



Police Review Commission (PRC)

**POLICE REVIEW COMMISSION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**MINUTES**  
*(approved)*

**May 13, 2015**  
**7:00 P.M.**

South Berkeley Senior Center  
2939 Ellis Street, Berkeley

**1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL BY ACTING CHAIR PEREZVELEZ AT 7:07 P.M.**

Present: Commissioner Benjamin Bartlett  
Commissioner George Lippman  
Commissioner George Perezvelez (Acting Chair)  
Commissioner Ann Rogers (Acting Vice Chair)  
Commissioner Michael Sherman (arrived 7:35 p.m.)  
Commissioner Bulmaro Vicente  
Commissioner Lowell Finley (*temporary assignment*)

Absent: Commissioner Alison Bernstein

PRC Staff: Katherine J. Lee, PRC Officer

BPD Staff: Capt. Cynthia Harris (left 7:35 p.m.), Sgt. Joseph Okies, Sgt. Benjamin Cardoza

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved by general consent.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**4. CHAIR'S REPORT**

The Chair reminded Commissioners to do their homework (video-watching) and turn notes in to the PRC Officer.

## 5. CHIEF OF POLICE'S REPORT

Capt. Harris reported that the first reading of the proposed budget went to Council last night; the BPD budget does not propose any cuts. Currently staffed at 166 sworn of 176 budgeted positions. Lynne Olesen, the Public Safety Business Manager, retired last Friday. She was thanked for her many years working on the department's very complex budget. The new position will be an Administrative & Fiscal Manager, to focus only on the budget and seeking grants, and not have ancillary duties overseeing other units.

Capt. Harris is temporarily absorbing some of Ms. Olesen's former duties, in addition to those of Capt. Upson (who recently left to become Chief of Police for Benicia), and will permanently serve as custodian of records. A promotional test for captain is upcoming. LGBTQ liaisons have been selected: Sgts. Melanie Turner and Ethell Wilson.

## 6. PRC OFFICER'S REPORT

Only change in status of complaints from last week is that a decision on a Caloca appeal was issued and reversed the BOI's finding of "sustained" to "not sustained." It will be agendaized for a closed session discussion when Commissioner Bernstein, who served on the BOI, is back from leave. A candidate for the temporary investigator was chosen from 4 interviewed (of 15 applications submitted); now goes to HR Department for approvals, job offer, and background check, which typically take 6 – 7 business days to complete.

## 7. OLD BUSINESS (discussion and action)

- a. Policy investigation regarding the events of December 6, 7, and 8, 2014, and Council directive for an investigation into the events of December 6, as both are more fully identified in the regular meeting agenda of February 25, 2015; and including review of mutual aid practices and policies.
  - i) Follow-up on review and discussion of relevant policies, including mutual aid.

The Commission discussed and came to consensus on many needed policy changes, with final decisions to be made at a later date.
  - ii) Review and discuss relevant evidence, including video evidence.

**By general consent, this item was postponed to the May 20 meeting.**

## 8. ANNOUNCEMENTS, ATTACHMENTS & COMMUNICATIONS

None.

## 9. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

## 10. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion to adjourn the meeting.**

Moved/Seconded (Lippman/Vicente) **Motion carried by general consent.**

Meeting was **adjourned** at 9:37 p.m.