus said the person could get a restraining order on the aggressive guest.

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

13A. 2013 PUBLIC SAFETY EDUCATION OUTREACH

Staff and the Commission settled on the next date for public safety education outreach to be held at the Sunset Strip Farmer's Market on July 11, 2013.

13B. UTILIZING SOCIAL MEDIA, IMPROVING COMMUNICATION

Staff encouraged the Commissioners to think of ideas of how to better utilize social media. Staff said that the Station will be considering a twitter account in the future. Staff will also be investigating ways to use social media to enhance Neighborhood Watch.

Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding a recent Nixle conference and spoke regarding various options including Nixle Engaged, Nextdoor.com, and WeHoDirect.com.

Commissioner Williams suggested that e-mails be sent along with tweets and encouraged Neighborhood Watch Block Captains to attend Public Safety Commission meetings.

Commissioner Szyskowski spoke regarding Neighborhood Watch and the disconnect among the Neighborhood Captains and suggested quarterly Captain meetings.

14. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Councilmember John Heilman thanked the Commissioners for their work and spoke regarding the importance of Neighborhood Watch.

Stephanie Harker, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding billboards that advocate violence.

15. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding the Town Hall to be held on July 20, 2013.

Commissioner Clarkin thanked the many volunteers who participate in the Sheriff's Volunteer Program and the important work they did during Pride to supplement sworn personnel. Commissioner Clarkin thanked Norma Kemper for all her years of service.

Commissioner Burke thanked the Sheriff's and Fire Departments for their participation in the Pride Parade and Festival.

Commissioner Norton spoke regarding the recent services for Lieutenant James Farrell.

Commissioner Szyskowski said that she is glad to be on the Public Safety Commission.

Commissioner Sol welcomed Commissioner Szyskowski. Commissioner Sol spoke regarding the Rainbow Key Awards, the Lavender Project, the Human Rights Speaker Series, the LAPD LGBT conference, a LGBT History event, and the Pride kick-off event.

16. ADJOURNMENT

The Public Safety Commission adjourned at 8:17 PM in the memory of the 17 law enforcement officers and firefighters who have passed away since the last meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 8, 2013 at 6:30 PM at the West Hollywood City Hall Community Conference Room at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard.


Public Safety Commission Chair


Staff Liaison