

RICHMOND POLICE COMMISSION

**Wednesday, March 5, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.
Employment & Training Building
330 – 25th Street
Conference Room 1**

MINUTES

I CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by **Chair Felix Hunziker**

ROLL CALL

Present: Nemy Bautista
Scott Gillespie
Felix Hunziker
Alejandro Navarro
Bea Roberson
Eleanor Thompson
Yenny Velazquez

Absent: Therese Barquet
Glenn Stephenson

Vacancies: None

Administrative Staff: Terry Simpson, Investigator – Absent
Malia Glover, Executive Secretary I – Present

Council Liaison: Jael Myrick, Council Liaison – Absent

City Attorney's Office Representative: Bruce Soublet, Assistant City Attorney – Present

II APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 5, 2014

Upon motion by **Commissioner Roberson** and second by **Commissioner Navarro**, the minutes for the regular meeting of February 5, 2014, were approved as written.

III REPORT OF COUNCIL LIAISON JAEL MYRICK

A. Report on recent activities, events, incidents and related matters

No report.

- B. Report, discussion and action on the joint Celebratory Gunfire Prevention Project

Chair Hunziker stated that there is a meeting on this subject scheduled for 3/26/14.

IV REPORT OF CHIEF OF POLICE (Chris Magnus or his representative)

- A. Report of recent crime statistics with monthly/annual comparisons

Chief Magnus said that **D/C Brown** will be going over two RPD policies with the commissioners this evening. They are updating the use of force policy regarding shooting at a moving vehicle. The other is a new policy regarding nepotism and conflicting relationships. The chief gave an update on crime stats. He said crime is significantly down from last year; however, armed robberies have gone up by 35%. Battery with serious injury went up from 4 to 6. He said the good news is that violent crime is down 21%, property crime is down 28%, assault with a deadly weapon down 31%, assault with a firearm down 27%, attempted homicide went from 2 to 0, attempted robbery down 80%, carjacking down 60%, homicides went from 1 to 0, strong arm robbery is down 36%, residential burglary down 50%, vehicle theft down 34%, commercial burglary down 44% and grand theft is down 22%. He attributes this to the work of the two excellent people that they have in their crime analysis unit. They put out crime analysis bulletins to officers that highlight very specific intelligence information about individuals who are committing these crimes that they need to be on the lookout for. The chief reported that there have been no homicides since 10/13/13. He said this speaks well of the combined efforts being made to eliminate gun crime in Richmond.

- B. Report of recent ShotSpotter statistics with monthly/annual comparisons

No report.

- C. Report of other recent activities, events, incidents, and related matters

Chief Magnus reported that he, **D/C Brown**, **D/C Medina**, and **Capt. Williams** attended the California Police Chiefs' Association annual conference in Monterey. He said it was a very good meeting as far as networking. There were also good workshops. He said they will soon be using an app for PD that will provide information such as hiring, directory, arrest log, crime mapping, social media, reporting code enforcement issues, reporting anonymous tips, a most wanted list, complaints/compliments, and school information. They will have this in place in approximately two weeks. The chief said they are continuing their Unity in the Community program that focuses on outreach to the Latino community in the area of 23rd Street and Belding Woods.

Commissioner Roberson asked if the Richmond school resource officers were involved in the arrest of the teacher in the West Contra Costa Unified School District today. **Chief Magnus** said they would be peripherally involved to a degree; they are a resource for parents to report crimes.

Commissioner Velazquez congratulated the chief on having no homicides in the past five months. She asked what's being done about prostitution in Richmond. The

Chief said there are two main areas for prostitution - 23rd Street corridor and lower Ohio. He said 23rd Street tends to be younger women who are often being trafficked. They work a lot with Community Violence Solutions and try to focus on the young victims of human trafficking. They are part of larger bay area task force on human trafficking. They are also focusing on shaming, educating and prosecuting the Johns.

Commissioner Bautista asked about the progress of the Family Justice Center. **Chief Magnus** said they are making good progress. The plans are in the permitting process and bid packets are being developed. It is a slow process.

Commissioner Thompson asked how long they've been in the program where they go to the schools and check on kids that are on probation. The chief said they've been doing this for quite a while. They work with Contra Costa County Juvenile Probation. Many of them are on probation for serious crimes. There are certain things they cannot do or cannot have. They check on them to make sure they are in compliance.

Commissioner Bautista asked if they considered firing a taser gun as use of force. The chief said yes. Use of force includes many different force options such as going hand to hand with somebody, doing a take down on somebody, a baton, taser or pepper spray, etc.

D/C Brown said that robberies are a persistent problem across the bay area. He said the challenge is that more and more perpetrators are getting involved and many of them are teenagers or high school age. He said they are doing a lot of work on prevention and getting the word out to people, especially near the BART station and the surrounding area.

D/C Brown said they have two policies that they'd like the commission to review. He said that policy #300, Use of Force, is being rewritten because the language is too restrictive in section 300.4.1 (Shooting at or from Moving Vehicles). Policy #1050, Nepotism and Conflicting Relationships is a new policy for the department.

Commissioner Gillespie said that the last Use of Force policy that they had was 12 pages long. This one is four pages with an addendum. He asked if they were paring it down. **D/C Brown** said this is just the section of the policy that is being revised. **Commissioner Gillespie** asked if they could get a copy of the complete policy. **D/C Brown** said yes.

Commissioner Gillespie said that the border patrol recently went through an audit for its use of force incidents. One of the concerns they had was agents stepping in front of vehicles creating a deadly force situation where none existed before. He asked if that was something they've talked about. **D/C Brown** said it was discussed. He said it was a tactics and judgment call that will be case by case.

Asst. City Attorney Bruce Soublet said this should be discussed with the policy committee. He suggested sending any questions to the chief so that they can be answered at the next meeting.

Chair Hunziker said they had requested Shotspotter statistics. He asked if that information can be e-mailed to the commission.

V POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICIES, PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES REVIEW

- A. Progress report on recent concerns about safety in city parks (Chris Magnus or his representative)

The chief said they followed up with the gentleman who had concerns about safety in the parks. The problems fall into two categories, one being bad behavior on the part of parents and extended family and the other is bad behavior going on in and around parks when kids are there for little league or soccer matches. They don't have the resources to put someone at every game. The coaches will provide PD with a full schedule of their games and a list of where most problems occur; beat officers will make visits during those days. They will also work with the coaches to help them do a better job in building their skill levels to deal with parents and others who may be behaving badly.

VI PUBLIC FORUM

No public speakers.

VII POLICE COMMISSION CONTINUING EDUCATION

- A. Discussion of planned or proposed educational and training opportunities for members of the Police Commission

No discussion on this item.

VIII POLICE COMMISSION OUTREACH

- A. Discussion and action on planned or proposed outreach projects to educate the community about the Police Commission

Commissioner Velazquez said she will be working at an event on 3/8/14, called Sisters in Solidarity, a celebration of women. The police commission will be sharing a table with Community Violence Solutions. She said that everyone is welcome to come.

Commissioner Roberson said that there will be another event on the same day. The RPD Youth Department is having an event at Lovonya de Jean School from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. regarding foster children and foster parents. She will be attending that event.

Chair Hunziker said **Commissioner Stephenson** will be visiting Antioch's Coffee with a Cop and they will discuss that at the next police commission meeting.

IX POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS

- A. Discussion of planned or proposed outreach projects to strengthen partnerships between the community and the Police Department

Commissioner Velazquez asked for any information that may be helpful for the survey that they would like to do. **Chair Hunziker** said that LaShonda White in the City Manager's office would be a good resource. He also recommended contacting the RYSE center.

X REPORTS BY:

- **CHAIRPERSON**
- **COMMISSIONERS**
- **STAFF**

Commissioner Roberson

- Attended 4 Richmond meeting
- Attended city council meetings
- Attended NAACP board meeting and regular meeting
- Attended PAL luncheon
- Working with West Contra Costa County Alcohol Policy Working Group
- Attended Crime Prevention meeting
- Attended RNCC meeting

Commissioner Velazquez

- Attended three planning committee meetings for Sisters in Solidarity

Commissioner Thompson

- Attended city council meeting
- Attended PAL luncheon

XI ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Felix Hunziker, Chair