

APRIL 27, 2005

REGULAR MEETING

The Police Commission of the City and County of San Francisco met in the Central District, Pier 1 on the Embarcadero, San Francisco, at 6:17 p.m., in a Regular Meeting.

PRESENT: Commissioners Renne, Orr-Smith, Chan, Keane, Marshall, Sparks, Veronese

The Commissioners briefly introduced themselves to the audience.

OCC DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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

Taken out of order.

Director Allen introduced himself and described the function and responsibilities of the Office of Citizen Complaints.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

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

Captain Tacchini welcomed the audience and described activities going on in the Central District.

Captain Tacchini stated that in 2005 the Central has had two homicides. He stated that this is significant because in the past prior two years, the Central District had no homicides.

Captain Tacchini stated that in order to address the crime situation, they are using target deployment of uniformed officers in vehicles, on foot, and incorporating plainclothes officer assignments to combat crime in the district. He also stated that they are utilizing crime mapping technology to work with neighborhoods and business groups to provide more crime prevention information and they are drawing upon Department resources such as the Investigations Bureau and Special Operations group to augment their efforts.

Commissioner Chan thanked Captain Tacchini for his presentation and asked to what extent are members of Central Station are called upon to coordinate events that are citywide and sometimes international. Captain Tacchini stated that there are a number of events with dignitaries, major civic and social events. He stated that he has a staff that puts together plans for events to coordinate with other agencies.

Commissioner Keane asked Captain Tacchini to describe the Broadway Street area and the Grand Avenue area. Captain Tacchini stated that the Broadway area is now a venue that draws young people for music and dancing. As far as upper Grand Avenue, Captain Tacchini stated that it's quieter now and that the biggest complaint from that area is the people who want to ride their Harley Davidson motorcycles and with the large exhaust, it can set off car

alarms and disturb neighbors.

Commissioner Orr-Smith commended Captain Tacchini on the colorful booklet that was handed to the Commissioners. She asked about feedback on the officers' performance. Captain Tacchini explained that the surveys only goes out via email and he hopes to track it and get some numbers.

Commissioner Sparks thanked Captain Tacchini for his presentation. She asked about officers assigned to homeless outreach. Captain Tacchini explained that the officers assigned to the homeless outreach work under the co-direction of himself and Lt. Dave Lazar and they deal with chronic homeless people that are high intensity users of the city services. He stated that there are two officers everyday working to get people into housing, into treatment, to basically provide any needs they may have. He stated that before he came to the meeting tonight, the officers had 12 people that the officers were able to provide services for and put into placement.

Commissioner Veronese thanked Captain Tacchini for his presentation and asked him about liquor licenses. Captain Tacchini explained that he and Officer Fred Crisp, Permit Officer, – first thing they do before they make a decision is they go out to the community that was going to be affected by it and they ask the community members what impact it may have on them. Captain Tacchini explained that they try to work with the community, with the business promoter to develop either conditions or circumstances under how they'll operate to make sure that if there is a license going in, that it will be a smooth transition to the neighborhood and not negatively impact residence or other businesses.

CHIEF'S REPORT

a. Review of Recent Activities

Chief Fong apologized for being late and explained that she was at City Hall attending a meeting with other city department in regards to response to violence in the Western Addition. Chief Fong introduced the members of the Command Staff. Present were Deputy Chief Suhr, Commander Michael Puccinelli, Commander Sam Craig, Deputy Chief Morris Tabak, Commander Sylvia Harper, Deputy Chief Antonio Parra, and Commander Dave Shinn.

Chief Fong introduced Ms. Connie Chan, Neighborhood Safety Partnership. Ms. Chan presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Captain Tacchini. She also presented a Certificate to Sergeant Catanzaro.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lee Goodin, resident, discussed concerns regarding crime in the area of Northbeach Place and asked for more officers on the street. He also thanked Captain Tacchini for his community outreach.

Unidentified asked for more officers on the street and asked for better street lighting.

Edwardo Bonzi discussed concerns regarding noise in the area.

Stephen Sayad, attorney, discussed concerns regarding comments made at the last Commission meeting.

SCHEDULING OF ITEMS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSIDERATION AT FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS

Commissioner Orr-Smith asked about a presentation on the Early Warning System.

Commissioner Sparks asked for an overview on what the recruiting plan is and asked that DGO 11.07 be calendared.

Commissioner Veronese asked for a report regarding the Boyd investigation.

Commissioner Chan asked for a report in regards to the Department's position regarding medical marijuana.

Commissioner Keane asked if the Department has a policy regarding prescribed medical marijuana.

Thereafter the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Sergeant Joseph Reilly
Secretary
San Francisco Police Commission

1497/ret