

NOVEMBER 28, 2007

REGULAR MEETING

The Police Commission of the City and County of San Francisco met in the Park District, at Grattan Elementary School, 165 Grattan Street, San Francisco, at 6:25 p.m., in a Regular Meeting.

PRESENT: Commissioners Sparks, Marshall, Campos, DeJesus, Lee, Mazzucco, Veronese

(Commissioner Veronese arrived at 7:13 p.m. Commissioner Lee was excused at 7:29 p.m. Commissioner Campos was excused at 8:45 p.m.)

Commissioner Sparks welcomed the audience and asked the Commissioners to introduce themselves. Commissioner Sparks also introduced new OCC Director Joyce Hicks.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Daniel Landry, African American Police Relations Board, discussed concerns regarding boundary between Northern and Park Stations and asked for serious dialogue between the community and the police.

Marva Brooks, retired city employee & Western Addition resident, stated that Northern and Park Stations do work together and that the community is so much better since the new captain took over. She stated that everything starts in the home and make the children respect the police as a person and then as a police officer. She stated that the Western Addition has changed and commended women who lives at King Garvey.

Allen White discussed concerns regarding patrol specials who look and act like a police officer and concerns of patrol specials impersonating police officers and asked that this issue be addressed.

Carmen Johnson commended Captain Ehrlich, Sgt. Shiff, and officers who work around King Garvey and the Western Addition and working with the community and continuing to work with the community.

Unidentified commended Captain Ehrlich for taking a stand on liquor at the Haight Street Fair.

Jonathan Rogers discussed concerns regarding being ejected from his room by a patrol special and discussed concerns regarding actions by patrol specials. Commissioner Campos asked if a complaint has been filed. Mr. Rogers stated yes. Commissioner Mazzucco asked if the patrol special identified himself as a police officer. Mr. Rogers stated that he was told that this person was a police officer and was wearing a star.

Linda Yokum, MLK/Garvey Housing and Board President, thanked Captain Ehrlich and Sgt. Shiff for working with the community and giving the community a hand and commended all the services received at MLK/Garvey Housing Community.

David Cally, Cole Valley, commended Captain Ehrlich and his staff for their work in the neighborhood and commended Officer John Edwards for the way he deals with kids in the community.

Selma Johnson discussed concerns.

Unidentified discussed concerns regarding no help for people who are poor and discussed concerns regarding her possessions.

Supervisor Mirkarimi addressed the Commission and commended the great work by Park and Northern Stations and stated that the community has seen a respite of violent crimes due to the collaboration of the community and the Police Department.

Commissioner Veronese arrived at 7:13 p.m. and introduced himself.

CHIEF'S REPORT

a. Review of Recent Activities

Chief Fong introduced the command staff. Present were Deputy Chief Shinn, Deputy Chief Keohane, Deputy Chief Craig, Commander Harper, Commander Tacchini, and Commander Lynch.

Chief Fong informed the Commission that the Department has hired a Chief Information Officer. Chief Fong also briefed the Commission regarding the current budget situation that the City is facing. Chief Fong stated that she will provide additional updates regarding the budget in next week's meeting.

Commissioner Campos asked about homicides. Chief Fong stated that there is an increase in homicides and a little bit of an increase in arsons.

Commissioner Sparks asked if the eight percent decrease in the budget going to affect the number of officers that are on the streets or the number of officers that can go through the academy to be able to sustain the reduction in violent crimes. Chief Fong stated that that's a key area that the Department has to fight for and that the Department needs to be very clear on the goals it needs to accomplish.

Commissioner Campos stated that he will be introducing a resolution for the Controller's Office to do a study in civilianizing the Department.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Daniel Landry discussed concerns regarding finding information about the OCC and discussed concerns about rise in violence.

Margaret Brooks talked about programs for the youth like a cadet program or internship program.

Commissioner Sparks asked about discussions with the school district in regards to cadet programs or ROTC. Chief Fong stated that she will follow up with discussions and stated that the Department has the Police Activities League Cadet Program for kids in high school and stated that in the last application process, there were 33 applicants.

Commissioner Sparks would like a letter sent to the school board on behalf of the Commission asking to set up a meeting in regards to the cadet program.

Commissioner Veronese stated that he had a conversation with Mr. Sanchez at the School Board when this issue first came up and stated that there was little interest at that time but it would be nice to have the Commission as a whole to send a letter to the School Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Unidentified discussed concerns regarding obstruction of justice.

Supervisor Mirkarimi talked about bringing the school district, city college, and the Board of Supervisors to get a budgetary commitment to support a JROTC program.

Unidentified asked about the citizen's academy.

OCC DIRECTOR'S REPORT

a. Report on the function of the Office of Citizen Complaints

Ms. Joyce Hicks, OCC Director, introduced herself and talked about the function and responsibilities of the OCC.

Commissioner Veronese welcomed Ms. Hicks.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Daniel Landry welcomed Ms. Hicks on behalf of the community and talked about a satellite OCC office in the most impacted communities.

Unidentified discussed concerns regarding her possessions and suggested accessibility for the OCC.

Unidentified discussed concerns regarding police availability and lack of response from the police.

Selma Johnson discussed concerns.

CAPTAIN JOHN EHRLICH, COMMANDING OFFICER OF PARK STATION, TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION ON POLICE ACTIVITIES IN THE PARK DISTRICT

Captain Ehrlich addressed the Commission on police activities in the Park District and talked about the demographics of the district.

Commissioner Marshall asked Captain Ehrlich how he was able to get the community on his side. Captain Ehrlich stated that it starts with listening to what people have to say and asking people what they want and how they want it because different communities want different styles of community policing. Captain Ehrlich stated that having officers out there and having the same officers in the same beats make a difference.

Commissioner Campos thanked the Captain and his officers for their attendance in the meeting. Commissioner Campos asked about the homeless citations and asked if it is an effective use of resources. Captain Ehrlich stated that it is vital for the life of the city that people feel safe walking down the street. He stated that long time residents of Haight Street were feeling unsafe and intimidated. Captain Ehrlich stated that it is important to make sure that the rules of civilization are there because once people stop feeling safe, they go somewhere else to shop and the small businesses suffer.

Commissioner Campos asked what triggers the citation. Captain Ehrlich stated that what triggers the citation is a violation of the law. Captain Ehrlich stated that the homeless are not targeted except for violations of the law. Commissioner Campos asked for a discussion on what the Department is doing in response to the homeless.

Commissioner Mazzucco thanked Captain Ehrlich and his staff for their work in the Park District.

Commissioner Veronese stated that Department should reach out to the community and commended Captain Ehrlich for his work in the district.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COMMISSION REPORTS

- a. **Commission President's Report**
- b. **Commissioners' Report**

Commissioner Marshall talked about his trip to South Africa and stated he attended a meeting with the oversight body of the Cape Town Police Department. Commissioner Marshall also presented Commissioner Sparks with an agenda from the Civilian Oversight Commission of Cape Town.

COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

SCHEDULING OF ITEMS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSIDERATION AT FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS

Commissioner Campos would like a discussion on the homeless issue.

Commissioner Veronese would like a resolution in regards to Megan's Law.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner DeJesus, second by Commissioner Veronese.
Approved 6-0.

Thereafter, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Sergeant Joseph Reilly
Secretary
San Francisco Police Commission

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