



**MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2018  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION  
OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

A Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Commission was called to order by Chair Daigle on Monday, October 15, 2018, at 8:30 a.m., in the Fire Department EOC Room, located at 817 Mound Avenue, South Pasadena, California.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Commissioners: Vernon René Daley, Jeremy Ding, Robert Ettinger, Grace Liu Kung; Chair Ellen Daigle, Vice-Chair Greg Hall

**Absent:** Commissioner: Luis Reinoso

**Officials**

**Present:** Councilmember/City Council Liaison Diana Mahmud, Interim Police Chief/Staff Liaison Brian Solinsky, Fire Chief/Staff Liaison Paul Riddle, and Management Aide/Recording Secretary Kim Kha. Other staff members presented reports or responded to questions as indicated in the minutes.

**2. APPROVE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2018 MEETING**

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DALEY, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER ETTINGER, CARRIED 6-0, to approve the Minutes of the September 10, 2018 Public Safety Commission Regular Meeting.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

#### **4. COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS**

Councilmember Mahmud informed that the City Council approved an implementation plan for Measure N, noting that if the “yes” vote for the repeal of the City’s Utility Users Tax (UUT) did pass the implementation plan will cut many programs, services, and City staff positions including police and fire, noted that although proponents in favor of Measure N made recommendations at the recent City Council meeting, their recommendations were not checked for feasibility, one recommendation was for enrollment into a 401k plan instead of CalPERS, clarified that the recommendation would require the City to prepay future liability for all current CalPERS employees for retirement, noted that many cities could not opt out of CalPERS due to the hefty payments/termination fees; informed that the City has received several requests for public records regarding the death of Vanessa Marquez, stated that the Los Angeles County Sheriff Department and the Los Angeles County District Attorney are reviewing all records and conducting separate, independent investigations, urged everyone to not make judgment until the investigations are completed and the facts are presented; requested staff coordination to clarify and update any misinformation posted on social media in regards to City services.

#### **5. STAFF LIAISON COMMENTS**

Interim Police Chief Solinsky provided update on staffing, informed of Police Captain Neff’s retirement on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and Police Motorcycle Officer Earley’s retirement at the end of this week, bringing a total of four vacancies in the police officer position; discussed the current police Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Records Management Systems (RMS), a software which coordinates dispatch calls, communications, and provide records management, explained that the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) will be transitioning from summary crime reporting to national incident-based crime reporting (NIBRS), noting that the current system needs to be updated or replaced to be in compliant with the FBI reporting by 2020; discussed the Purple Communication, which provides Video Remote Interpreting (VRI) with the deaf and the hearing impaired, noting communication can be easily established over the computer, saving the department time and resource; provided update on the Foothill Air Support Program (FAST), a partnership with cities in the San Gabriel Valley to provide helicopter air support.

Fire Chief Riddle reported on a recent attic fire at a four unit condominium complex, noted that the potentially dangerous house fire was immediately extinguished with the help of engines, trucks, ambulances, battalion chiefs, and many firefighters on scene, made possible under a Unified Response System, a robust automatic and mutual aid agreement between Verdugo and neighboring cities; provided update on the Emergency Operation Center (EOC), noting that the construction will begin today with technology and communications being upgraded such as new phone lines and cables; noted that the City staff has been going through monthly emergency and disaster trainings, including the upcoming “The Great California Shake Out” on October 18<sup>th</sup>; will be presenting to the upcoming City Council meeting the Joint Powers Agreement for the Los Angeles Area Regional Training Group (LAARTG) membership, a group made of 30 fire departments in the Los Angeles County, providing the

highest quality of up-to-date training to firefighters; provided update on the final CERT classes with graduation this Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, noting Vice-Chair Hall's attendance.

## **6. RECAP OF PUBLIC SAFETY FAIR/NAMES COLLECTED FOR NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH**

Chair Daigle provided update, reported on the success of the fair and the support from Commissioners including volunteers and past Commissioners, noted that the promotional items such as the magnets, flyers, and whistle/flashlight keychain were popular, reported that twenty people signed up at the National Night Out/Neighborhood Watch booth and forty at the Public Safety Fair, informed that Police Detective Lee had sent out interest letters with the Neighborhood Watch booklets, and proposing the annual block captain meeting in March.

Commissioner Kung noted that many had signed up but were not sure if there was a Neighborhood Watch group in their area, suggested cross checking list before making calls.

Interim Police Chief Solinsky confirmed that Police Detective Lee is coordinating with Cadets in reaching out to people, will follow up.

## **7. DISCUSSION OF ELECTION OF NEW CHAIR/VICE-CHAIR**

Chair Daigle provided a listing of Commissioners' appointment and termed dates, concerned that all Public Safety Commissioners will be termed out at the end of December, expressed gratitude for a very supportive group of Commissioners with different backgrounds offering experiences to the table, encouraged Commissioners to reapply for another term through the City Clerk's Division, Commissioners noted inaccurate dates.

Councilmember Mahmud advised to delay the election of new Chair and Vice-Chair until information is verified and reappointments are completed, cited the City's Municipal Code noting that terms are for three years and Commissioners can be reappointed for a second term.

## **8. COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT**

Fire Chief Riddle informed that the Commissions will no longer give a presentation of their annual report at the City Council meeting, Commissions will now submit a two page annual report to the City Clerk's Office by Monday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, the reports will then be put in a packet ready for the Consent Calendar.

## **9. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioners voiced concerns on the delay of the recruitment of a Police Chief, noting that the assignment of a Police Chief is critical and utmost important to the City of South Pasadena, will follow up with the City on the reason for the delay and what the recruitment process is to ensure due diligence in the hiring process.

Interim Police Chief Solinsky responded to Commissioners' inquiries, reported that the recruitment is in the process but does not have a date or what process the City will take since there are a number of ways; the arrest of a suspect up on Raymond Hill called in by a concerned resident; and the attendance of recent Neighborhood Watch meeting.

Commissioner Kung informed that schools will participate in the upcoming "The Great California Shake Out" on October 18<sup>th</sup>, at 10:18 am, noted that each school site was asked to have at least ten volunteers or family members to come and see/participate, announced that one of the local girls scouts created an earthquake preparedness guide and will have it in the newsletters, noted the school holiday schedules and upcoming parent conferences.

Chair Daigle thanked the Commissioners for doing a great job and bringing something to the table, would like to keep the Public Safety Commission strong and encouraged everyone to renew their terms, noting more important work to be done in the next couple of years; suggested items needed for meetings such as microphones and banners.


## 10. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Daigle adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
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Kim Kha  
Recording Secretary

Approved By:

  
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Ellen Daigle  
Chair