



**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY OF LA MESA
CITIZEN PUBLIC SAFETY OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE
5:00 PM, LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY ROOM
8085 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, LA MESA, CA 91942**

**MINUTES
July 8, 2020**

This meeting was conducted utilizing teleconferencing and electronic means consistent with State of California Executive Order N-29-20 dated March 17, 2020, regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

CALL TO ORDER

City Clerk Wiegelman called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL (X indicates present)

Robert Duff	X
Dr. Janet Castanos	X
Jamal McRae	X
Susan Wayne	X
Caitlin Tiffany	X
Patricia Dillard	X
Rev. Frank Willey	X
Joshua David Morse	X
Steven Evans	X
Jack Shu	X
Vacant (Police Beat 4 Resident Representative)	

Others present: Megan Wiegelman, City Clerk; Lieutenant Chad Bell, La Mesa Police Department; Community Service Officer Nora Allsberry, La Mesa Police Department

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lieutenant Bell read aloud the emailed public comments submitted by 3:00 p.m. the day of the Task Force Meeting.

Lisa Marquis submitted a comment regarding her thanks to La Mesa PD and La Mesa Fire.

Bret Schafer submitted a comment regarding his support for the La Mesa Police Department.

Lindsey Langston submitted a comment regarding her thanks to a La Mesa Police Officer.

Linda Patzold submitted a comment regarding her thanks to law enforcement in La Mesa.

Meegan Nolan submitted a comment regarding her thanks to the Task Force.

Mary Jane Fay submitted a comment regarding the need for a review to ensure the police force is anti-racist.

Helene Cauchon submitted a comment regarding her support for an independent Police Oversight Committee.

Rev. Marcus C. Lohrmann submitted a comment regarding his support of a Police Oversight Commission.

Richard Brouillette submitted a comment regarding his support for the creation of a La Mesa Citizens Police Review Board.

Christine Edwards submitted a comment regarding La Mesa's need for a Police Oversight Committee.

Susan Zyphur submitted a comment regarding her support for the formation of a Citizen's Police Review Board for La Mesa.

Dustin Lothspeich submitted a comment regarding his support for the formation of a Citizen's Police Review Board for La Mesa.

Michael McDonald submitted a comment regarding his support for the formation of a Citizen's Police Review Board for La Mesa.

Amy Huie submitted a comment regarding her support for the creation of a Citizen's Police Review Board.

Adriana Taboada submitted a comment regarding her request that the City of La Mesa approves a Police Oversight Committee.

Nicole Mathwich submitted a comment regarding her support for the formation of a Citizen's Police Review Board for La Mesa.

Kasey Zahner submitted a comment regarding the importance of a Police Oversight Committee.

Mikaela Smith submitted a comment regarding her support for the formation of a Citizen's Police Review Board for La Mesa.

Joni Lewis submitted a comment regarding her thanks to the La Mesa Police Department and the local City Government.

Halle Rivero submitted a comment regarding her support of a Citizens Police Review Board.

Sarah Young submitted a comment regarding her support of the proposed Citizen Police Review Board.

Melissa Walter submitted a comment regarding her support of the formation of a Citizen's Police Review Board for La Mesa.

Public comments were suspended to allow time for the guest speakers.

CURRENT BUSINESS

1. BRIEFING ON SUBPOENA POWER, GENERAL LAW CITIES, CHARTER CITIES, AND MAJOR COMPONENTS OF A CITIZEN POLICE REVIEW BOARD – Andrea Sheridan Ordin and Dale Larson, Strumwasser & Woocher LLP

Ms. Ordin and Mr. Larson explained many of the things a General Law City can and cannot do. They suggested the City of Davis as a good comparison to La Mesa. It was recommended that the Task Force consider whether Items (10), (11) and (14) of the draft proposal were right for the City of La Mesa.

Melissa submitted a comment regarding subpoena power.

Gene Carpenter submitted a comment regarding the City Manager's role in regards to the Review Board.

Following Task Force questions and comments, no action was taken.

PUBLIC COMMENTS CONTINUED

Johnny Miles submitted a comment regarding his support of establishing a Citizen's Police Review Board for the City of La Mesa.

Jessica Stephens submitted a comment regarding her support of the formation of a citizens review board of the La Mesa PD.

Stephen Roehrs submitted a comment regarding his ideas for the La Mesa Police Department.

Sarah Chang submitted a comment regarding her support of the formation of a Citizen's Police Review Board for La Mesa.

Richard Tibbles submitted a comment regarding cutting police spending.

Stephanie Alacon submitted a comment regarding rethinking municipal budgets.

Katie Hallett submitted a comment regarding her support of the formation of a citizen's police review board for La Mesa.

Emmanuel Istomin submitted a comment regarding his support of the formation of a citizen's police review board for La Mesa.

Dr. Jeffrey Hall and Fern Hall submitted a comment regarding their support of an oversight committee.

Andy Trimlett submitted a comment regarding his support for a police oversight committee in La Mesa.

Brian Long submitted a comment regarding his support of a citizens review board of the La Mesa PD.

Sharissa Sosa submitted a comment regarding her request for justice.

Sasha Jonestein submitted a comment regarding her support for a permanent and independent

oversight committee.

Amanda submitted a comment regarding her opinions of the necessary aspects of an Oversight Commission.

Christine Tompkins submitted a comment regarding her support of developing a Citizen's Police Review Board.

Missy Solis submitted a comment regarding her support for the formation of a Citizen's Police Review Board as soon as possible.

Gretchen Vogt submitted a comment regarding La Mesa's need for a strong and independent Police Oversight Committee.

Dr. Melissa James submitted a comment regarding her support for the immediate creation of a Police Oversight Commission.

Areta MacKelvie submitted a comment regarding her support of the formation of a citizens review board of the La Mesa PD.

Bill Zahner submitted a comment regarding La Mesa's need for a strong and independent Police Oversight Committee.

Vinton Omaleki submitted a comment regarding his support of the creation of a Police Oversight Committee.

Public comments were suspended and recommenced later in the Task Force Meeting.

2. DISCUSSION OF CITIZEN PUBLIC SAFETY OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE SCHEDULE AND OBJECTIVES

The Task Force discussed having a draft proposal ready by the City Council Meeting on Tuesday, July 28, 2020. The draft would be reviewed by the Task Force, the Task Force lawyers and the La Mesa Police Department.

Following Task Force questions and comments, no action was taken.

3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A LA MESA CITIZEN POLICE REVIEW BOARD

The Task Force discussed what they would like the review board to be called, what its goal would be and who should make up the membership.

Meegan submitted a comment regarding investigations the Oversight Committee will conduct.

Rev. Rebecca Littlejohn submitted a comment regarding a child who was shot by police.

Sasha Jonestein submitted a comment regarding membership on the Oversight Commission.

Teri Andre submitted a comment regarding the maturity required to be on the Oversight Commission.

Rev. Rebecca Littlejohn submitted a comment regarding violence and children of color.

ACTION: Motioned by Task Force Member Janet Castanos and seconded by Task Force Member Patricia Dillard to create a seat on the Review Board for a Youth ages 18-21, and a seat for a Young Adult ages 22-30.

Vote: 10-0

Yes: Robert Duff, Jamal McRae, Susan Wayne, Caitlin Tiffany, Joshua David Morse, Steven Evans, Jack Shu, Dr. Janet Castanos, Patricia Dillard, Rev. Frank Willey

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS CONTINUED

Emily and Danny Green submitted a comment regarding their support of a strong, independent police oversight committee.

Matthew Gay submitted a comment regarding his support for the La Mesa Police Department and their officers.

Derek D. Bass submitted a comment regarding La Mesa's need for a truly independent police oversight committee.

Rev. Kelly Ryan submitted a comment regarding her views on an oversight commission.

Donna Garcia submitted a comment regarding her wish for the La Mesa City Council to listen their constituents.

Nicole Chenelle submitted a comment regarding her support of a Police Oversight Committee for La Mesa.

Rev. Rebecca Littlejohn submitted a comment regarding her thanks to the Task Force.

Bob Beardsley submitted a comment regarding his support for the La Mesa Police Department.

Judith Patterson submitted a comment regarding how the Oversight Committee is formed.

Leroy Johnson submitted a comment regarding his thanks to the Citizen Public Safety Oversight Task Force.

Elizabeth Maldonado Robinson submitted a comment regarding her support for the creation of a Citizen

Police Oversight Commission.

Travis Walter submitted a comment regarding his support in creating a Citizen's Police Review Board in La Mesa.

Kimberly Randles submitted a comment regarding her support for a citizen-based task force.

Edward Perry submitted a comment regarding his support for a Police Oversight Committee in La Mesa.

Demetrius and Rebecca Antuna submitted a comment regarding her support for the formation of a Citizens Police Review Board.

Jesse W. Robinson, Jr. submitted a comment regarding his support for a Citizen Police Oversight Commission.

Brienna Phillips submitted a comment regarding her support of a review board for the police of La Mesa.

The following comments were not received by the 3:00 p.m. deadline, and therefore were not read aloud during the Task Force Meeting:

Hedaya Rizeq submitted a comment regarding her support of the formation of a citizen's police review board for La Mesa.

Morgan Manter submitted a comment regarding her support of the formation of a Citizen's Police Review Board for La Mesa.

Kevin Tugend submitted a comment regarding his support for the formation of a citizens police review board for La Mesa.

Tiffany Rogel submitted a comment regarding her support for the creation of a Police Oversight Committee.

Lott Hill submitted a comment regarding support for the formation of a Citizen's Police Review Board for La Mesa.

Ryan Meher submitted a comment regarding support for the formation of a Citizen's Police Review Board for La Mesa.

Kristen T submitted a comment regarding support of the formation of a citizen's review board for La Mesa.

Sgt. Ryan Tongue submitted a comment regarding support of the formation of a citizen's review board for La Mesa.

4. STAFF AND TASK FORCE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Task Force Member Evans asked if the Task Force would like to hear from National City's Oversight

Commission at the next Task Force Meeting. The Task Force agreed they would like to.

Vice Chair Jack Shu announced he would be resigning from the Task Force, effective after the Regular Meeting on July 15, 2020. This would create a vacancy for an Older Adult representative.

ADJOURNMENT

City Clerk Wiegelman adjourned the meeting at 8:52 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 15, 2020.

Prepared by:

Nora Allsberry, Community Service Officer