I CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Bea Roberson

ROLL CALL

Present: Nemy Bautista
         Therese Barquet (arrived 7:05)
         Felix Hunziker
         Alejandro Navarro
         Bea Roberson
         Glenn Stephenson
         Eleanor Thompson

Absent: Scott Gillespie

Vacancies: One

Administrative
Staff: Confidential Investigative & Appeals Officer - Vacant
       Malia Glover, Executive Secretary I – Present

Council Liaison: Jael Myrick, Council Liaison – Present

City Attorney’s Office Representative: Bruce Soublet, Assistant City Attorney – Absent

II APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 6, 2013

Upon motion by Commissioner Hunziker and second by Commissioner Bautista, the minutes for the regular meeting of March 6, 2013, were approved as written.

Report of Council Liaison moved to Item IV
III REPORT OF CHIEF OF POLICE (Chris Magnus or his representative)

A. Report of recent activities, events, incidents, and related matters

Lt. Lori Curran said she oversees the personnel section in the police department. Lt. Andre Hill now supervises the training division. She is in charge of the hiring of all police department personnel including scheduling tests and oral boards. She said in the past community members took part in the oral boards. She would like one or several commissioners to sit in on upcoming oral boards. She said this would help build a nexus between community members and officers. Lt. Curran said she currently has a sergeant, two officers and a civilian employee assigned to her unit. They educate the community on what they’re looking for in a candidate and also guide the young people in the community by getting them involved with the Explorer and Cadet programs. They attend job fairs and have law enforcement career days as well as doing outreach at high schools and colleges. She said they currently have 185 officers with 4 in the academy - 2 just starting the academy and 2 getting ready to graduate. They are allotted 195 officers. They are also looking for records specialists, a records supervisor and dispatchers.

Commissioner Thompson asked what age cadets need to be. Lt. Curran said they need to be 18 or older. It’s geared toward college kids. If anyone is interested they can call or e-mail her.

Commissioner Barquet asked what would disqualify someone from becoming a cadet. Lt. Curran said that they can’t have any felonies unless they are sealed or expunged. They must also pass a background check.

Commissioner Bautista asked if dispatchers had to be bilingual. Lt. Curran said no. They have a bilingual translation line in dispatch if the officers need it.

Chair Roberson said that the Explorer program is a great program. She said it’s wonderful to work with them.

Commissioner Bautista asked how many volunteers are currently working in the police department. Lt. Curran said there are about six volunteers. She said if anyone knows of anyone who would like to volunteer to let them know.

Commissioner Stephenson said that he has been doing some outreach to the schools along with Det. Jackson and Det. Thomas. He inquired about ride-alongs with the school officers. Lt. Curran said to contact her and she will get them set up.

IV REPORT OF COUNCIL LIAISON JAEL MYRICK

Councilmember Myrick said that an investigator has been chosen to handle the current backlog of police commission complaints. He gave an update on what happened at last night’s council meeting. They approved the term sheet with Richmond Sanitary Services. Rates will go down and services will increase. There will be weekly pick up of recycling
and green waste. There’s also the ability for rate payers to get rebates from their recycling. He said that the city will be entering into an agreement with Mortgage Resolution Partners. They will provide the ability for people who are underwater on their mortgages or close to foreclosure to get a principal reduction, if they fall into a certain category. This will keep people in their homes. They are looking into the details of this program. Councilmember Myrick said that his top priority is investing in young people. He’s been working with businesses to try and provide scholarships to students graduating from Gompers and Kennedy this June. He has also been working on downtown revitalization and trying to put together a good package to bring a restaurant and coffee shop to downtown Richmond. He said they’ve also been trying to get a plan to publicize the different programs that are available to Richmond residents regarding internet access. He said Comcast has a good program that gives internet access to families with children for $10 per month and they will also give them reduced prices on computers.

Commissioner Barquet said she thinks that the scholarship program is a great idea. She said that Sacramento High had every student that graduated enrolled in a college. She asked if donations would be tax deductible. Councilmember Myrick said probably, but they are still working out the details.

Commissioner Barquet asked what the new investigative officer’s previous job was. Councilmember Myrick said that he would find out. Chair Roberson asked him to send his name and other information to the police commission secretary.

Commissioner Thompson told Councilmember Myrick that he was doing a good job on the council.

Commissioner Bautista asked if the city will be involved and if there was funding for the Cinco de Mayo celebration. Chair Roberson said the city provides $5,000 for every festival. The city does not sponsor it; the 23rd Street Merchants sponsor the event.

V REPORTS BY RICHMOND POLICE OFFICERS’ ASSOCIATION, LATINO POLICE OFFICERS’ ASSOCIATION, GUARDIANS OF JUSTICE

No representatives present.

VI PUBLIC FORUM

There were no public speakers.

VII PUBLIC OUTREACH

The commissioners discussed outreach materials for the upcoming city events. Chair Roberson said she will contact someone regarding a booth at Cinco de Mayo and then commissioners can plan what time they may be available to man the booth.

Chair Roberson said they will start coffee/lemonade with a cop in other districts soon, hopefully once a month.
VIII DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Commissioner Bautista nominated Commissioner Hunziker. Commissioner Stephenson nominated Chair Roberson for vice chair. She accepted the nomination. Commissioner Bautista made a motion to close the nominations. It was seconded by Commissioner Stephenson. Commissioner Barquet asked if she could nominate Commissioner Thompson for vice chair; she declined. The commission voted – all were in favor.

Chair Roberson asked if anyone had suggestions for a speaker for the meeting in May. Commissioner Navarro asked if they could have a report on the K-9 unit. Commissioner Bautista requested to have a report from ONS. Chair Roberson said DeVone Boggan gave a good presentation to BWOPA. Commissioner Hunziker agreed that they would both be good presentations.

Commissioner Stephenson talked about outreach at the high schools. He said he met with Mr. Mooney at Richmond High with Sgt. Dickerson and Det. Jackson. He said that students have to do community service before they graduate. He suggested having a student come to the police commission meeting and reporting back to their class. He thought this would be a good way to get students involved. He will also meet with teachers at Kennedy High.

Chair Roberson explained to Commissioner Barquet about a program in Richmond called “Richmond Tales” where books are given away to children. She will get more information for her.

IX REPORTS BY:

- CHAIRPERSON
- COMMISSIONERS
- STAFF

Chair Roberson
- 1 Ride-along
- Attended presentation by ONS at BWOPA
- Attended city council meetings
- Attended swearing in ceremony
- Attended NAACP meeting
- Attended Easter egg hunt

Commissioner Stephenson
- Attended LPOA crab feed
- Participated in CCC Criminal report writing class

Commissioner Navarro
- Working with neighbors to rebuild playground at Belding Woods Park
Commissioner Thompson

- Attended Salesian’s crab feed
- Attended council meetings

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

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Bea Roberson, Chair