

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION**

**MINUTES
MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2013**

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

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

Commissioners Absent: None

Others present: Deputy Paul Hodgkinson, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; Maria Grycan, Community Services Representative, Los Angeles County Fire Department; Bonnie Smith, Public Safety Community Relations Programs Coordinator

4. **ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS**
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 last meeting.
5. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Norton to approve the August 12, 2013 agenda, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and approved.

POSTING OF THE AGENDA

The agenda for the August 12, 2013 Public Safety Commission meeting was posted at City Hall, Plummer Park, and the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station, and the West Hollywood Library.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Sol to approve the July 8, 2013 minutes, seconded by Commissioner Clarkin, with the change that the meeting was adjourned in Mayor Abbe Land mother name. Motion approved.

7. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

David Eichman, resident of Los Angeles, informed everyone that he was elected Vice Chair of the Transportation Commission and will continue to serve as a liaison to the Public Safety Commission. He spoke concerning the new entertainment

shuttle launching last week. He spoke of the TLC door to door service. He spoke concerning the City's upgrades to include credit card payment at the King's Road parking structure. He spoke about a newspaper article on distracted walking.

Stephanie Harker, resident of West Hollywood, thanked the community for a great National Night Out. She thanked Commissioner Williams and Clarkin for attending the party on Fuller and at Plummer Park. She also spoke regarding cameras at Plummer Park, and a vacant property at 1120 Vista. She also spoke on the new night time shuttle.

Cathy Blavis, resident of West Hollywood, thanked the community and the City for National Night Out. She spoke concerning a vacant property at 1120 Vista.

Commissioner Williams spoke concerning the vacant property at 1120 Vista. Commissioner Williams asked if there was any interest on the part of the Commission to revisit the issue of security cameras the Great Hall and Long Hall at Plummer Park and mentioned the issue had also been discussed at the former PAC meetings.

8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND LIAISON REPORTS

Commissioner Clarkin thanked City Staff, Fire and Sheriff, Block by Block, and Sheriff's Volunteers on Patrol for all their work on the Sunset Strip Music Festival. Commissioner Clarkin thanked everyone for all their work on National Night Out. Commissioner Clarkin requested that a generic public safety "business" card be created to distribute at events such as National Night Out for residents who have public safety questions. Commissioner Clarkin also spoke about the Emergency Drill hosted by the City and what an excellent opportunity this was for him. Commissioner Clarkin spoke about the Bike and Walk WeHo Forum he attended. Commissioner Clarkin also thanked the audience for attending the meeting.

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding the final East Side Task Force meeting which will be held on August 27, 2013. Commissioner Williams also spoke on the City wide garage sale which may have impacted attendance at the Town Hall meeting. Commissioner Williams thanked everyone for attending NNO.

Commissioner Norton spoke regarding her attendance at the July Senior Advisory Board meeting as liaison from the PSC. She stated that the Senior Advisory Board feels there is not enough communication between the City and the senior community about upcoming Public Safety events. She informed everyone that she spoke with Social Services Manager Daphne Dennis and Russian Community Outreach Coordinator Tatiana Rodzinek on holding some senior safety meetings at more public places than only the ones held in senior residential buildings. Commissioner Norton spoke about wanting more notice of events taking place at City Council meetings that involves public safety. Commissioner Norton spoke

regarding the lack of publicity and scheduling conflicts surrounding the Town Hall Meeting.

Commissioner Szyskowski apologized for not being able to attend any other National Night Out event due to hosting one in her neighborhood. Commissioner Szyskowski spoke about the great support from Sizzler and Target at her event.

Commissioner Kurpies spoke regarding enjoying 5 National Night Out parties. He spoke about how great the attendance was at the parties.

Commissioner Sol spoke regarding the Buff & Cut Health Fair Expo coming up on Saturday, August 17, 2013. Commissioner Sol reminded everyone that they can bring many of their issues to Public Safety staff prior to any Commission meeting and staff will be happy to address those issues in a timely manner. This might be a better option than waiting an entire month to have issues addressed.

9. ITEMS FROM STAFF

9A. NEWS FROM STAFF/MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Staff spoke regarding a DUI checkpoint to be held Friday, August 23, 2013.

Staff reminded the commission that the December 9, 2013 meeting will be the kick off for the Don't Drink and Drive Napkin Campaign. Staff asked Commissioners to e-mail suggestions for the event if they wanted to see changes.

Commissioner Clarkin thanked Commissioner Norton on her input. Commissioner Sol stated how important it is that the community attends events for the valuable information that is given out. Commissioner Norton suggested that while the Commission and Staff are expanding the use of social media, it is important not to drop the use of older methods to communicate with segments of the community who may not be using the newest technologies. Commissioner Clarkin commented on how great it is that staff will once again review how information is getting out to the residents. Commissioner Williams asked Staff if we were still supplying general and public safety information at all the NNO events. Staff said this was still being done.

9B. CANCEL OCTOBER REGULAR MEETING TO BE ABLE TO ATTEND ANNUAL CONGRESS ON October 14, 2013

Commissioners held a discussion if there should be an additional meeting in October. Motion by Commissioner Clarkin to cancel the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Burke, and approved

10. REPORT FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Ms. Grycan reviewed the suppression, rescue, and fire prevention activities during the month of July including inspections, fires, and emergency medical calls. None of the fires in July caused monetary damage. Ms. Grycan explained the protocol for when there is a downed power line. Ms. Grycan spoke about attending senior safety talks, Sidewalk CPR, and Neighborhood Watch meetings.

Commissioner Williams thanked the Fire Dept. and Public Safety staff for the Town Hall meeting. Commissioner Norton also thanked Ms. Grycan for her work on the Town Hall meeting. Commissioner Norton asked if there was a way to tell if texting is involved in pedestrian vs. cars. Commissioner Clarkin spoke about tweeting about Fill the Boot. Ms. Grycan spoke about the City of West Hollywood and the great fundraising in the City. Commissioner Clarkin spoke once again about assisting on the Emergency Drill. Commissioner Clarkin spoke asked if a debriefing would be available for the public. Ms. Grycan spoke about a report she is working on about the Emergency Drill that can be shared with the public. Commissioner Williams asked if the video could be shared at the next Public Safety Commission.

11. REPORT FROM THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Deputy Hodgkinson reviewed the Sheriff's Department statistics for July 2013, including calls for service, arrests, and crimes. Deputy Hodgkinson stated that crime is down across the City. Deputy Hodgkinson spoke about improving the great response time that the Sheriff's Department already has. Deputy Hodgkinson stated that there were 10 DUI arrests and 4 DUI collisions, 1 with injuries.

Commissioner Clarkin spoke about the great response that the Sheriff's Dept. had for the Emergency Drill. Commissioner Clarkin spoke about the Sheriff's Volunteers on Patrol and what the volunteers give back. He would like to have staff share what the uniform volunteers are doing.

Commissioner Williams asked that the report be shared next month. Commissioner Clarkin complimented the great teamwork between Block by Block and the uniformed volunteers. Commissioner Clarkin spoke on having the Block by Block team come back on the agenda and speak about their jobs. Commissioner Williams spoke about the positive comments that she had heard concerning Block by Block. Commissioner Kurpies asked staff to share the Block by Block reports.

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

12A. 2013 PUBLIC SAFETY EDUCATION OUTREACH

Commissioner Sol spoke about the ongoing Public Safety Outreach which will be on August 29, 2013, to be held at Sunset Farmers Market. On Sept. 24, 2103 the next Sheriff's walk about will be held.

Commissioner Clarkin spoke about needing a general city hall/public safety card to hand out to the residents wanting more public safety information. Commissioner Williams asked whether the various Public Safety handouts were provided on tables at each NNO location as they had been in prior years; Staff confirmed that they were. Commissioner Norton suggested also being prepared to provide copies of the pamphlet issued by the City telling people who to contact to address a variety of concerns, as Commissioner Sol had encouraged during her term as Chair of the Commission.

12B. UTILIZING SOCIAL MEDIA, IMPROVING COMMUNICATION

Commissioner Clarkin and Commissioner Burke have gotten images to be used on the new Twitter account.

Commissioner Clarkin expressed his concerns that all information is cleared before sent out. Ms. Grycan commented that we cannot control what other people post.

Commissioners worked on the new Be Prepared ad campaign. Staff will compile a list of Commissioners preferences for the Public Safety Director to review.

12C. WORK PLAN UPDATE

Commissioners reviewed and updated the work plan.

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

14. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding cameras at Plummer Park and asked the Commission if they would like to put the cameras on the agenda. There was no motion to place the cameras back on the agenda.

16. ADJOURNMENT

The Public Safety Commission adjourned at 8:15 PM in the memory of the 12 law enforcement officers and firefighters who have passed away since the last meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 9, 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