



Police Review Commission

POLICE REVIEW COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, April 14, 2010
7:00 P.M.

South Berkeley Senior Center
2939 Ellis Street, Berkeley

1. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRPERSON GEORGE PEREZVELEZ AT 7:05 P.M. ROLL CALL AND ATTENDANCE:

Present: Chairperson George Perezvelez
Vice Chair Russell Bloom
Commissioner Kamau Edwards
Commissioner Vonnie Gurgin
Commissioner Sharon Kidd
Commissioner Michael Sherman
Commissioner Sherry Smith
Commissioner William White (Arrived at 7:20 p.m.)

Absent: Commissioner Jonathan Huang

PRC Staff: Lillian Mayers, Acting PRC Officer

BPD Staff: Chief Meehan, Lt. Files, Sgt. Wilson, Officer Wellington and Officer Kaplan.

2. ORDER OF AGENDA

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting: March 10, 2010

Motion to approve minutes. M/S/C Bloom/Kidd Motion carried.

Ayes: Bloom, Gurgin, Kidd, Perezvelez and Sherman.

Noes: None. **Abstain:** Edwards and Smith. **Absent:** Huang and White

B. Regular Meeting: March 24, 2010

Motion to approve minutes. M/S/C Kidd/Gurgin Motion carried.

Ayes: Bloom, Edwards, Gurgin, Kidd, Perezvelez, Sherman and Smith.

Noes: None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Huang and White.



5. NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Sherman asked for two items to be placed on the next agenda. He attended, and would like to briefly report on: (1) the UC Police Review Commission meeting regarding the November 20, 2009 protest at Wheeler Hall, and (2) the Peace and Justice Commission public forum on the status of human rights in Berkeley.

6. OLD BUSINESS

None.

7. PRC OFFICER'S REPORT (For Discussion or Action)

Ms. Mayers reported that the PRC has currently 17 open cases and two board of inquiries scheduled for next week. Ms. Mayers handed out Staff's Correction to the 2008 Statistical Report.

8. BERKELEY POLICE DEPARTMENT'S REPORT

Chief Meehan mentioned a report from Copwatch, and expressed his concerns about the use of anecdotal evidence. He took issue with the accuracy of several statements in the report, and emphasized that the BPD will accept responsibility for, and address, any mistakes that the department makes. He reiterated his commitment to maintaining the number of officers on the street, despite the City's budgetary problems, and said that Berkeley has a higher per capita crime rate than Oakland, San Francisco and Richmond.

The Chief reported that he will be better able to respond to the Commission's concern about whether the Evidence Theft Subcommittee's recommendations have been adopted once an audit of the Property and Evidence Room, which will take about 620 hours, is completed.

The Chief also reported that BPD is in the process of drafting a Minority Recruitment Plan and expects to be able to provide information about the plan in the next four weeks.

9. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT (For Discussion or Action)

Regulations Review subcommittee – update.

Regulations were adopted by the subcommittee members and will be distributed next Friday to the full Commission once the adopted revisions are incorporated. Commissioners will have until April 22 to submit any comments or revision proposals to the Acting PRC Officer, so they can be included in the agenda for the April 28, 2010 Commission meeting.

10. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Attached.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT: Limited to item 12 only.

There was no public comment.

Closed Session

The Police Review Commission will recess into closed session to discuss and take action on the following item:

12. RECOMMENDATION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE CLOSURE

A. Case No. 2237 - Complainant Ronald Byias

**Motion to approve above referenced file for administrative closure. Kidd/Edwards
Motion carried.**

Ayes: Bloom, Edwards, Gurgin, Kidd, Perezvelez, Sherman, Smith, and White.

Noes: None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Huang.

B. Case No. 2232 - Complainant James Hamilton

**Motion to approve above referenced file for administrative closure. Sherman/Smith
Motion carried.**

Ayes: Bloom, Edwards, Gurgin, Kidd, Perezvelez, Sherman, Smith, and White.

Noes: None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Huang.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Maritza