

LWV of Los Angeles—Observer's Report

LAPD Commissioners Meeting

January 9, 2018

The meeting started at 9:45, a bit late, because of the rain and traffic. Arriving later: Commissioner Sandra Figueroa-Villa and Commissioner Cynthia McClain-Hill

Members were courteous to each other and the public.

Brown Act requirements were followed (agenda posted at least 72 hours before).

Agenda clearly described what was to be discussed.

Link to the agenda <http://assets.lapdonline.org/assets/pdf/010918.rev%20pdf.pdf>

Commissioners rarely commented or asked questions, with the exception of a request for more details about the drones.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- Approved Chief Beck's attendance at the Major Cities Chiefs Association 2018 Winter Meeting (\$610.66)
- Approved monetary donations for food, recreational activities/events, holiday parties, as well as equipment and health/wellness for morale: (totaling \$73,298.51)

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

A. Report on donation of drones (valued at \$31,528.36) from the L.A. Police Foundation for use by SWAT and LAPD. Commissioner Soboroff confirmed that the drones would be used according to policy.

<http://assets.lapdonline.org/assets/pdf/2017.10.04%20-%20sUAS%20Guidelines%20Proposed%20Draft.pdf>

B. Approved agreement between the City of L.A. and Justice & Security Strategies, Inc., for community survey services for LAPD.

Items C, D, and E were approved without public comment. Report of Biased Policing Complaint Audit was removed from the agenda.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

- Enjoyed riding in the Rose Parade.
- LAPD officer was ambushed and is recovering.
- Not enough data yet in this new year to make accurate report on significant incidents and activities.
- 2017 Crime statistics will be reported at a press conference on Friday, Jan 12.
- 2017 Use of Force Report should be ready in February: 1.6 million traffic stops;
2121 incidents of use of force; 45 officers investigated; 17 fatalities;
15% decrease over last year; 7% decrease in the last 5 years.

10:30 am CLOSED SESSION for Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Performance Evaluation

1. 1/16/17 – R. Pioquinto
2. 1/17/17 – O. Infante-Ramirez
3. 1/27/17 – M. D. Reyes

LWVLA Observers did not wait for the Board to reconvene to announce its decisions.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were several public comments opposing the receipt of the donation of drones:

The public is opposed to the use of drones because of their ability to collect data, spying on innocent citizens;

Drones contribute to the perception that police are an occupying force meant to control black and brown people;

Suggest wait for environmental impact report, including social/emotional impact, before implementing.

Donations are not subject to oversight by the Police Commission.

Potential conflict of interest – Hugh O'Donnell, one of the board members of the L.A. Police Foundation, works for Motorola, the manufacturer of the drones.

Commissioner Soboroff confirmed that the drones would be used according to policy.

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Observers: Carolina Goodman and Kitty Stokes