

**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA  
FIRE & POLICE COMMISSION MINUTES**

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**REGULAR MEETING**

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:**

Present: Commissioners: Lennon, Christensen, Torres-Santos (Rodriguez excused absence)

Staff Present: Deputy Police Chief Frank Mannix, Fire Chief Andrew DiMizio, Councilmember Bendy White, City Attorney Steve Wiley, Acting Secretary Carol Lupo

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**MOTION:** Christensen to approve minutes of **August 25, 2011**. Torres-Santo second  
**VOTE:** Unanimous voice vote: Motion passed.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Any member of the public may address the Fire & Police Commission for up to one minute on any subject within the jurisdiction of the Commission that is not scheduled for a public hearing before the Commission. The total time for this item is 10 minutes. If you wish to address the Commission under this item, please complete and deliver to the Commission Secretary before the meeting is convened, a "Request to Speak" form, including a description of the subject you wish to address.

None

**4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

**5. OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**6. NEW BUSINESS:**

It was noted that Commissioner Dan Signor submitted his resignation to the Commission due to medical reasons.

**7. Dance Permit – La Rumba Bar & Grill – 3435 State St.**

Present: Owner, Jose Martinez and Jose Martinez Jr.

**MOTION:** Christensen to approve Dance Permit with conditions for La Rumba Bar & Grill; Torres Santos second

**VOTE:** Unanimous voice vote: Motion passed.

**8. Eric Bjorkland – Appeal of Escort & Escort Bureau Permit Denial**

Present: None

**\*MOTION:** Christensen to uphold the department's decision to deny the Escort and Escort Bureau Appeal; Torres-Santos second

**VOTE:** Unanimous voice vote: Motion passed

\*Since this motion/vote by the Commission, it was discovered that Mr. Bjorkland did not receive notice of this meeting, there was some confusion with his mailing address. Also, mailings are typically done one week prior to the scheduled meeting. Mr. Bjorkland pointed out that the Municipal Code states: "The applicant or permittee shall be given notice of a hearing at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing. Such notice shall be served when it is personally delivered to the applicant or permittee or it is deposited in the United States mail with postage prepaid and addressed to the applicant or permittee."

Mr. Bjorkland requested that his appeal be heard at the October 27<sup>th</sup> Fire & Police Commission meeting and Sergeant Arroyo approved this request. This item will be placed on the October 27<sup>th</sup> Agenda.

## **9. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

- Chief DiMizio expressed his personal thanks to Commissioner Signor for his years of service with the Fire and Police Commission and said it was an honor to shake his hand this morning when Dan turned in his resignation.
- Chief DiMizio gave a handout to the Commissioners with calls for service data; Department responded to 602 calls for service.
- Currently down 2 firefighters; necessary to hire overtimes; at least 2 more firefighters will retire by the end of the year; the Department is trying to go another entire year before having another academy; the Department is able to utilize firefighters in overtime mode to fill the voids; not seeing fatigue set in, it is very expensive to put on a recruit academy and the Department is hoping to have an academy every 2 years; less expensive to pay overtime then to pay a full time firefighter.
- 9/11 10 year anniversary ceremony held; well received by the public.
- Barnstorming campaign for restoring the air tanker base in Santa Maria; this doesn't necessarily mean there will be an air tanker position at that base but if there is a fire, then air tankers from that area can make a drop and reload, this is critical; Santa Barbara County has pumped more retardant than any other air tanker base in the nation; the Forest Service made the decision to "call when needed" without a discussion with the Fire Chiefs; 2 weeks ago Council supported a letter from the Mayor to our Federal Representatives and to the head of the Forest Service asking to have the base put back in place; Forest Supervisor has been told what the Chiefs want and she is now saying they think this can be done; meeting with the Forest Supervisor next week and Chief is optimistic.
- New Training Captain is a "hands on guy" who will be working Tuesday through Saturday allowing training 7 days a week and actively training on Saturdays.
- Chief is pushing to enhance the Department's ability to respond to water rescue emergencies; rigorous swimming requirements needed; Department has equipment thanks to the Firefighters Alliance; next step is to integrate with lifeguards and Harbor Patrol; Montecito and Carpinteria Fire Departments have water rescue capability; Santa Barbara County Fire also has water rescue capability working out of Station 11.
- Department is still working with some long-term injuries; Engineer and 2 Fire Captains; Captain Mike Moses is battling cancer and comes to work every day that he can; there will be a BBQ fundraiser for Mike Moses on Saturday at East Beach.

Commissioner Jen Christensen encouraged Chief DiMizio to continue with his efforts in restoring the air tanker base.

Commissioner Christensen asked about the Department's medical capabilities and EMT's and paramedics on staff. Chief DiMizio said there is a long range plan. What the Chief would like to

do right now is to make sure that the Department's medical capabilities are as good as they can be. All firefighters are EMTs and can provide basic life support and work closely with AMR.

Commissioner Lennon asked if the County Board of Supervisors wrote a letter in favor of the air tanker base and the Chief said that they did.

## **10. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT**

From Deputy Police Chief Mannix:

- DC Mannix passed out a copy of the adopted \$34.5 million dollar budget
  - 87% of this figure is salaries and benefits, leaving small discretionary expenditures in supplies and services and a 1% equipment budget
  - Slide 3 showing how the appropriations compare to the prior year's showing salaries and benefits increased by 6.4%; City Council added 4 police officers to our staff
  - \$129,000 allocated for IT equipment; Department is well served by IT
  - Most of budget is a General Fund subsidy but the Department generates about \$5.3 million in revenue, half of which is parking revenue; money also from vehicle release fees and fees for permitting, animal license fees. 4% of revenue from Prop 172; Office of Traffic Safety gives money to the PD in order to conduct traffic enforcement
  - The Department gets a street sweeping reimbursement, majority of this money goes to Public Works
  - Actively recruiting for a PEO replacement at this time
  - 5% reduction in revenues for this year, hoping to exceed revenue targets for next year
  - Next slide showing staffing recap; FY10 staffed with 140 sworn personnel and FY11 forced to downsize by 3 positions; FY12 shows 141 authorized sworn positions; 14 officers currently on the injured list or in the military; 7 officers currently in field training and 6 in the Academy
  - Ideal patrol officer strength would be 61
  - 2 vacancies in the Beat Coordinator unit
  - 2 vacancies in motor officers
  - 2 vacancies in TPF
  - 1 vacancy in Nightlife Enforcement
  - 1 Sergeant to be promoted
  - No DARE officer at this time
  - City Council gave the Department 2 non-sworn positions, which will allow sworn officers who currently perform these duties to return to street duty, this will happen in December
  - Dispatch staffing is up; the training component has been revamped; retired dispatch supervisor Alice Karleskint has been rehired to train dispatchers

## **12. ADJORN: 5:04**