

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

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Thursday **March 28, 2012 @ 4:00**  
Santa Barbara Police Department  
Murphy Room  
215 E. Figueroa St.

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**REGULAR MEETING**

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

Present: Commissioners: Lennon, Christensen, Torell, Rodriguez and Torres-Santos.

Staff Present: Police Chief Cam Sanchez, Fire Chief Andy DiMizio, Councilmember Bendy White, Police Technician Holly Perea and Secretary

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**MOTION:** Torres-Santos to approve minutes of **February 23, 2012**. Torell seconded.

**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**

Commissioners Christensen and Torell reported that they reviewed the Tow Rules & Regulations for the Sheriff's Department and Police Department. Have been doing a paragraph by paragraph comparison. Most of the differences are not substantial but the Sheriff's Department has some additional rules. Torell stated that they did not have a complete copy of the rules and regulations. Holly Perea stated that there should be two separate documents in the one document and that a complete document would be emailed to them. Christensen spoke to the Sheriff's Dept. and is hoping to get the CHP Rules & Regulations. This will be revisited in two or three months.

**5. OLD BUSINESS:**

Christensen asked about the status of opening up the tow rotation list for an additional operator. Perea stated that there are two applicants: 805 Roadside Towing and Nieves Towing. Walk-throughs will be completed in early April and a recommendation will be made by the April meeting.

**6. NEW BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Lennon stated that he saw a security guard in a uniform similar to the police department. Perea asked if Lennon knew that name of the company and he did not but would try to inquire. The Chief also mentioned that he has seen a security guard on State St. in a uniform similar to the Police Department's.

**7. SB Cantina Dance Permit – 416 State St. – Santa Barbara, CA 93101**

Present: Matt Olufs and Michael Borello

Proprietary license for security is in process

**MOTION:** Rodriguez to approve the Dance Permit with stated conditions for SB Cantina;  
Torell seconded

**VOTE:** Unanimous voice vote: Motion Passed

**8. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

From Fire Chief DiMizio:

- Administration staff has moved into the new office building at 925 Chapala St. Commissioners are invited to the public Grand Opening event on February 29, 2012.
- The department has been awarded an "Assistance to Firefighters" Grant in the amount of \$191,000 to install diesel exhaust systems in the outlying stations (Station 1 already has a system installed.)
- A handout of the department's budget Executive Summary was provided to the Commissioners. The budget remains status quo from last year. He noted there were less injuries and sick time use last year providing savings that can be used elsewhere this year.
- Staff is currently very busy with succession training. There are currently 2 Captain and 1 Engineer positions vacant. Testing for promotions into these positions will take place in May. This quarter is dedicated to developing training qualify to test. A recruit academy for 6 Firefighters is being proposed for next winter. The process will need to begin in May or June.
- Have been notified that all firefighters need to be Live Scanned as part of the qualification of being an EMT certifying agency.

Commissioner Christensen asked about the monthly statistics, and whether the error anomalies of response times had been corrected. Chief DiMizio was not able to produce them prior to the meeting, and will email them to the commissioners. He stated that he continues to have difficulty producing reports from department database. Commissioner Christensen also asked about the status of the department's Strategic Plan. Secretary Lupu stated that the plan is completed, and will be printed and distributed soon.

Commission Torell asked if we budget overtime as a separate line item, and if it has remained constant over the years.. Chief DiMizio stated we do, and briefly explained the function of constant staffing. Since eliminating Relief positions, there has been an increase in overtime costs, however the department has seen a reduction in total costs since overtime costs less than paying salaries and benefits of extra employees.

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

From Deputy Police Chief Mannix:

- Response times are within target for January. Violent Crimes are down 20% from last year. Property Crimes are up 4% last year, but noted that laws still down 19% from the year before.
- Gang violence is down for the last several months. Although the Gang Injunction has not yet been granted, it seems that it still is having an impact on gang related activity.
- There are currently 2 officer vacancies. Currently there are 2 officers in an academy, and 6 officers in field training. A new academy will start on April 30. Team strength is at a relative high of 49 officers.
- In response to the Downtown Organization's complaint of skateboarders on the sidewalk, enforcement has been increased, resulting in more citations and less occurrences. As a side note, the department will be introducing an officer on a Segway to patrol State St.
- Last month the department kicked off a new outreach program called Nixle. Nixle.com is a website that works with law enforcement agencies to distribute alerts about important crime or other relevant information to citizens who have signed up to receive the messages via email or SMS based on their zip code geographic location.

Commissioner Christensen asked about the status of the dispatch moving project. Chief Mannix stated that they still may be able to use RDA funding since it was in the process before the agency was shut down, and they are optimistic they can move forward.

## **11. ADJORN: 5:09 PM**