



**MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2020
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA**

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Commission was called to order by Chair Ding on Monday, April 13, 2020, at 8:36 a.m., in the Amedee O. "Dick" Richards, Jr., Council Chamber, located at 1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena, California.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners: Amin Alsarraf, Stephanie Cao, Ed Donnelly, and Grace Liu Kung; Chair Jeremy Ding, Vice-Chair Alan Ehrlich.

Absent: None

Officials

Present: Councilmember/City Council Liaison Richard D. Schneider, M.D., Police Chief/Staff Liaison Joe Ortiz, Police Deputy Chief/Staff Liaison Brian Solinsky, Chief City Clerk Maria Ayala, Police Department Clerk/Recording Secretary Laura Mendez, and Management Aide/Recording Secretary Kim Kha. Other staff members presented reports or responded to questions as indicated in the minutes.

Absent: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

No Public Comment

ACTION/DISCUSSION

1. Minutes of the Public Safety Commission Meeting of March 9, 2020

MOTION BY CHAIR DING, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER DONNELLY, CARRIED 4-0, to approve the Minutes of the March 9, 2020 Public Safety Commission Regular Meeting with 3 corrections.

Commissioner Cao Abstain
Vice-Chair Ehrlich Abstain

2. Coronavirus-COVID-19 Update by Fire Chief Riddle and Police Chief Ortiz

Fire Chief Riddle thanked the entire Community and the Public Safety Commission for supporting the Fire Department and the Police Department in this very difficult time, also expressed as a City Team, "To anyone who's loved one has been directly affected by this situation, our hearts and prayers go out to you."

Over a month ago, the State of California declared a State of Emergency, followed suit on the same day, the President declared a National Health Emergency on March 13th, the City of South Pasadena declared a Local Emergency on March 18th, which triggered the City to open the Emergency Operational Center (EOC) to a Level 3, the lowest level which is basically a virtual opening, this action enables the City to start tracking expenses and put in requests for financial assistance 24/7.

Fire Chief Riddle stated that the Los Angeles County has extended the Safer at Home Orders through May 15th, and required all essential workers to wear face coverings. Per Los Angeles County language, face coverings are required anytime we are engaged with others in groups or private settings. The Los Angeles County Public Health Director has stated several times, the importance of washing hands, avoiding touching of the face, and that face coverings are not intended to replace proper hygiene but are added measures to help flatten the curve and slow the spread.

Fire Chief Riddle gave statistics on the infected, casualties, and the projection for the State, Los Angeles County, and City of South Pasadena. For more information, please view the Public Safety Commission Meeting Video on our City website.

Police Chief Ortiz thanked the entire City and the Public Safety Commission for the continued support during these difficult times, messaged that the City is safe and calls for services have dropped significantly, informed that officers are spending a lot of time out at the parks, including the skate park, and the golf course ensuring compliances and social distancing, stated that the Police Department is fully functional and operating 24/7 while providing all public safety services, encouraged citizens to file reports via the telephone or online portal.

Police Chief Ortiz informed that the front counter of the Police Department is open from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. for services, however, finger printing services and citation corrections have been suspended until further notice, overnight parking has also been suspended until April 30th, for emergency please call 911 and for non-emergency call (626) 403-7270.

Police Chief Ortiz gave statistics on calls regarding non-compliances and social distancing enforcement, discussed the department's safety and sanitizing procedures. For more information please view the Public Safety Commission Meeting Video on our City website.

Fire Chief Riddle and Police Chief Ortiz responded to Commissioners' inquiries, please view the Public Safety Commission Meeting Video on our City website.

MOTION BY CHAIR DING, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER DONNELLY, CARRIED 5-0, to appoint Vice-Chair Ehrlich and Commissioner Alsarraf as the Public Safety Commission Subcommittee on COVID-19.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. City Counsel Liaison Communications

Councilmember/City Council Liaison Richard D. Schneider, M.D., had no further comment.

2. Staff Liaison Communications

Fire Chief Riddle had no further addition to his report.

Police Chief Ortiz had no further addition to his report.

3. Commissioner Communications

Commissioner Kung provided updates, informed that school facilities are closed for the remainder of the school year, informed that the South Pasadena School District will continue to provide free meals for children under 18 years of age and can be picked up at the high school Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., Chrome books are also being distributed to those in need for continuing the distance learning through June 3rd, all meetings such as the Special Needs Committee, Support Groups, and PTA are being done virtually.

Commissioner Donnelly thanked the City staff for supporting the South Pasadena Volunteers who are providing free grocery deliveries to our seniors, the support is strong and they are very grateful.

Vice-Chair Ehrlich expressed concerns over an emergency meeting that was held 4 weeks after the statewide lockdown, also expressed concerns over the Director of Emergency Operations for the City as not being part of this meeting today during a public emergency, finds that it is unacceptable and believes the City is not doing the best possible job at communicating to residents about what our city is doing and how our city is responding to the corona virus emergency, expressed frustration to not receiving as many updates on the corona virus in comparison to the many updates the school district was providing.

Commissioner Alsarraf shared some of the concerns as Vice-Chair Ehrlich, but wanted to recognize and point out that Fire Chief Riddle he has been very responsive when reached, appreciated the quick response especially in the mist of the corona virus; thanked Commissioner Donnelly on the grocery delivery program and grateful to be participating in it.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ding adjourned the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

DocuSigned by:

Laura Mendez

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Laura Mendez

Recording Secretary

Approved By:

DocuSigned by:

Jeremy Ding

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Jeremy Ding

Chair