

JANUARY 31, 2007

REGULAR MEETING

The Police Commission of the City and County of San Francisco met in the Central District, at Gordon J. Lau School, 950 Clay Street, San Francisco, at 6:15 p.m., in a Regular Meeting.

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

Commissioner Renne welcomed the audience, thanked Commissioner Lee for putting the meeting together, and asked the Commissioners to introduced themselves.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Supervisor Aaron Peskin welcomed the Commission to the Central District and thanked the people from the community for coming and thanked Captain Dudley and the officers of Central for the work that they do.

Ms. Annie Chung, Self Help for the Elderly, thanked the Commission and the Chief in holding the meeting in the heart of Chinatown. Ms. Chung stated that she brought 20 seniors to honor and say thank you to Chief Fong.

Mr. Jack Lee Fong, Community Business Owner, thanked the Commission for having the meeting in Chinatown. Mr. Fong discussed concerns regarding the garbage and thanked Chief Fong for her leadership.

Ms. Angela Chan, Asian Law Caucus, talked about juvenile justice issues and youth mental health and discussed concerns regarding youth of color in juvenile hall. Ms. Chan discussed concerns that youth of color are being locked up instead of going to school and there should be more funding for anti-violence prevention.

Commissioner Renne announced that the Commission will call the Chief's Report since there are members of the public that needs to leave early and then go back to general public comment.

CHIEF'S REPORT

a. Review of Recent Activities

Chief Fong thanked the community members for their attendance. Chief Fong introduced members of the command staff. Present were Commander Steve Tacchini, Commander Sam Craig, Deputy Chief Charles Keohane, and Deputy Chief David Shinn.

CAPTAIN JAMES DUDLEY, COMMANDING OFFICER OF CENTRAL STATION, TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION ON POLICE ACTIVITIES IN THE CENTRAL DISTRICT

Captain Dudley addressed the Commission on police activities in the Central District. Captain Dudley introduced Lieutenants James Calonico, Bob Moser, and Alvin Yee. Captain Dudley talked about the geographical makeup of Central District and talked about the different crime incidents that have occurred in the Central District. Captain Dudley thanked the men and women of Central Station for their hard work.

PUBLIC COMMENT: continued

Reverend Norman Fong commended Chief Fong. Reverend Fong discussed concerns regarding the safety of seniors in San Francisco. Reverend Fong also discussed concerns regarding graffiti and abuse in SRO hotels in Chinatown. He also asked for more bilingual officers. Reverend Fong also thanked the officers of Central Station.

Ms. Angela Chew thanked the Chief and the officers of Central Station for working with the community. Ms. Chew also asked for more beat officers and asked for more activities and programs for youths.

Unidentified asked for emergency numbers for police interpreters so that she can communicate. Captain Dudley stated the 911 operator will refer her to a translator if she has trouble communicating and she can also go to the station where they can provide a translator.

Ms. Wendy Tran, Chinatown North Beach resident, discussed concerns regarding graffiti and asked for a more aggressive policy in arresting taggers. Ms. Tran also discussed concerns regarding gang-related youths in Chinatown and asked for more foot patrol.

Ms. Sara Win, Community Youth Center, discussed youth violence in schools and discussed some of the programs provided by the Community Youth Center. Ms. Win commended Chief Fong and the officers of Central Station.

Ms. Lee Yu Yee discussed concerns regarding crimes against seniors and asked for more foot patrol.

Ms. Nancy Lin Yee, Program Director Chinatown Child Development Center, commended the Police Department for their work with the Center and for their work with the community. Ms. Yee asked for more foot patrol and discussed concerns regarding graffiti.

Ms. Mabel Seto, Visitation Valley Community Center, commended Chief Fong for her work with the Center, discussed concerns regarding crimes against youth and would like to meet with high level command staff.

Ms. Luna Visroy, Chinese for Affirmative Action, thanked the Commission and the Department for providing language assistance for the meeting. She also talked about the language access general order that she is working with the Department. She also discussed concerns regarding safety cameras in Portsmouth Square.

Ms. MaryJane Galbiso, Bernal Heights resident, discussed concerns regarding attacks by two pitbulls and discussed concerns regarding Sgt. Herndon who is the hearing officer.

Mr. Tony Gantner, North Beach Merchants Association, commended Captain Dudley and the officers of Central for their good community policing.

Mr. Howard Woo, CAPS, commended the officers of Central Station for their help.

Ms. Karen Eckland, MGM Management Group, thanked Captain Dudley and his lieutenants for their support, and thanked Chief Fong for believing in their program.

Mr. Richard Al stated he is a senior and he feels safe in the city of San Francisco and discussed concerns regarding pickpockets. He also expressed support for safety cameras at Portsmouth Square.

Mr. Steven Dreyfus, full time musician, asked for leniency for street musicians in the city.

Ms. Wilma Pang discussed concerns regarding shoplifting.

Ms. Patty Lam discussed concerns regarding graffiti, prostitution, and drug dealing in the district. Ms. Lam asked for help from the police.

Commissioner Renne stopped public comment so that the Commission can hear from the OCC's Director.

OCC DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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

Ms. Jean Field, Interim OCC Director, described the function and responsibilities of the OCC.

Mr. William Huey, OCC Investigator, described the different languages spoken by the investigators of the OCC.

PUBLIC COMMENT: continued

Unidentified discussed concerns regarding incident that happened with a bottle thrown through the window.

Mr. Po Ho, SF resident, discussed concerns regarding an incident involving racial slurs and commended the Chief and the officers of the Department.

Mr. Denzel Adams, SF resident and street musician, discussed concerns regarding being cited for performing by one officer.

Mr. Timothy Lockridge, musician, stated that playing in San Francisco is very special and it is something that should be supported.

Ms. Cindy Branden, SAFE Director, discussed programs provided by SAFE in the Chinatown area. She also commended Captain Dudley and members of Central Station.

Mr. Paul Hilt, North Beach Chamber, commended Captain Dudley and the officers of Central Station and commended the men and women of SFPD.

Commissioner Sparks thanked Captain Dudley for his presentation. Commissioner Sparks asked about statistics on part 1 crimes and felony arrests. Captain Dudley stated that he can give the Commission a more detailed statistical report. Captain Dudley stated that there is a lot of thefts, burglaries, fraud, and identity theft in Chinatown. Commissioner Sparks asked about Central works with Northern along border areas like Pine and California and Sacramento Streets. Captain Dudley stated that Central has been working with Northern Station, several neighborhood groups, the Vice Crimes Unit, the District Attorney's Office that deal with prostitution-related crimes. Commissioner Sparks asked about the Broadway corridor. Captain Dudley stated that it's the only area in San Francisco that is staffed with one sergeant and 10 officers every Friday and Saturday night. Captain Dudley stated that there is an over saturation of entertainment and liquor license. There's clubs that want to make a lot of money quickly so they bring in kids 18 and up, people operating out of their license by bringing in under 21s into the bars. The Department is addressing all these things and is asking other agencies to step up and help.

Commissioner Lee thanked Captain Dudley and the officers of Central Station for the ride-along. Commissioner Lee also asked the Chief for a press report or press release to let the community know that the SFPD does not conduct on raids regarding illegal immigrants.

Commissioner Campos stated that street musicians should not be cited and should be encouraged and promote the arts. Captain Dudley stated that it is the law and they should be regulated. Captain Dudley stated that there is a plan underway by the Port where they've asked the Department to do additional enforcement for encroachment on port property, on sidewalks outside of stores and storefronts.

Commissioner Marshall asked about crimes in Chinatown and asked if these are crimes committed by people coming in from different areas. Captain Dudley stated that a lot of the crimes like assaults and robberies in the Broadway area are coming from different areas in the Bay Area and/or different areas of the city.

Commissioner Renne thanked Captain Dudley and his staff for hosting the meeting.

COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

SCHEDULING OF ITEMS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSIDERATION AT FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS

Commissioner Renne asked for scheduling a noon meeting on February 7th to talk about an interim director for the OCC and interviews for policy analysts.

Commissioner Renne scheduled February 28th for a joint meeting with the Housing Authority.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Marshall, second by Commissioner Lee to adjourn the meeting.

Thereafter the meeting was adjourned.

Sergeant Joseph Reilly
Secretary
San Francisco Police Commission

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