

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2021  
3:00 P.M.**

**VIA TELECONFERENCE**

**1. CALL TO ORDER** at 3:00 PM

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** led by Chair Berger

**3. ROLL CALL**

**Commissioners Present:** Balbone, Berger, Hallman, Oliver, Roman, Roshay, Soon-shiong

**Commissioners Absent:** None

**Others present:** Kristin Cook, Public Safety Director

**4. ADJOURNMENT REQUESTS**

None

**5. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**ACTION:** Motion by Vice Chair Roshay to approve the November 5, 2021 agenda, seconded by Commissioner Oliver and approved.

**POSTING OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda for the November 5, 2021 Public Safety Commission meeting was posted at City Hall, Plummer Park, and the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station.

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**ACTION:** Motion by Vice-Chair Roshay to approve the October 11, 2021 minutes, seconded by Commissioner Balbone, and approved.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Lea Booth, resident of Berkeley, spoke regarding housing and homelessness and said that housing first is not a solution to homelessness.

Patrick Blood, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding the struggles that people living with disabilities face and spoke in support of enforcement, so the City is accessible for everyone.

Yola Dore, resident of West Hollywood, spoke against a kiosk staffed by Block by Block and spoke in support of a kiosk staffed by sworn personnel and a Sheriff's sub-station.

West Seegmiller, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding vaccination discrimination in West Hollywood.

## **8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Hallman spoke regarding the eastside kiosk proposed at the Santa Monica Boulevard and La Brea and said that eastside residents have been discussing the idea for many months.

Commissioner Oliver spoke in support of vaccinations and a vaccine mandate and said that this Commission was not qualified to challenge the advice of medical authorities.

Commissioner Balbone suggested that the Public Safety Commission refer the vaccination related issues raised by the public speaker to the Human Services Commission for consideration.

## **9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **9A. DISCUSSION ON PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES AND PRIORITIES INCLUDING ROOT CAUSES, REIMAGINING POLICING, AND PROMOTING EQUITY**

Chair Berger outlined the process he would like to use to discuss objectives to provide the City Council with recommendations on public safety services and funding priorities.

Kevin Burton, resident of West Hollywood, spoke regarding a positive experience with the Block by Block kiosk at Plummer Park. Mr. Burton spoke in support of having follow-up information from crime reports to include what happens with each of the crimes. Mr. Burton spoke regarding root causes and the revolving door of individuals who are arrested, released, rearrested, and the need for services.

Patrick Blood, resident of West Hollywood, spoke in support of robust mental health training for law enforcement.

Chelsea Byers, resident of West Hollywood, thanked the Commissioners for attempting to address the root causes.

Commissioners discussed and approved by consensus the following recommendations:

- Create an outreach program regarding Block by Block's Security Ambassador services to reroute non-criminal calls from Sheriff to Block by Block
- Determine what "safety" means to our residents via a two part process - an annual survey and an online mechanism to share experiences (website, social)
- Evaluate and improve service navigation and match the right tool with the job / Establish a research partnership to measure the effectiveness of public safety interventions
- Conduct a study to determine the feasibility and costs of developing a City led police department and seek out an improvement plan to address accountability and service consistency of LASD
- Explore alternative services to public safety to properly care for our residents' safety, including social services and public health programs
- Keep MET resources stable and review the next annual report for future recommendations
- Support the exploration of the Behavioral Health Crisis Unit & integration into existing services
- To be discussed at a future meeting – Examine existing laws for effectiveness (Prop 47, Prop 57; AB 109)
- To be discussed at a future meeting – Consider a Sheriff Sub-station

## **9B. WORK PLAN DRAFT DEVELOPMENT AND LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS**

Tabled to the next meeting.

## **10. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**11. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Vice-Chair Roshay thanked everyone for their participation.

Chair Berger thanked Vice-Chair Roshay for her help with preparation for the meeting. Chair Berger thanked all for their participation.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

The Public Safety Commission adjourned at 5:33 PM. The next regular meeting is scheduled for November 8, 2021 at 6:00 PM via teleconference.

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Public Safety Commission Chair

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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.)***