

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION**

**MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2015**

WEST HOLLYWOOD LIBRARY - COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM

1. **CALL TO ORDER** at 6:30 PM

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** led by Council Member Meister

3. **OATH OF OFFICE**

Council Member Meister administered the Oath of Office to Tory Berger, new Public Safety Commissioner.

4. **ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Bazley, Berger, Burke, Norton, Sol, Williams

Commissioners Absent: Hoffman

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

5. **ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS**

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

Commissioner Norton requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of Lou Sesanto.

6. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

ACTION: Motion by Commissioner Williams to approve the April 13, 2015 agenda, seconded by Commissioner Norton, and approved.

POSTING OF THE AGENDA

The agenda for the April 13, 2015 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 March 9, 2015 minutes, seconded by Commissioner Norton, and approved.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Stephanie Harker, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding work with the Public Safety Commission and the community.

Michael Wojtkielewicz, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding safety and public housing.

Commissioner Williams asked for a report on recent crimes at Sierra Bonita.

Cathy Blaivas, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding a recent incident requiring a Sheriff's response.

Laura Boccaletti, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding traffic congestion caused by a traffic signal outage.

Richard Maggio, resident of West Hollywood, spoke as the liaison from the Rent Stabilization Commission to the Public Safety Commission and spoke regarding the condition of the old Spago restaurant and dry trees caused by drought.

9. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND LIAISON REPORTS

Commissioner Bazley spoke regarding the recent earthquake and emergency preparedness. Commissioner Bazley thanked Lieutenant Smith for his comments in the news regarding pedestrian safety and reasonable enforcement and spoke regarding the City's efforts to promote pedestrian safety.

Commissioner Williams congratulated all new Commissioners in attendance. Commissioner Williams thanked the members of the public for their attendance. Commissioner Williams asked for a crime report regarding recent crimes at Sierra Bonita. Commissioner Williams spoke regarding transient activity on the eastside. Commissioner Williams spoke regarding traffic signals. Commissioner Williams asked the Sheriff's Department to report on earthquake preparedness.

Commissioner Burke spoke regarding earthquake preparedness and the need for repetition of the message to the community.

Commissioner Norton congratulated all new Commissioners in attendance. Commissioner Norton spoke regarding her recent attendance at the Senior Advisory Board and the Public Facilities Commission. Commissioner Norton spoke regarding electrical issues with outlets in City Hall's first floor conference room which is also used as an Emergency Operations Center. Commissioner Norton spoke regarding the recent earthquake and emergency preparedness.

Commissioner Berger spoke in support of finding solutions to issues raised at the Public Safety Commission. Commissioner Berger spoke regarding the positive outcomes from a recent Neighborhood Watch meeting. Commissioner Berger spoke in support of a tracking system for public complaints. Commissioner Berger addressed issues raised by the evening's public speakers.

Commissioner Sol spoke regarding public education and outreach. Commissioner Sol congratulated new Commissioners on their appointments.

10. ITEMS FROM STAFF

10A. NEWS FROM STAFF/MONTHLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Staff spoke regarding meetings held at Sierra Bonita, Earthquake Preparedness Month, Kids Fair, and the upcoming Half Marathon. Staff spoke regarding the City of WeHo app.

Commissioner Williams asked for clarification regarding the upcoming CERT continuing education class. Commissioner Williams spoke regarding the upcoming Clothes Line Project hosted by the National Council of Jewish Women.

Commissioner Sol asked if City Hall is doing anything to recognize Earth Day.

Staff stated that they will report back regarding Earth Day.

10B. WORK PLAN

Staff mentioned that once all new appointments are made, staff will return with a work plan for comments this summer.

10C. PUBLIC SAFETY AWARDS

Staff reminded the Commissioners that the Public Safety Awards will be held on Monday, May 11th at Fiesta Hall.

11. REPORT FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Errett reviewed the suppression, rescue, and fire prevention activities during the month of March 2015 including inspections, fires, and emergency medical calls. Chief Errett highlighted fires caused by cooking. Chief Errett spoke regarding the large number of calls on March 24th caused by the extreme wind event and the necessity of bringing more resources into the City to address these issues, including the County's Urban Search and Rescue team who secured a billboard. Chief Errett spoke regarding Fire Department responses to pedestrian related incidents. Chief Errett spoke regarding inspections. Chief Errett stated that there were thirteen Fire Department responses during the Los Angeles Marathon. Chief Errett announced that the next Sidewalk CPR will be held on June 4th at Equinox and the Gateway.

Commissioner Williams asked for clarification regarding assault calls.

Chief Errett spoke regarding Fire's role and Sheriff's role in assault calls.

Commissioner Berger asked for clarification regarding the downed power line on Sweetzer from March 16th.

Chief Errett spoke regarding response protocol to downed power lines.

Commissioner Berger spoke regarding Sidewalk CPR.

Chief Errett and Ms. Grycan spoke regarding Sidewalk CPR.

Commissioner Berger spoke regarding the importance of advertising Sidewalk CPR.

Commissioner Bazley spoke regarding the utilization of the LED board at the Gateway to advertise.

Ms. Grycan stated that June 4th is Sidewalk CPR day for the entire County.

12. REPORT FROM THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Lieutenant Smith reviewed the Sheriff's Department statistics for March 2015, including crimes, calls for service, and arrests. Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding decreases in assaults and robberies and an increase in foot patrols. Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding an increase in burglaries and an increase in supplemental patrols to address the increase in burglaries, particularly during the day when most burglary incidents are occurring. Lieutenant Smith stated that there were five domestic violence related incidents resulting in five arrests. Lieutenant Smith stated that there were two arrests made in five robberies. Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding thefts from businesses and crosswalk safety, including an upcoming

crosswalk enforcement operation. Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding the upcoming Half Marathon.

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding the lack of notification to businesses on Santa Monica Boulevard regarding the upcoming street closures during the Half Marathon.

Lieutenant Smith stated that he will return with statistics regarding incidents at Sierra Bonita. Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding the prioritization of calls for service.

Commissioner Burke spoke regarding crimes on the east side.

Lieutenant Smith spoke regarding foot patrols on the east side and the various issues at the eastern border that the Sheriff's Department addresses, at times in conjunction with LAPD.

Commissioner Burke spoke regarding residents being active observers and reporters in their neighborhoods.

Lieutenant Smith and Sergeant Klaus spoke regarding the close relationship with the Neighborhood Watch group on the east side.

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding posts on Next Door.

Commissioner Bazley spoke regarding an upcoming meeting with LAPD where he plans to discuss issues along the eastern border of the City of West Hollywood with the City of Los Angeles.

Commissioner Williams spoke regarding a recent, positive meeting with Captain Leslie, LAPD Wilshire.

Sergeant Klaus stated that there were 12 DUI arrests and 2 DUI collisions in the month of March.

Commissioner Sol reminded all about the upcoming "Walkabout with the Captain" to be held on Wednesday at 6:30 PM.

Commissioner Norton spoke regarding vehicle vs. bicyclist and vehicle vs. pedestrian incidents.

Lieutenant Smith stated that Sheriff's personnel responded to one vehicle vs. bicyclist incident (Ogden and SMB) in the month of March.

13. REPORT FROM BLOCK BY BLOCK

David Aguilar, Block by Block, gave a report on the activities in March, including pedestrian assistance, business contacts, and residents assisted.

Commissioner Williams thanked Block by Block for their service.

Commissioner Bazley thanked Block by Block for their service and thanked the Sheriff's Department for its foot patrols at the Gateway Center.

Commissioner Burke asked staff regarding the best way to increase public awareness regarding Block by Block.

Staff stated that it is a good time for Block by Block Security Ambassadors to reintroduce themselves to businesses and residents along the area they serve.

14. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

15. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS


Commissioner Williams thanked the members of the public for their attendance.

Commissioners welcomed Commissioner Berger to the Public Safety Commission.

16. ADJOURNMENT

The Public Safety Commission adjourned at 8:08 PM in the memory of the sixteen law enforcement officers and firefighters who have passed away since the last meeting and Lou Sesanto. The next meeting is scheduled for May 11, 2015 at 6:30 PM at Fiesta Hall.


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.)