

RICHMOND POLICE COMMISSION

Wednesday, October 7, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.
Employment & Training Building
330 – 25th Street
Conference Room 1

MINUTES

I CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Cora Ward

ROLL CALL

Present: Nemy Bautista
Scott Gillespie
Dolores Hembree
Jim Jenkins
Roberto Reyes
Bea Roberson
Glenn Stephenson
Cora J. Ward
Naomi Williams

Absent: None

Vacancies: None

Administrative

Staff Present: Don Casimere, Confidential Investigative & Appeals Officer
Malia Glover, Executive Secretary I

Council Liaison: Jeff Ritterman, Council Liaison – Present

City Attorney's

Office Representative: Bruce Soublet, Assistant City Attorney – Present

II APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 2, 2009

Upon motion by **Commissioner Williams** and second by **Commissioner Roberson** the minutes for the regular meeting of September 2, 2009, were approved as written. All were in favor.

III COMMENTS BY COUNCIL LIAISON JEFF RITTERMAN

Councilmember Ritterman reported that he just returned from Washington, DC where he was lobbying on behalf of the City. He said most of the economic challenges that the City faces are related to public safety issues. He said they need an economic strategy that will work for the City, but it is difficult to do. On the positive side, some ordinances have recently been passed that will benefit the police department. The City is moving along with the radio network, East Bay Regional Communication System.

Commissioner Reyes asked when the City would see some productivity out of the Office of Neighborhood Safety. **Councilmember Ritterman** said the City is facing some challenging problems. There will be many people on a prison re-entry program coming back to the City and the City's resources are already strained. He feels that the Office of Neighborhood Safety is taking the right approach having people on the street to try and diffuse things. He has been impressed by the ONS street workers that he has talked to. They are trying to do the best they can.

IV COMMENTS BY CHIEF OF POLICE (Chris Magnus or his representative)

Chief Magnus said that today was the anniversary of the death of Off. Moody. He said they appreciate the support that the Commission has given to the department relating to Off. Moody's death. The RPOA put together a small memorial service today for RPD officers and Off. Moody's family. The Chief handed out a copy of an RPD news update that was sent out today. He said they have created two new beat pilot programs. One is bike/foot patrol along the Macdonald corridor and adjacent neighborhoods. The other new beat will be a south side apartment beat. Two officers will be assigned to that beat. **Chief Magnus** said phase 2 of the ShotSpotter installation has just started in the north area of the city. He said the ShotSpotter is working very well. The CCTV system caught some shootings on camera as well as some illegal dumpers. The Chief gave out a handout on their crime and violence reduction efforts. He said they have gone through a large group of policies with the attorney that has been assigned to them. They will deliver the policies in groups of ten for the commissioners to review.

V REPORTS BY:

- **RICHMOND POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION**

Off. Hector Esparza reported on the one year anniversary memorial service held for Off. Moody earlier today. He asked the commissioners to keep Off. Moody's family and the RPD family, in general, in their thoughts and prayers.

Commissioner Reyes suggested that the meeting be closed in honor of Off. Moody.

- **LATINO POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION**

No representative present

- **GUARDIANS OF JUSTICE**

No representative present

**VI OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY, UPDATE ON ACTIVITIES
(DeVone Boggan)**

DeVone Boggan distributed three handouts: Building Partnerships of Peace and Community Well-Being, ONS Monthly Activity Report and an ONS/NCA Street Outreach Report Card. He said the Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS) facilitates four functions on behalf of individuals that they believe are most likely to shoot or be shot and/or their family members. The four functions include: 1) Service Coordination (both public systems and community/faith based social service system coordination), 2) Service Capacity Building (facilitate and provide opportunities for individuals/organizations to build their capacity in an effort to better service this population), 3) Program Development (street outreach), and 4) Resource Development (raise funds to provide to community based organizations to provide important and immediately needed services on behalf of this population).

ONS is responsible for a reentry planning initiative for the formerly incarcerated that are, and will be returning to Richmond. They raised approximately \$75,000 to create a county-wide reentry planning initiative. They had their kick-off event on 9/30/09, with representatives from city and county agencies and community based organizations. They are in the process of creating a task force and some work groups to put together a strategic plan.

Mr. Boggan said they have implemented a street outreach strategy. They've hired four street outreach workers and trained them in conflict mediation, counseling, and domestic violence issues.

ONS has created a Caught in the Crossfire model called Beyond Violence. They will work with gunshot victims between the ages of 14 and 25 and their families, to prevent immediate and future retaliation, promoting alternative strategies for dealing with conflict and developing a plan for staying safe. They have also started a Life Skills for Peace program. It is a 16 week cycle program that will help students facing suspensions for violence, on probation for violence and youth detained, but not arrested by local police.

Sal Garcia, a Neighborhood Change Agent (NCA) for ONS, spoke about NCA's and what they do for ONS. He said they work with lost individuals who need love and guidance. He said homicides happen in Richmond because it's tolerated in Richmond. They need to educate the community so that they can get help from the community. They are also trying to get churches to come out and embrace the area that they are in and support ONS and the community.

Commissioner Williams said that the City Council should report to the public on what the ONS does when they get the monthly reports from ONS because many people have questioned what that office does.

Commissioner Bautista said the citizens and the Police Commission are concerned about the homicide statistics in the city and asked how the violence could be stopped. **Devone Boggan** said the community needs to come together and draw a line and say this does not happen here. The police department is providing focused attention on the individuals responsible and the areas where these homicides are taking place.

Commissioner Jenkins asked what type of response they were getting from the churches they've contacted. **Mr. Garcia** said there is one Neighborhood Change Agent who is currently working with ten pastors.

Commissioner Stephenson asked how they pick people in the focus groups. **Mr. Garcia** said they identify the people by the work the NCA's do on the streets. ONS and RPD have information and they compare it with the information that the NCA's have gathered. By working in the streets, they know who the individuals are.

Commissioner Reyes said he now knows what the ONS does and he's very impressed. The community needs to know also.

VII PUBLIC FORUM

No public speakers

VIII DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON REVISED RPC RULES

There was discussion. **Commissioner Hembree** made a motion to accept the changes in all three documents that were made at the Police Commission retreat. It was seconded by **Commissioner Bautista**. The motion passed with 8 Ayes. One commissioner did not vote.

IX REPORTS BY:

Commissioner Jenkins

- Stated his term is up in 11/09 and he won't be reapplying

Commissioner Hembree

- 09/21/09 – RPD Swearing-In Ceremony
- 10/03/09 – Homefront Festival
- 10/05/09 – RPD Swearing-In/Promotion Ceremony

Commissioner Bautista

- 09/12/09 – Grand Reopening of City Hall
- 09/13/09 – Boy Scouts of America – Eagle Scout Ceremony (El Cerrito)
- 09/20/09 – El Sobrante Stroll
- 09/23/09 – 4 hr. Ride-along w/Sgt. D. Williams
- 09/24/09 – May Valley Community NC Meeting
- 09/26/09 – West CC Emergency Preparedness Fair at Hilltop Mall

Commissioner Williams

- Swearing-In Ceremony
- Off. Moody memorial service today

Commissioner Roberson

- RNCC Board and regular meetings
- Worked at Homefront Festival
- West County Safety Fair at Hilltop Mall
- Working on Crime Prevention dinner
- Worked at Grand Re-opening of City Hall

Commissioner Stephenson

- Swearing-In/Promotion Ceremony
- Spoke at Richmond Heights NC meeting on behalf of PC

Chair Ward

- Worked at Homefront Festival
- Girls-Inc. Board meeting
- Hilltop Green HOA Meeting
- Parkridge HOA Meeting
- Attended Grand Re-Opening of City Hall
- Attended Swearing In Ceremony on 9/21/09
- Attended Swearing In/Promotion Ceremony on 10/5/09

CIAO Don Casimere

- Referred commissioners to daily activity log

X ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 in memory of Off. Brad Moody.

Don Casimere
Confidential Investigative & Appeals Officer