

**COMMUNITY POLICE REVIEW COMMISSION
(CPRC)**

**Wednesday, June 5, 2019 – 7:00 PM
450 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804
Basement - Employee Lunch Room**

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by **Chair David Brown**

Present: David Brown (Chair), Yenny Garcia (Vice-chair), Diego Garcia, Oscar Garcia, Carol Hegstrom

Absent: None

Vacancies: 4 Vacancies

Administrative

Staff: Shané Johnson, Staff Liaison – Present

Council Liaison: Jael Myrick, Council Liaison – Present

City Attorney's

Office Representative: Bruce Soublet, Senior Assistant City Attorney – Present

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (March 6, 2019)

Minutes unavailable due to recorder malfunction.

III. AGENDA REVIEW – No change

IV. PUBLIC FORUM

Cordell Hindler – Notified the CPRC of good news that he would like to share.

Patricia Perez – Shared comments about the community briefing video released by RPD.

Rick Perez – Expressed his feelings about the community briefing video released by RPD. He also shared comments regarding SB 1421 and AB 392.

- V. COMMENTS BY COUNCIL LIAISON JAELE MYRICK** – Councilmember Myrick announced that the City Council hired a new Investigate Officer for the CPRC before sharing his feelings about the City Council's failure to staff multiple commissions. Councilmember Myrick provided additional background information regarding the Mayor's refusal to appoint new commissioners and the politics surrounding the situation. Conversation ensued between Councilmember Myrick and Staff Attorney Bruce Soublet on whether or not the commissioners would need to vote on their support of transparency and a floating quorum item. The final determination was that the councilmember could add the items to the City Council's agenda on his own after the CPRC concluded their

discussion of the items. Vice Chair Y. Garcia and Commissioner O. Garcia offered their feelings on the subject.

VI. COMMENTS BY CHIEF OF POLICE (Allwyn Brown or his designate) – Chief Brown gave the report for this month’s meeting including crime statistics for April 2019 and May 2019. He commented on two homicides that occurred in the month of May and reported that there are strong leads on the cases. The Shot Spotter report was provided to the commissioners and Chief Brown reviewed the information. He shared that RPD has a plan in place to reduce the level of illegal activity on the July 4th holiday; Historical knowledge of problem areas will help to shape the plan. The Chief announced that the local county stay regarding SB 1421 was lifted at the end of March 2019 and now allows RPD to comply with the law and answer public records requests. The companion law, AB 748, will go into effect in a couple of months and will address police officer body camera footage. The City of Richmond is reviewing an ordinance that will allow RPD to bill for costs associated with these requests. Chief Brown then announced that RPD recently started releasing community briefing videos and he shared the department’s priorities. The Chief provided information about past and upcoming events including the annual inspection and tribute to fallen officers at Craneway Pavilion, and the upcoming Juneteenth parade. Chief Brown shared that the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms is implementing their Crime Gun Intelligence Center (CGIC) task force that will focus on gun ballistics among other things. Lastly, the Chief answered questions from the commissioners about side shows, the July 4th holiday, RPD staffing, report redaction policy,

VII. REPORTS BY RICHMOND POLICE OFFICERS’ ASSOCIATION (Ben Therriault, President) – A representative was not present to provide a report.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS, DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Review status of discussion of statutory changes and discuss proposed amendments to the ordinance (Vice Chair Y. Garcia, Commissioner Hegstrom, Councilmember Myrick, and Bruce Soublet) – Several meetings have taken place regarding the changes to the ordinance. The group would like to see more transparency and begin putting out a one-page report summary. The group would also like to relocate (to the top of the ordinance) the language about the CPRC’s purpose of bringing the community together. Bruce Soublet will work with Councilmember Jael Myrick on the language for the ordinance to be placed on the City Council’s upcoming agenda.

Rick Perez – Spoke about SB 1421 and his feelings about the Mayor not appointing commissioners to the CPRC.

Michael Parker – Shared his feelings about why the ordinance should be changed. He spoke about redactions and made a proposal to the CPRC on how they should handle redactions.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Introduction of new CIAO (Bruce Soublet)** – John Alden is the new interim Investigative Officer with an extensive career history of civilian oversight. His services have been secured to investigate the backlog of existing CPRC cases. John spoke to the CPRC about his past and current work experience and shared that he is a long-standing member of NACOLE. John provided an update on his progress on the CPRC's investigations. The commissioners welcomed him.

Cordell Hindler – He extended a welcome to the new CIAO.

- B. Review pending cases (Bruce Soublet)** – Staff S. Johnson provided the commissioners with a list of cases from 2018 to current. Y. Garcia asked that the list contain info from the last four to five years. Staff S. Johnson will work with the City Clerk's office to obtain any available information.

- C. Discuss status of Commission appointments (Chair D. Brown)** – No discussion from the commissioners.

Cordell Hindler – Expressed his frustration over how long it has taken for the Mayor to appoint new commissioners.

Michael Parker – Addressed the CPRC to defend the RPA against the comments made by the Mayor that the RPA is blocking appointments.

- D. Discuss opportunities for outreach (Vice Chair Y. Garcia)** – A list of events was provided to the commissioners. The Vice Chair asked for commissioners to commit to helping at upcoming community events. O. Garcia volunteered to take the lead for the Soulful Sunday event in August. D. Garcia volunteered for the Juneteenth event and asked questions about the CPRC's budget. He also suggested that the CPRC host an event of its own to let the community know of its existence. C. Hegstrom suggested that the CPRC's slideshow be updated and that flyers be produced for passing out to the community. A subcommittee was formed and includes C. Hegstrom, D. Garcia, and Vice Chair Y. Garcia.

Cordell Hindler – Suggested that the CPRC present to the neighborhood councils to spread information about the Commission's work.

- E. Discuss and/or vote on whether to issue a document, statement, press release or other communication in light of RPD's Community Briefing video on the Perez case (Commissioner Hegstrom)** – The commissioners expressed their disappointment with the video and discussed how to move forward with a response. The decision was made to release a response using a standard form that commissioner C. Hegstrom will draft. Commissioner C. Hegstrom will send the document to B. Soublet and Chair D. Brown.

Rick Perez – Shared comments about the video and RPD's image. He asked the CPRC to request that RPD remove the video from the public's viewing.

Michael Parker – Agreed with Rick Perez’s request for RPD to remove the video. He urged the Commission to look in to RPD’s PR procedures and to propose policies to the City Council.

- F. Discuss CPRC’s participation in upcoming community events (Vice Chair Y. Garcia)** – Refer to Item D. This topic was merged because the items were similar.

X. REPORTS OF COMMISSIONERS, CIAO AND STAFF

- Chair D. Brown – Extended his thanks to Councilmember Myrick for his work on behalf of the CPRC. He announced his resignation from the Commission.
- Vice Chair Y. Garcia – Attended meetings with Bruce Soublet and Councilmember Myrick to discuss changes to ordinance. She also participated in the Cinco de Mayo event, NACOLE Regional Training event, RPD annual inspection, and the Urban Tilth festival. The Vice Chair thanked Councilmember Myrick for his work with the CPRC.
- Commissioner D. Garcia – Participated in the Cinco de Mayo event.
- Commissioner O. Garcia – Participated in the Cinco de Mayo event and felt that the community can benefit from knowing more about the CPRC.
- Commissioner C. Hegstrom – Attended meetings with Bruce Soublet and Councilmember Myrick to discuss changes to ordinance. She also participated in the Cinco de Mayo and NACOLE Regional Training events.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned to the public at 9:28 p.m.



David A. Brown, Chair