

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION**

**MINUTES
MONDAY, JULY 14, 2014**

FIESTA HALL – PLUMMER PARK

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

Commissioners Present: Bazley, Burke, Clarkin, Hoffman, Norton, Sol, Williams

Commissioners Absent: None

Others present: Sergeant Jon Klaus, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department; Kristin Cook, Public Safety Director; Bonnie Smith, Public Safety Supervisor; Maria Grycan, Los Angeles County Fire Department; David Aguilar, Block by Block Security Ambassadors

4. **ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS**

Commissioner Williams requested the meeting be adjourned in the memory of Steven Sawyer.

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. **ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Williams to elect Bob Burke as Chair, seconded by Commissioner Norton and approved.

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Sol to elect Marcy Norton as Vice-Chair, seconded by Commissioner Clarkin and approved.

6. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Norton to approve the July 14, 2014 agenda, seconded by Commissioner Sol and approved.

POSTING OF THE AGENDA

The agenda for the July 14, 2014 Public Safety Commission meeting was posted at City Hall, Plummer Park, the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station, and the West Hollywood Library.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Clarkin to approve the June 9, 2014 minutes, seconded by Commissioner Sol and approved.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lauren Meister, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding crosswalk and pedestrian safety and the Public Safety Commission's public safety education campaign, "Live, Work, Play, Be Safe". She encouraged the Commission and the Sheriff's Department to increase education.

Virginia Gillick, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding crosswalk and pedestrian safety and the need for more lighting.

Larry Block, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding crosswalk and pedestrian safety and the rapid flashing beacons approved at three locations on the west side.

Pat Dixon, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding crosswalk and pedestrian safety and accidents she has witnessed at Westmount Drive and Santa Monica Boulevard. She spoke regarding problems with traffic calming medians on Laurel Avenue.

Roxanne McBryde, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding bicycles not yielding to pedestrians. She spoke regarding the influx of new residents who may be hit by bicycles, who do not pick up after their pets, and about motorists running stop signs.

Cathy Blaivas, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding pedestrian and crosswalk safety and encouraged more signage. She proposed a joint meeting with the Transportation Commission.

Stephanie Harker, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding pedestrian and crosswalk safety and encouraged more Sheriff's enforcement.

Steve Levin, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding pedestrian and crosswalk safety and encouraged striping similar to school zones and spoke regarding problems with the Food Coalition.

Philip Hoskins, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding pedestrian and crosswalk safety at the intersections of Palm Avenue at Santa Monica Boulevard and Hancock Avenue at Santa Monica Boulevard, and advocated for mid-block pedestrian activated lights.

9. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND LIAISON REPORTS

Commissioner Williams thanked the residents for attending the meeting on the east side. Commissioner Williams spoke regarding pedestrian and crosswalk safety and encouraged residents to attend the Transportation Commission's meetings to voice concerns.

Commissioner Bazley spoke regarding the Food Coalition and encouraged people to contact the City of Los Angeles. Commissioner Bazley spoke regarding pedestrian and crosswalk safety and spoke regarding the accident at Palm Avenue.

Commissioner Norton thanked the residents for attending the meeting on the east side. Commissioner Norton spoke regarding pedestrian and crosswalk safety and expressed concern for those with disabilities. Commissioner Norton expressed concern that the lights are not yet installed at the selected intersections and expressed frustration with Transportation staff.

Commissioner Hoffman thanked the residents for attending the meeting on the east side. Commissioner Hoffman spoke regarding the crosswalk at Flores Street and Santa Monica Boulevard and motorists who run the red light.

Commissioner Burke thanked the residents for attending the meeting on the east side. Commissioner Burke said that he looks forward to chairing the Commission this year, including finding a solution to the pedestrian and crosswalk issues and having more meetings on the east side.

Commissioner Clarkin thanked the residents for attending the meeting on the east side and encouraged the attendees to continue to speak up for what they believe in. Commissioner Clarkin thanked Commissioner Eichman for regularly attending the Public Safety Commission meetings to share information. Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding the upcoming homeless collaborative meeting.

Commissioner Williams gave an update on a recent East Side Taskforce meeting.

Commissioner Norton gave an update on a recent Senior Advisory Board meeting and an upcoming event sponsored by the NCJW Advocacy Planning Group to address elder abuse and senior scams/fraud prevention.

Commissioner Williams asked staff to give an update on the action items requested from the recent Formosa/Detroit Neighborhood Watch meeting.

10. ITEMS FROM STAFF

10A. NEWS FROM STAFF/MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Staff reviewed the notes from the Formosa/Detroit Neighborhood Watch meeting.

Commissioner Clarkin thanked Laura Manukian for her follow-up on all the issues.

Staff spoke regarding the upcoming Annual Commission and Advisory Board Congress. Staff announced that two of the four new Security Ambassadors have been hired and are on duty.

10B. VISIT FROM SUNSET BLOCK BY BLOCK, KRIS ZAGYVA

Kris Zagyva, Security Director/Operations Manager, introduced himself and gave a brief presentation.

Commissioner Clarkin explained the difference between the Sunset and Santa Monica teams and asked Mr. Zagyva to review statistics on Sunset.

Mr. Zagyva gave an update on the statistics.

Jason Blake Lovell, resident of Los Angeles, spoke regarding negative interactions with the business community.

Commissioner Sol thanked the public speaker for his attendance.

Commissioner Hoffman thanked Mr. Zagyva for his attendance.

Commissioner Norton thanked Mr. Zagyva for his attendance and asked if he could attend again in the future.

11. REPORT FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Maria Grycan reviewed the suppression, rescue, and fire prevention activities during the months of May and June 2014 including inspections, fires, and emergency medical calls.

12. REPORT FROM THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Sergeant Klaus reviewed the Sheriff's Department statistics for June 2014, including crimes, calls for service, and a total of 259 arrests. Sergeant Klaus spoke regarding alcohol related assaults. Sergeant Klaus spoke regarding pedestrian and

crosswalk safety and the enforcement that the Deputies conduct, including citations, decoy cars, traffic motors, and crosswalk operations.

Commissioner Williams asked about the one rape.

Sergeant Klaus stated that he will get more information and let staff know.

Sergeant Klaus stated that there were 12 DUI arrests and 5 DUI related crashes in the month of June. In addition, there were 2 vehicle vs. pedestrian accidents and 4 vehicle vs. bicycle accidents.

Commissioner Clarkin asked staff to invite the Sheriff's volunteers to attend a future Public Safety Commission meeting. Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding DUI patrols and crosswalk enforcement opportunities. Commissioner Clarkin thanked the residents for their attendance.

Commissioner Williams requested the monthly reports from the volunteers and commented on the money that volunteers save the City by their work.

Sergeant Klaus said that he will provide the reports and invite the volunteers to attend.

Commissioner Norton asked if copies of the Block by Block written report of statistics and the Sheriff's written report of DUI and bicycle statistics could be shared with the audience at future meetings.

Commissioner Bazley asked for clarification on the rules for bicycles on sidewalks.

Sergeant Klaus stated that where there is no bike lane, bicycles can ride on the sidewalk, but they must share the sidewalk with the pedestrians.

Victor Omelczenko, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding bicycle lanes and bicycle safety, pedestrian and crosswalk safety, and the need for more enforcement.

13. REPORT FROM BLOCK BY BLOCK

David Aguilar, Block by Block, gave a brief report on June's activities including the four new security ambassadors that have been added since July 1, 2014.

Commissioner Norton requested clarification on homeless contacts.

Mr. Aguilar described the various contacts that his team makes with homeless persons and the social service resources they attempt to provide.

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

14A. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION WORK PLAN

Staff encouraged the Commissioners to take a fresh look at the liaison assignments.

Commissioners discussed the various choices and decided the following slate:

Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission – Commissioner Bazley
Business License Commission – Commissioner Bazley
Historic Preservation Commission – Commissioner Burke
Human Services Commission – Commissioner Clarkin
Planning Commission – Commissioner Hoffman
Public Facilities Commission – Commissioner Norton
Rent Stabilization Commission – Commissioner Clarkin
Transportation Commission – Commissioner Hoffman

Disabilities Advisory Board – Commissioner Williams
Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board – Commissioner Sol
Russian Advisory Board – Commissioner Bazley
Senior Advisory Board – Commissioner Norton
Transgender Advisory Board – Commissioner Sol
Women’s Advisory Board – Commissioner Williams

East Side Task Force – Commissioner Burke

Commissioner Clarkin encouraged all Commissioners to participate on a ride along.

Commissioner Bazley encouraged the Commission to add a quarterly east side location for Public Safety Commission meetings.

15. NEW BUSINESS

15A. PET ETIQUETTE FLYER

Staff presented a draft flyer for the Commission's comments.

Commissioner Bazley requested a smaller size to be available as well.

Commissioner Hoffman thanked staff for their work on the project.

Commissioner Clarkin gave staff several suggestions.

Staff said that updates will be made and brought back to the Commission.

Commissioner Sol suggested including other animals.

Stephanie Harker, resident of West Hollywood, suggested letting the members of the audience make comments on the flyer.

Lauren Meister, resident of West Hollywood, suggested mailing the information to pet owners.

Staff stated that National Night Out is August 5, 2014.

16. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Suzanne Dietrich, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding large trucks traveling on Fountain Avenue and people not picking up after their dogs.

Roxanne McBryde, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding National Night Out and people not picking up after their dogs. She encouraged harsher penalties.

Victor Omelczenko, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding National Night Out, suggested a joint meeting between the Public Safety and Transportation Commissions, and spoke regarding homeless issues and bicycle plans for Willoughby.

Daniel Zamavchovjki, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding the Next Door app and its usefulness.

Larry Block, resident of West Hollywood, thanked the Commission for choosing an east side location for the meeting and congratulated Commissioner Burke as Chair and Commissioner Norton as Vice-Chair.

17. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Norton thanked her fellow Commissioners for electing her as Vice-Chair. Commissioner Norton thanked Commissioner Williams for her leadership as Chair and her work throughout the City. Commissioner Norton requested that staff do a better job notifying the public about the changed location.

Commissioner Hoffman spoke regarding National Night Out and about the improvements made in his neighborhood due to the installation of a pet waste station in front of his building. Commissioner Hoffman encouraged staff to better publicize the free poop bags.

Commissioner Burke thanked and encouraged the public to bring items of concern to the Commission over the next year and said that he looks forward to working

together. Commissioner Burke thanked Commissioner Williams for her hard work as Chair.


Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding the public speaker's comments during the Block by Block presentation. Commissioner Clarkin spoke regarding his upcoming work as liaison to Rent Stabilization.

Commissioner Williams thanked all the Commissioners for their support and encouraged more meetings on the east side.

18. ADJOURNMENT

The Public Safety Commission adjourned at 8:36 PM in the memory of Steven Sawyer and the 12 law enforcement officers and firefighters who have passed away since the last meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for August 11, 2014 at 6:30 PM at the West Hollywood Library Community Meeting Room at 625 N. San Vicente Boulevard.


Public Safety Commission Chair


Staff Liaison