

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

Thursday, **August 25, 2016** @ 4:00  
David Gebhard Room, Community Development

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**REGULAR MEETING**

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

Present: Commissioners: Christensen, Daniel, Laponis, Torell, and Zeitsoff

Staff Present: Fire Chief Pat McElroy, Police Chief Lori Luhnnow, Deputy City Attorney John Doimas, Councilmember Greg Hart, and Secretary Carol Lupo

**2. Changes to the Agenda**

None

**3. Approval of Minutes of July 28, 2016**

**MOTION:** Daniel to approve minutes of July 28, 2016. Zeitsoff seconded. Christensen and Laponis abstained.

**VOTE:** Unanimous voice vote.

**4. Public Comment (Total Time 10 minutes)**

None.

**5. Subcommittee Reports**

As a police department liaison, Zeitsoff inquired about the Fallen Officer Memorial fundraising status. Zeitsoff also mentioned the Pro Youth meeting scheduled for Sept. 7, 6 PM. Both Zeitsoff and Luhnnow are scheduled to attend. Zeitsoff reported she attended a NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) presentation in which Deputy Sheriff Melekian spoke on Law Enforcement and mental illness.

**6. Old Business: Commissioners may ask questions for clarification, refer to staff for factual information or make brief reports or announcements.**

Zeitsoff explained her reasons why she voted to deny the dance permit for the Red Piano at the previous meeting. It was due to what she feels is inadequate security at the location.

**7. New Business:**

Daniel recommended the book on the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) titled "Megafire" by Michael Kodas.

**8. Fire Chief's Report**

McElroy explained the Wildland Urban Interface, as national forest or state lands that adjoin the edge of a municipality. There has been an increase in these communities and contribute to the high cost of wildland fires. He recommended another article by Tom Vilsack, Secretary of the USDA, which was in the San Diego Union Tribune:

<http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/2016/jul/06/wildfires-forest-service-budget/>

McElroy gave a presentation on the Rey Fire. Daniel asked that the fire history map be shared with the Commission.

- There were 644 incidents in the last months
- Santa Barbara County fire agencies are at drawdown due to fire assignments, which means that agencies are operating with the minimal staffing needed to protect their jurisdiction.
- The 9-1-1 Assembly Bill 1564 has passed through senate and is now on the governor's desk. UPDATE: AB 1564 was signed into law by Governor Brown on Aug. 29, 2016.

## **9. Police Chief's Report**

The Police Foundation purchased 50 brush jackets for use during fire evacuation assistance operations.

August was a busy month with Fiesta. Compared to last year, saw a 220% increase in felony arrests mostly due to probation violations. 14% increase in misdemeanors. 63% increase in radio calls. 2,205 department work hours in August. No significant events.

Staffing:

- 4 officers are in field training
- 8 cadets are slated to graduate Oct. 7
- Next academy begins Oct. 24.
- Lateral hires: One officer has started work from Kern County, one officer from LAPD begins Sept. 13, and an Oxnard officer has a conditional job offer. Always accepting applications, and there is a monetary hiring incentive for the employee.
- Sept. 9 conducting open entry test. 660+ applications received, and expect 2200 to test. Then they will proceed to interviews and backgrounds.
- 7 candidates for dispatcher, with 8 vacancies.

Zeitsoff inquired about diversity in hiring. Luhnow explained that the recent hires was a very diverse group.

Daniel inquired whether gang related incidents were on the rise with the start of the school year. Luhnow answered that more prevention and intervention work will occur. A full time School Resource Officer position will be filled soon.

Comp stat report – Luhnow announced a goal to get new software by the end of the year to make the report much more useful.

Implicit Bias Training will be taking place on Aug. 31.

Fallen officers memorial \$30,000 is needed for infrastructure. A portion of Sept. 25 fundraiser charity event "Fun with the Force" proceeds will be put towards the memorial.

## **10. Adjourn 5:20 PM**