

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA**

June 15, 2015 at 6:30 pm

Fire Department EOC Room, 817 Mound Avenue, South Pasadena

Call to Order and Roll Call. Chair Janet Braun called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm. Commissioners Braun, Chang, Daley, Lieberman, Urquhart and Wing were present. Also present were Police Chief Art Miller, Chris Szenczi from the Fire Department and Council Liaison Dr. Richard Schneider.

Approval of Minutes. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the meeting of the Public Safety Commission (the "Commission") held on May 18, 2015 were approved.

Public Comment. No public comments were offered at the meeting.

Council Liaison Comments. Dr. Schneider advised the Commission that he anticipated the City Council would approve of an allocation of \$200,000 for the construction and outfitting of a new emergency operations center ("EOC"). Dr. Schneider indicated the Commission should begin identifying equipment and the amount of space needed for an EOC. Chief Miller advised that he had visited San Diego and inspected an EOC that consisted of three modular buildings.

The Commission discussed a \$200,000 federal grant awarded to Irwindale for its use in constructing an EOC thanks to the intervention of Representative Chu.

The Commission discussed whether South Pasadena's emergency services had a relay station for radio communications that would work if there was a power outage and discussed the need for generators for emergency services (e.g., pumping water into the water tower for use by the fire department) if there was a power outage. Chief Miller advised that he would determine the status of communications relay stations and generators for emergency services.

Fire and Police Staff Liaison Reports. Chief Miller reported that the school district is unwilling to contribute to the expense of hiring additional crossing guards for the City's schools and that he has also been unable to secure funding from the PTA or SPEF. Dr. Schneider proposed negotiating with the various PTAs to create a system of escorting multiple students to their schools on foot. The Commission suggested that the City Council ask the school board's liaison to the Council reconsider contributing to the cost of hiring additional crossing guards.

Chief Miller reported that protected bike lanes are being implemented on Arroyo Vista.

Chief Miller reported that he had been interviewed by the Sacramento Bee in connection with the City's interactions Shlomo Rechnitz, the owner of the convalescent home in South Pasadena and approximately 1 out of every 14 nursing beds in California.

Chief Miller discussed the City's preparations for being a host city of the Special Olympics. The Torch Run was successful. Individual groups are donating food, housing, and transportation for the participants.

Chief Miller advised that the Police Officers Association was holding a luncheon on June 24, 2015 and that all commissioners were invited.

Chris Szenczi advised that the proposal to waive permit fees for block parties was going before the City Council on June 17.

2015-2016 Budget Status Report. Chris Szenczi reported that the Fire Department is trying to have funds for the City's Emergency Operations Plan ("EOP") allocated out of the general fund. The EOP is required by state law to be periodically updated. There was some concern expressed regarding the possibility that funding through the general fund could be uncertain and whether a specific allocation would be better. Chief Miller advised that he would discuss the issue with the City Manager.

CERT Update. A successful CERT refresher course was held on June 13 which was attended by more than 20 people. Participants included residents of San Marino and San Gabriel. Management of the San Marino CERT program is reportedly undergoing a reorganization.

Neighborhood Watch Update. Attempts are being made to streamline the creation of new neighborhood watches. She Kaplan has revised the City's Neighborhood Watch handbook. Commissioner Lieberman advised he was willing to visit local businesses to encourage their participation in neighborhood watches.

The Commission discussed attending PTA meetings to encourage PTA members to form new neighborhood watches, particularly in areas where there are no existing neighborhood watches. Commissioners Chang and Wing volunteered to visit some PTA meetings.

The Commission discussed the availability of new neighborhood watch signs and that the signs had to be installed by Public Works. Paul Torre is the contact person.

Public Safety Open House Matters – September 20, 2015. This year's Public Safety Open House is being held on Sunday September 20, 2015 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Commission needs to ascertain whether it has sufficient supply of handouts for the Open House.

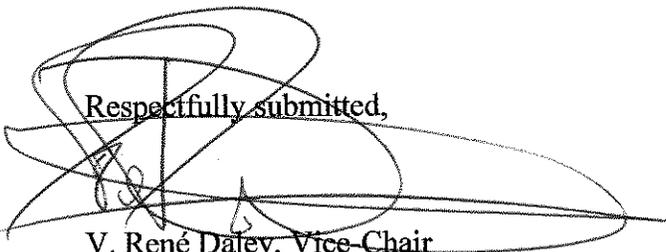
Commissioner Comments. The Police Department is asking neighborhood watch captains, CERT participants, and ARES participants, to walk together in the 4th of July parade.

The first ham radio training session is scheduled for November 4, 2015.

Commissioner Urquhart advised that the City's home web page does not have a direct link to the Fire Department and suggested that one should be added.

The curb at the corner of Huntington and Leman is not painted red.

Adjournment. Chairwoman Braun adjourned the meeting.



Respectfully submitted,

V. René Daley, Vice-Chair

Public Safety Commission