

MINUTES  
Disaster & Fire Safety Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, May 24, 2017  
997 Cedar Street, Berkeley, CA 94710

Present: Ruth Grimes, Victoria Legg, Robert Golomb, Gradiva Couzin, Bob Flasher, Paul Degenkolb, Sarah Jones, Daniel Griffin

Absent: Annie Bailey

Staff: Khin Chin, Keith May, David Sprague-Livingston

Public: Jette Winckler-Jensen, David Peattie

**Preliminary Matters**

Call to Order

P. Degenkolb called meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Approval of the Agenda

Approved by acclamation.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Gradiva Couzin said she attended City Council Meeting with the Urban Shield item. There is a disaster preparedness component of Urban Shield and awareness of this aspect might not be common.

Sarah Jones said that on the BDPNN discussion group were discussing Urban Shield. More information about Urban Shield and Berkeley Fire's participation would be appreciated. Concern about the militarization associated with Urban Shield can overshadow the other components that benefit the community.

Dave Peattie is from BDPNN is attending on behalf of their organization. They plan to attend each Commission meeting. He said that personally, he is very interested in the Urban Shield issue as well. BDPNN is reaching out to City Council to strive to reach out to underserved groups.

1. Fire Department and Office of Emergency Services Staff Report

5/7 Single-story car garage fully involved and detached from single family structure.

7/7 Water rescue with 2 people in the water beyond the pier. City Harbor Master's boat was requested and picked up the 2 victims and treated for hypothermia.

5/20 A US Coast Guard Dolphin HH-65 helicopter made an emergency landing at Cesar Chavez Park due to electrical issues. No injuries or damage.

5/18 Berkeley Fire Badge Pinning Ceremony for Deputy Chief Brannigan, Assistant Chief May, Captain Pique, Apparatus Operators Thaxton & Thatcher.

Recruitment resulted in 177 eligible and moving to the interview process on the week of June 12.

Alameda County Emergency Medical Services Agency is seeking a 3-year contract extension with Paramedic Plus past the October 31 deadline.

The 46-bed winter shelter on 2<sup>nd</sup> st. received another donation and will be opened until June 15<sup>th</sup>.

On 5/16, the City Council approved a rate increase for ambulance transport, fire prevention inspection fees, and a first responder fee.

Chief May attended the New World conference in Austin, Texas in anticipation to for transitioning to the New World Fire Records Management System next year.

### **Consent Items**

2. Approval of Draft Minutes of April 26, 2017\*

Motion approve minutes as amended: G. Couzin

Second: V. Legg

Vote: (8 Ayes: Grimes, Golomb, Legg, Flasher, Jones, Degenkolb, Couzin, Griffin,; 0 Noe; 1 Absent: Bailey; 0 Abstain)

### **Action Items**

3. Measure GG Expenditure and Budget\*  
 Motion to give Chair Degenkolb permission to speak on behalf on the commission to say that the commission has concerns about disproportionate use of measure GG funds to spend on overtime beyond that necessary to prevent rotating fire station closures: G. Couzin  
 Second: S. Jones  
 Vote: (6 Ayes: Golomb, Flasher, Jones, Degenkolb, Couzin, Griffin,; 0 Noe; 1 Absent: Bailey; 2 Abstain: Legg, Grimes)
  
4. Recommendation to City Council on the Measure GG Tax Rate Adjustment  
 Motion to recommend to increase by CPI and to allocate one of the non-overtime programs funded: R. Flasher  
 Motion withdrawn.  
  
 Motion to concur with Staff's recommendation to increase the Measure GG Tax Rate by Consumer Price Index: R. Grimes  
 Second: V. Legg  
 Vote: (8 Ayes: Grimes, Golomb, Legg, Flasher, Jones, Degenkolb, Couzin, Griffin,; 0 Noe; 1 Absent: Bailey; 0 Abstain)

**Discussion Items**

5. Annual Commission Work Plan\*
6. Proposal to Expand the Community Emergency Response Team Program\*
7. Update to Fire Safety in the Hills Fire Area
8. Future Agenda Items

**Adjournment**

Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: G. Couzin  
 Second: R. Flasher  
 Vote: (7 Ayes: Golomb, Legg, Flasher, Jones, Degenkolb, Couzin, Griffin; 0 Noe; 2 Absent: Grimes, Bailey; 0 Abstain:)

Adjourned at 9:15 pm