

DECEMBER 6, 2006

REGULAR MEETING

The Police Commission of the City and County of San Francisco met in Room 400, City Hall, #1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, at 5:41 p.m. in a Regular Meeting.

PRESENT: Commissioners Renne, DeJesus, Lee, Marshall, Sparks,
Veronese

ABSENT: Commissioner Campos

(Commissioner Veronese arrived at 6:05 p.m., and Commissioner DeJesus was excused at 7:10 p.m.)

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO CLOSED SESSION

None

VOTE ON WHETHER TO HOLD CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Commissioner Sparks, second by Commissioner DeJesus to hold Closed Session. Approved 5-0.

CLOSED SESSION

- a. PERSONNEL EXCEPTION: Non disciplinary employee separation (Q-2 Police Officer)
- b. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - Anticipated Litigation Supreme Court decision in Copley Press, Inc. v. Superior Court of San Diego County, (2006) No. S128603
- c. PERSONNEL EXCEPTION: Status and calendaring of pending disciplinary matters

VOTE TO ELECT WHETHER TO DISCLOSE ANY OR ALL DISCUSSION HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Renne announced that with regard to the Copley Press case, the Commission will, to the extent practical, keep confidential personnel rules that may previously have been public but the Commission will fully comply with the Copley decision to the extent practical in making sure that those records become confidential.

Motion by Commissioner DeJesus, second by Commissioner Marshall for non disclosure. Approved 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Meesha Irizarry discussed concerns regarding treatment of mentally ill and the mental health protocol.

Marlon Crump discussed concerns regarding treatment of SRO tenants by officers in the Mission District.

Nicholas Renauld discussed concerns regarding video case incident.

Maxine Duggan, Erotic Service Provider, discussed concerns regarding video case incident.

Karl Klemons discussed concerns regarding video case incident.

Ace Washington discussed concerns regarding comments made by the previous speaker.

CHIEF'S REPORT

a. Update on significant policing efforts by Department members

Chief Fong introduced William Siffermann, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, to make a presentation.

Mr. Siffermann read the following statement for the record:

“The success of any Community Policing Program depends upon the strength of the relationship established between the police officers and the community they serve. The preparation of police recruits for community immersion is a complex task that requires a comprehensive training agenda. The goal is to infuse recruits with the necessary information and life experiences designed to inspire them to embrace both the sensitivity to all the prevalent human conditions and the cultural competency to deter, defer, and diffuse community disputes that spawn criminal behavior. Since the classroom is neither the adequate nor appropriate venue for many of these life lessons, it is the San Francisco Police Academy Recruit Community Service Project that provides recruits with a more suitable backdrop.

Now my understanding is that all San Francisco Police Recruit Classes are required to organize and deliver a community service project during their tenure at the Academy. While the scope of these projects are ultimately wide open to class consensus, given the appropriate administrative approval, but the projects themselves must be meaningful and have long lasting and measurable impact. Now, last Saturday, Police Recruit Class #212 traveled as a group to the Log Cabin Ranch School in La Honda. This the school where minors that have involvement with the juvenile court system are placed for a period of time and this is operated by the San Francisco Police Department, excuse me, the San Francisco Juvenile Probation Department to achieve those goals.

Now, inspired by the individual recruit's, one of the individual recruit's personal connection with YGC, Class 212th formed an indelible connection with the staff and residents at Log Cabin Ranch through their rich deposits of sweat equity and goodwill. The recruits performed several hours of manual labor in pursuit of habilitating a horticultural center at Log Cabin Ranch that's been abandoned. And then after lunch, what the youth engaged, all 28 juvenile residents, in an afternoon of football and basketball. Now, by all accounts, the interaction proved to be mutually beneficial because the two groups will most certainly meet each other again in the community, the communities that they will all return to. Now with that positive human experience tucked away in each's memory bank, future encounters with each other and their associates in the community will be fortified by that day's personal connection and may very well induce a long lasting positive relationship that could galvanize the community policing project.

The San Francisco Juvenile Probation Department applauds the vision of the San Francisco Police Department, the value of the Police Recruit Community Service Project, and the spirit of true service to the community exhibited by the San Francisco Police Recruit Class 212th.

Now, one of the objectives of community policing eventually is to bring members of the community into the profession, and I think that the vision of this class in opening their eyes and ears to the human condition – and one of the human conditions that we know is very present is the impact of juvenile delinquency and adult citizenship – and this certainly opened the eyes of the recruits and it also opened the eyes to the youth that had a positive encounter with police recruits. The police officers that they'll be seeing in the community for years to come.

I thought it was very important to shed light and what may seem to be a small kernel of hope but I wanted this to be part of the public record and our

commendation of the Police Department for its vision and particularly the recruits of that particular class.”

Commissioner Veronese asked Mr. Siffermann to talk about the Juvenile Probation Department. Mr. Siffermann stated that they are charged with the responsibility of investigating allegations of juvenile delinquency and when the court provide an adjudication, his department provides supervision, direction, and guidance to the youths.

Chief Fong talked about articles published in the Chronicle. Chief Fong stated that in terms of average shootings per 1,000 sworn officers between 1990 and 2001 when compared to other cities, San Francisco is the lowest at 1.5. When comparing the number of shootings per 1,000 violent crimes between 1990 and 2001, San Francisco is second to Los Angeles at the lower end of the spectrum. When comparing the number of shootings per 100,000 residents between 1990 and 2001, San Francisco is second to the bottom. When comparing incidents based on 100 homicides, San Francisco is in the middle.

Deputy Chief Keohane explained that due to recent Chronicle articles that have raised questions as to the Department’s policies and the level of training the officers receive in interaction with people with disabilities, the use of deadly force, and how the Department investigates and report on the use of deadly force. Chief Keohane stated that in order to present a more complete picture, the Department will present trainers and instructors from the Department who will show that the Department’s training is thorough and complete. Chief Keohane introduces Sergeant Mike Sullivan, ADA Coordinator, and Ms. Carolyn Kaufman from the Department of Public Health Program Director, Sergeant Rod Nakanishi, Range.

Commissioner Renne asked Chief Keohane if he wants to continue with the presentation since the meeting is not televised tonight and Commissioner Renne thinks that the public should see the presentation.

Commissioner Sparks suggests that the presentation be notices weeks in advance in order to notify the public.

Commissioner Marshall suggests continuing the presentation after it’s been noticed.

Sergeant Michael Sullivan, ADA Coordinator, gave a brief overview of the Police Crisis Intervention Program. Ms. Carolyn Kaufman, Department of Public Health Program Director, talked about her Department’s role in working with the Police Department.

Commissioner Sparks asked that Ms. Kaufman come back for a more detailed presentation.

Commissioner Lee asked Sgt. Sullivan if the training includes cultural competency. Sgt. Sullivan stated that yes, it does involve cultural competency. Sgt. Sullivan explained that most of the instructors are experts in their field and most of the instructors are from the community’s Behavioral Health Services so they bring that cultural competency with them.

Commissioner Sparks would like a status report on all OIS cases that are outstanding. Chief Keohane stated that he will have that next meeting. Commissioner Sparks also would like an update on the timeline regarding the Firearm Discharge Review Board. Commissioner Sparks also asked why the Commission did not receive a summary statement on the Detoy matter.

Commissioner Marshall asked the Chief that items be noticed under the

Chief's report in the future.

Chief Fong introduced Deputy Chief Tabak to brief the Commission about a case that was prosecuted in the Federal level. Chief Tabak briefed the Commission regarding dismantling of a terrorist urban gang. Chief Tabak stated that 8 out of the 10 defendants have agreed to sentencing pleadings. He thanked the FBI and the US Attorney's Office for working with the SFPD.

Chief Fong thanked the Commissioners for their attendance in the Wall of Honor Ceremony.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Meesha Irizarry discussed concerns regarding mental health training for the officers.

Marlon Crump discussed concerns regarding officer-involved shootings and black on black gangs.

Ace Washington discussed concerns regarding the use of black on black terminology.

Unidentified stated he is proud of the San Francisco Police Department.

OCC DIRECTOR'S REPORT

a. Review of Recent Activities

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 1, 2006

Motion by Commissioner Veronese, second by Commissioner Marshall. Minutes approved 6-0.

COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Renne announced that the Commission will not meet on December 20th and the 27th. The Commission will meet on December 13th.

SCHEDULING OF ITEMS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSIDERATION AT FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Marshall, second by Commissioner Lee to adjourn the meeting. Approved 6-0.

Thereafter, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Sergeant Joseph Reilly
Secretary
San Francisco Police Commission