

RICHMOND POLICE COMMISSION

**Wednesday, May 1, 2013 – 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 Felix Hunziker

ROLL CALL

Present: Nemy Bautista
Therese Barquet
Felix Hunziker
Scott Gillespie
Alejandro Navarro
Bea Roberson
Glenn Stephenson
Eleanor Thompson

Absent: None

Vacancies: One

Administrative Staff: Terry Simpson, Investigator - Present
Malia Glover, Executive Secretary I – Present

Council Liaison: Jael Myrick, Council Liaison – Absent

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

II APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 3, 2013

Upon motion by **Commissioner Roberson** and second by **Commissioner Bautista**, the minutes for the regular meeting of April 3, 2013, were approved as written.

III REPORT OF COUNCIL LIAISON JAELE MYRICK

Not present.

IV REPORT OF CHIEF OF POLICE (Chris Magnus or his representative)

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

Capt. Gagan said he was representing **Chief Magnus** who was at a Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) Conference in Milwaukee along with D/C Brown, D/C Medina and Lt. French. He handed out copies of a Contra Costa Newspaper article about the challenges of solving homicides in Richmond. He also handed out ShotSpotter Incident Reports for April 2012 and April 2013. **Capt. Gagan** said they had one homicide in March and five in April. He said they have been putting out two person cars in the hot spot areas. He said they work with the sheriff's J-team also. The homicide at the BART station has prompted a lot of concern about the transit area. They've had meetings with the Metrowalk community and with BART. They will be redesigning the 1400 and 1500 block of Metrowalk. He reported that there was a 20% increase in shots fired between this year and last according to the ShotSpotter report. Not all of them are part one felonies. He said they've recently took possession of a new mobile command center. It will be the operation and command center for any large scale emergency or disaster. It's a vehicle that is designed to allow them to dispatch in emergencies for all of Contra Costa and Alameda counties. It was paid for by grant money. It will be at many of the community events like Cinco de Mayo and Juneteenth where they display their equipment. He said they will have approximately 30 officers working at the Cinco de Mayo festival.

Commissioner Barquet said that **Capt. Gagan** mentioned that they offer \$10,000 rewards for information leading to an arrest. She wanted to know if this was announced on TV. **Capt. Gagan** said they do mention it but TV chooses to show what they want. They do have the information on their website.

Commissioner Bautista asked what kind of vehicle they use for the SWAT team. **Capt. Gagan** said it is called a personnel carrier that seats 12-15 people, similar to the UPS trucks.

Commissioner Navarro asked if they will be searching backpacks at Cinco de Mayo. **Capt. Gagan** said no, that would not be able to be enforced.

Commissioner Roberson asked if the reward helped in solving the incident where the child was shot. **Capt. Gagan** said no. They are working that case pretty aggressively but there has not been an arrest made.

Chair Hunziker said that shooters are usually well known by RPD, but now it seems like the new group of shooters are almost unknown. **Capt. Gagan** said a younger generation is emerging with a different code. He said they seem to be younger offenders now ranging from 13-17 years of age.

Commissioner Roberson asked when they will be starting predictive policing that they just received a grant for. **Capt. Gagan** said it is actively being implemented.

Commissioner Navarro asked if RPD will be doing any gun buy backs. **Capt. Gagan** said the DA's office is planning one and RPD will be working with them. They will be giving vouchers, not money.

Commissioner Roberson said that the For Richmond Group has been talking about getting funding for the gun buy back and having it in conjunction with National Night Out.

Chair Hunziker asked when the Comp Stat meetings were. **Capt. Gagan** said they are on the second Thursday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at the police department. They last approximately 2 hours. He said to let him know if any commissioners are interested in attending.

V PRESENTATION ON K-9 UNIT (Sergeant Mike Rood)

Sgt. Mike Rood gave a briefing on training and certification of the K-9 unit. He said they have six police dogs. They are dual purpose dogs, trained (or soon to be trained) in apprehension/bite work as well as narcotics detection. They have 1 Dutch shepherd, 4 Belgian Malinois and one German shepherd. They are all imported from Europe. The dogs start training at 6 weeks old. They generally get the dogs when they are 12-15 months old. The handler and the dog then go to a 5 week training school together. The last day of training is the POST certification course. The governing body over police dogs is the California Narcotics Officers Association. The handler must be a member of this association. The handler and dog must also attend a 4 week narcotics school. He said that the K-9 unit trains twice a month, the first Thursday of the month at 5:00 at RPD and the third Thursday of the month at 4:00 at RPD. He said to send him an e-mail if any commissioners are interested in watching the training.

Commissioner Stephenson inquired about information on K-9 trials. **Sgt. Rood** said they've been thinking about doing their own trial here in Richmond but it's very time consuming.

Commissioner Bautista asked what happens to the dog when a handler goes on vacation. **Sgt. Rood** said they board them at a boarding facility or he takes the dog to his house. Nobody else works with the dog while the handler is away. The dogs are trained to work with one person.

Commissioner Roberson asked what language a dog responds to if it comes from another country. **Sgt. Rood** said they will respond to a different language if they are trained in a different language.

Commissioner Thompson said she didn't know that the dogs were trained to bite. **Sgt. Rood** said that the dogs are trained to bite to apprehend people.

Commissioner Stephenson asked if 2 dogs worked on each shift. **Sgt. Rood** said they have six patrol teams with 1 dog assigned to each team.

VI REPORTS BY RICHMOND POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION, LATINO POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION, GUARDIANS OF JUSTICE

No representatives present.

VII PUBLIC FORUM

No public speakers.

VIII POLICE COMMISSION OUTREACH

Chair Hunziker said Cinco de Mayo was coming up this weekend. He said they will have a booth and asked what commissioners were available to man the booth. **Commissioners Stephenson, Roberson, Navarro and Barquet** said they would be available. **Chair Hunziker** said he would be there to set up and break down. **Chair Roberson** said they will have Coffee with a Cop sometime in May in the Southside. **Chair Hunziker** said they recently went on a communications center tour. The information they received at the tour will be sent to all commissioners. He also told the commissioners that they can attend firearms training at the Chevron range if they are interested.

IX POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Chair Hunziker said there is a real problem with stolen guns and people not cooperating with the police department. He suggested that they come up with an idea to encourage people to store their firearms more safely so that they don't have such a problem with stolen guns. **Terry Simpson** suggested giving away gun locks to citizens during outreach programs. **Commissioner Stephenson** said he will inquire about gun locks and handouts at the police department.

X POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY REVIEW

Chair Hunziker said he added this to the agenda as a place holder item in case anybody wanted to discuss policies. **Commissioner Roberson** stated that the commission is only allowed to review policies brought to them by the police department.

XI REPORTS BY:

- **CHAIRPERSON**
- **COMMISSIONERS**
- **STAFF**

Chair Hunziker

- Communications Center Tour
- Devone Boggan will speak at next month's PC meeting

Commissioner Roberson

- Attended council meetings
- Attended "An Evening with Jillian Bond" at Contra Costa College
- Worked at health and youth conference put on by Richmond Community Foundation

Commissioner Roberson (cont'd)

- Part of team for writing policy for shelters and providing services for people with disabilities and the elderly for Office of Emergency Services
- Attended Council of Industry
- Attended PAL Boxing
- Attended CERT drill
- Volunteers one day a week at city hall
- Communications Center Tour
- Ride-along

Commissioner Bautista

- Communications Center tour

Commissioner Navarro

- Communications Center tour

Commissioner Stephenson

- Spoke at two high school classes
- Attended Neighborhood Council meeting
- Ride-along
- Attended Swearing-In Ceremony
- Communication Center tour
- Attended West Contra Costa Adult Education Seminar
- Ride-along with Fire Department

Commissioner Thompson

- Attended city council meeting
- Attended Community Volunteer Awards Banquet

Investigator Terry Simpson introduced himself and briefed the commission on his background. He said he looks forward to working with the police commission.

XII CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session not held.

XIII ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.