

RICHMOND POLICE COMMISSION

**Wednesday, September 1, 2010 – 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
Felix Hunziker
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 – Absent

City Attorney's

Office Representative: Bruce Soublet, Assistant City Attorney – Present

II APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 7, 2010

Upon motion by **Commissioner Bautista** and second by **Commissioner Stephenson**, the minutes for the regular meeting of July 7, 2010, were approved as written with two abstentions.

III COMMENTS BY COUNCIL LIAISON JEFF RITTERMAN

Not present.

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

Chief Magnus handed out two completed policies (300 and 302). He said they implemented a number of suggestions given by the commissioners to consolidate the Use of Force policies from five policies into two policies. The Chief gave current crime statistics for the City: violent crime down 7%, homicides down 56%, assaults down 11%, property crime down 1%, small increases in rapes and robberies. He said the department has been focusing on the most violent criminals in the community. They have a very strong working relationship with state parole. They have made many arrests of parolees with guns. Chief Magnus reported that promotional testing will start later this month. Several people have signed up for all ranks. The Deputy Chief's position will be filled from inside the department. They now have a DUI car as part of the traffic unit. Off. Phil Sanchez is the drunk driver enforcement officer. As far as staffing, they are now just two sworn positions short of the allocated 195, including officers in the training academy. They've recently hired 15 new officers who will be introduced at the City Council meeting on 9/21/10. The Chief gave an update on the new curfew ordinance that begins in a few weeks. They will be starting a Juvenile Services Division within the department. Lt. Booker will be overseeing this unit.

Commissioner Stephenson asked if the DUI car works on a daily basis or if it is a rotating shift. **Capt. Brown** said Off. Sanchez works a 4-10 shift on Wednesday through Saturday night.

Commissioner Bautista asked if Off. Sanchez was assigned to any particular area. **Capt. Brown** said he has free roam of the city.

Commissioner Reyes asked how well the curfew program will be evaluated. **Chief Magnus** said they have a group of community members that will work with them in reviewing how the program is going. They will probably pick up no more than 20 students per day. They will be evaluating the program going into the school year to see how things go and to see if they need to make any changes for next year.

Commissioner Bautista asked who will be responsible for reporting the truant kids to the school district. **Chief Magnus** said they will have access to the school district's attendance computer system and the school district will be made aware if a student is picked up. The parents/guardians are responsible for showing up in court with the minor and dealing with the ticket.

Commissioner Hunziker asked the Chief to describe the Juvenile Services Division. **Chief Magnus** said it will include responsibility for the daytime curfew program, the juvenile diversion program and less serious juvenile crimes such as assaults and property crimes. The Explorer Cadet program will be under this division, as well as PAL and the school resource officer program.

Commissioner Bautista asked what happens to the kids that don't belong to the Richmond area. The Chief said they will still be subject to the same ordinance.

V PUBLIC FORUM

No public speakers

VI REPORTS BY:

- **RICHMOND POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION**

No representative present.

- **LATINO POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION**

No representative present.

- **GUARDIANS OF JUSTICE**

No representative present.

VII DISCUSSION REGARDING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (Michelle Milam)

Michelle Milam gave an overview of what the Crime Prevention Office does concerning community engagement. She said the fundamental principle behind community engagement is that the police can't do it alone. They cover Neighborhood Watch training and education, as well as training for businesses, churches, schools and other community groups. Target has volunteers that do public service days with Crime Prevention including National Night Out and other activities. There is a program called Crime Free Multi Housing where they are able to form partnerships with property managers, residents and the police department to help reduce crime in multi-family communities. They also have partnerships with Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS), PAL, First Five. Police chaplains assist officers and also respond to homicide scenes to comfort families in need. **Ms. Milam** said that the personal connection between beat officers and the community really makes a difference. She said that the commitment that **Chief Magnus** has made to try to keep officers on the same beat for a period of time is the crux of helping to build trust. Spreading the word about the role of the Police Commission in the community is an important part of developing a partnership with Crime Prevention, the police department and the community. She suggested using public messaging such as KCRT and other media outlets in getting information out. More personal messaging is to connect with community groups such as Neighborhood Councils, Neighborhood Watch groups and the Citizens' Academy. She would like to see the Citizen Academy expand to include young people. **Ms. Milam** said she looks forward to working with the Police Commission in promoting positive police-community relationships.

Commissioner Bautista asked how much help they receive from the ONS. **Ms. Milam** said they work with the Neighborhood Change Agents on different community projects at least a couple times per month.

Commissioner Reyes agreed that young people need to be engaged also. **Ms. Milam** said that Target is interested in doing some collaboration with De Jean Middle School to

get the kids thinking about ways they can improve their community. They hope to start the project this fall.

VIII REPORT FROM AD HOC COMMITTEE ASSIGNED TO PROMOTE POSITIVE POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND EDUCATING THE COMMUNITY ABOUT THE POLICE COMMISSION (Commissioner Hunziker)

Commissioner Hunziker reported that he met with **Commissioner Hembree**, **Commissioner Roberson** and **Michelle Milam** in July to discuss this item. He distributed a copy of the recommendations that they developed. **Commissioner Hunziker** made a motion to have the commissioners review the list of recommendations and sign up for topics that they would be interested in and are available to participate in. At the next meeting they can form task groups to begin implementing some of the suggestions. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Stephenson**. All were in favor.

IX DISCUSSION REGARDING WEST CCC SCHOOL DISTRICT (Commissioner Bautista)

Commissioner Baustita said he would like to invite the WCC School Superintendent to a commission meeting to explain the truancy plan.

After discussion, **Commissioner Bautista** made a motion to invite the Superintendent of Schools to explain to the commission the detailed information about outreach to students and parents regarding the truancy. **Commissioner Reyes** seconded the motion and added that they wanted information regarding general public safety for children in Richmond. The motion failed with the following vote: Ayes – 3; Noes – 4; Abstentions – 1. The chair did not vote.

X REPORTS BY:

Commissioner Roberson

- Attended park dedication for Port Chicago
- Attended National Night Out
- Jury duty
- Attended shelter training class at DVC
- 2 Ride-alongs
- Taught 2 CERT classes
- Attended Homefront Festival meeting
- Reported that there will be an OES Safety Fair on 9/23

Commissioner Reyes

- Walked in NE Neighborhood and met w/several neighbors

Commissioner Hunziker

- Attended ad hoc meeting

Commissioner Gillespie

- Reported that RPD is very responsive to graffiti hotline

Commissioner Stephenson

- Attended National Night Out
- 2 Ride-alongs
- Attended grand re-opening of Plunge

Commissioner Bautista

- Attended National Night Out
- Attended grand re-opening of Plunge
- RPD line-up
- 4 hr. Ride-along with Off. Rasheed

Commissioner Hembree

- Attended National Night Out

CIAO Casimere

- Daily Activity Logs for July and August handed out
- Handed out information on mandatory Ethics Training for board and commission members

XI EXECUTIVE SESSION: Public Employee Performance and Discipline/Release (Police Officers)

A. Discussion and Action Regarding RPC Complaint #03-2010

Upon motion and second, the report for RPC Complaint #03-2010 and findings of **Unsubstantiated** were accepted.

The Complainant, Officers, and Chief of Police will be notified in writing of the findings regarding this complaint.

XII ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32.

Don Casimere
Confidential Investigative & Appeals Officer