

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION**

**MINUTES  
MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2013**

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

**Commissioners Present:** Borelli, Burke, Clarkin, Kemper, Norton, Sol, Williams

**Commissioners Absent:** None

**Others present:** Lieutenant Dave Smith, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; Maria Grycan, Community Services Representative, Los Angeles County Fire Department; Kristin Cook, Public Safety Manager

4. **ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS**

Commissioner Kemper requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of Alan Rindy, business owner of Genghis Cohen.

Commissioner Williams requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of the mother of Lieutenant Jim Farrell.

Commissioner Clarkin requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of Mark Hundahl.

Commissioner Norton requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of Jeanne Manford.

Commissioner Borelli requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of Brian Putnam.

Commissioner Sol requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of the 18 law enforcement officers and firefighters killed in the line of duty since the last meeting.

5. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**ACTION:** Motion by Commissioner Williams to approve the January 14, 2013 agenda, seconded by Commissioner Norton, and approved.

## **POSTING OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda for the January 14, 2013 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 Norton to approve the December 10, 2012 minutes, seconded by Commissioner Borelli, and approved.

### **7. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Daphne Dennis, Acting Human Services and Rent Stabilization Director, spoke regarding the West Hollywood Community Survey.

Troy Legg, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding problems at the Ralph's on La Brea including sewage, needles, and human waste.

Roxanne McBride, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding problems at Ralph's on La Brea including human urine and waste, homeless persons loitering, and trash. Ms. McBride also spoke about people walking their dogs off leash and not cleaning up after their dogs.

Stephanie Harker, resident of West Hollywood, thanked the Sheriff and Fire Department personnel and spoke about increased tickets for dogs off leash. Ms. Harker stated that street lights on Santa Monica Boulevard are still out.

Cathy Blaivas, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding the area in front of the community center at Plummer Park which has become a loitering area and asked if the City could fence it off. Ms. Blaivas spoke regarding the problems at Ralph's on La Brea.

Steve Levin, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding problems with loitering at the area in front of the DMV on Formosa in Los Angeles.

### **8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Burke wished all a happy new year and said that he looked forward to this year.

Commissioner Kemper suggested inviting a representative of Ralph's to a future Public Safety Commission meeting.

Commissioner Williams asked if staff could put the Ralph's issue on the agenda.

Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding meeting with the Ralph's security personnel and will give the contact information to staff to invite them to the next meeting.

Commissioner Williams requested that staff follow up on the street lights.

Commissioner Clarkin expressed get well wishes to Captain Fraser's mother.

Commissioner Norton spoke regarding the issues at Ralph's, wished all a happy new year, and wished happy birthday to commissioner Kemper.

Commissioner Borelli spoke regarding the community survey, the issues at Ralph's, and street lights.

Commissioner Sol spoke regarding the issues at Ralph's.

Commissioner Kemper spoke regarding the issues at Ralph's.

**9. ITEMS FROM STAFF**

**9A. NEWS FROM STAFF/MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Staff thanked the Commissioners for participating in the Don't Drink and Drive Event.

Commissioner Sol reminded everyone that the Neighborhood Block Captain Training will be held January 30, 2013.

**9B. WEST HOLLYWOOD LIBRARY UPDATE**

Commissioners received a presentation from Susan Anderson, West Hollywood Library, on the various programs and opportunities at the Library.

Commissioner Borelli asked if the Library is still accepting book donations.

Ms. Anderson said that the Friends of the Library do accept books.

Commissioner Clarkin thanked Ms. Anderson for the presentation and asked if there is an online newsletter.

Ms. Anderson spoke regarding utilizing social media, the library website, and the City website.

Commissioner Norton asked if emergency training had been provided since the small fire had happened.

Ms. Anderson spoke regarding initial problems with the fire alarm and emergency procedures and training.

Commissioner Norton spoke about resources for those living with disabilities.

Ms. Anderson spoke regarding the problems with computer chairs.

#### **9C. PUBLIC SAFETY AWARDS**

Staff spoke regarding the upcoming awards on Monday, April 8, 2013. Staff asked Commissioners to assist with encouraging nominations and said that staff will be scheduling a sub-committee meeting shortly.

Commissioner Williams suggested nominating the Sheriff's Deputy that spotted the arsonist.

Commissioner Williams requested that staff arrange reserved parking for Commissioners for the Public Safety Awards.

#### **10. REPORT FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Ms. Grycan spoke regarding the suppression, rescue, and fire prevention activities during the month of December 2012 including inspections, fires, and emergency medical calls. Ms. Grycan spoke regarding a suspicious package call on Sunset. Ms. Grycan spoke regarding community outreach and assisting with various toy drives.

Commissioner Norton asked about legislation requiring carbon monoxide detectors.

Ms. Grycan stated that the legislation did not address enforcement but that the firefighters do look for them when they respond to incidents.

Ms. Grycan stated that she has free smoke alarms for the community.

Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding a neighbor who had sought out the fire department's help for a carbon monoxide detector activation.

#### **11. REPORT FROM THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

Lieutenant Smith reviewed the Sheriff's Department statistics for December 2012, including calls for service, arrests, and crimes. Lieutenant Smith stated that crime is down substantially as compared to last year. Total Part 1 Crimes decreased by 16 % over the last 6 months, from a Crime Rate of 26 to a current

rate of 10. Much of this decrease can be attributed to the additional funding provided to the station by the city, which allows the station to put more sworn personnel on the street at key times of the night.

Some other positive results achieved by the station during 2012 reported by Lieutenant Smith include:

- A 24% DECREASE in Significant Force used against suspects
- A 68% INCREASE in Commendations
- A 20% INCREASE in Citizen Contacts up to 38,965
- A 14% INCREASE in Felony Arrests
- A 15% INCREASE in Misdemeanor Arrests

Lieutenant Smith stated people still leave items unattended in their vehicles.

Lieutenant Smith reported 21 DUI arrests and 9 traffic collisions.

Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding school safety and work with West Hollywood Elementary on traffic issues.

Lieutenant Smith said he would notify LAPD about the DMV issues and would continue to address the issues at Ralph's.

Commissioner Kemper spoke regarding the frequency of issues on the 600 block of Robertson.

Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding the issues on the 600 block of Robertson and the extra personnel provided by the City that patrols the area.

Commissioner Borelli asked if Sunday evenings are just as busy as the rest of the week.

Lieutenant Smith said that it varies on Sunday evenings.

Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding participating on a recent "walk-about" with Captain Fraser and Commissioner Sol.

Commissioner Borelli spoke regarding the positive impact of the "walk-about".

Commissioner Borelli requested an update regarding the proposed private security patrols for Santa Monica Boulevard.

Staff stated that the patrols are still pending.

## **12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

## **12A. 2012 PUBLIC SAFETY EDUCATION OUTREACH**

Commissioner Borelli spoke regarding Don't Drink and Drive outreach.

Commissioner Sol spoke regarding pedestrian safety outreach.

Commissioner Borelli suggested that staff schedule another outreach.

Staff requested that Commissioners think about the 2013 work plan and send ideas to staff to help compose the draft for the next meeting.

## **13. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Kevin Burton, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding pedestrian safety and a recent "field trip" with the Transportation Commission who was recently out observing various crosswalks throughout the City.

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

Commissioner Williams requested a sub-committee meeting with the Transportation Commission.

Commissioner Kemper requested more information on the "walk-about" and requested a sub-committee meeting.

Commissioner Clarkin encouraged all to fill out the survey if received in the mail and thanked Bonnie Smith for her work on the toy drive.

Commissioner Norton spoke regarding the upcoming anniversary of Roe v. Wade on January 22, 2013, including an event at NCJW. Commissioner Norton spoke regarding the recent Don't Drink and Drive event and suggested that the Sheriff personnel wear Santa hats or something to make it more casual.

Ms. Grycan said that firefighters have shaved heads in solidarity for a firefighter Shawn Bayer.

## **15. ADJOURNMENT**

The Public Safety Commission adjourned at 7:49 PM in the memory of Alan Rindy, the mother of Lieutenant Jim Farrell, Mark Hundahl, Jeanne Manford, Brian Putnam, and the 18 law enforcement officers and firefighters that have passed away since the last meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 11, 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