

**CUPERTINO PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION**  
**DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**  
**Thursday May 14, 2020, 6:00 p.m.**  
**Teleconference meeting without a physical location**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commission Chair Chao called to order this meeting of the Cupertino Public Safety Commission at approximately 6:04 pm on Thursday May 14, 2020 via teleconference.

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioner Present: Yvonne Chao  
Tiffany Wang  
Eric Shan  
Hymanand Nellore  
Lakshminarasimha Ankireddipally

Commissioner Absent: None

Staff Present: Captain Rich Urena, Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office  
Deputy Fire Chief Shumate, Santa Clara County Fire  
Department  
Thomas Chin, Emergency Services Coordinator, City of Cupertino

Others Present Virtually: None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Subject: Approve April 9, 2020 Minutes  
Recommended Action: Approval of the April 9, 2020 Minutes

Commissioner Chao motioned to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2020 meeting; Commissioner Shan seconded the motion; Ayes: Shan, Chao, Wang, Nellore, Ankireddipally. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

**POSTPONEMENTS**

None

**ORAL COMMUNICATION****WRITTEN COMMUNICATION**

None

**OLD BUSINESS****2. Subject: Public Safety Education and Outreach****a. Public Safety Forum (Chao/Nellore)**

**Recommended Action:** Receive updated reports and discuss proposals for future forums/workshops

Commissioner Chao reached out to the City regarding the Public Safety Forum that was set for October to confirm a date for the use of the venue. Commissioner Chao also went on to share that due to the circumstances of Covid-19, she is recommending that the agenda for the forum be placed on hold.

Commissioner Ankireddipally informed the group that during his Mayor's meeting; the subject of elderly residents being harassed came up. He added that the Mayor referenced an incident where someone used pepper spray during the commission of a robbery. Commissioner Ankireddipally wanted to share the information to determine if the City is experiencing an increase on these types of incidents and if such a topic should be included in the Public Safety Forum. Captain Urena said he was not aware of an increase on this type of crime.

Commissioner Chao would like to keep in mind adding the topic of mental health to the Public Safety Forum agenda. Commissioner Shan sought clarification from Commissioner Chao on the meeting format and recommended having a health department or county department person be available for a Q&A time period.

Potential agenda topics for the Public Safety Forum

- Mental Health
- Wildlife
- Vehicle Burglaries
- Fire Safety
- Fireside Chats

**3. Subject: COVID-19 Impact**

**Recommended Action:** Discuss COVID-19 impact to City

Commissioner Chao asked what the commission or the City can do during this COVID time and asked if school counselors were checking in with the students to see how they are doing. Commissioner Chao expressed concern for the most venerable kids, especially the high and middle school kids. Commissioner Nellore agreed and it added that it would be wise to involve local school districts. Commissioner Wong added that the commission should reach out to the Teen Commission for some guidance.

Commissioner Shan expressed his observation regarding the shelter in place/social distancing, and asked how the Sheriff's Office is reinforcing the guidelines. Captain Urena reported that they have taken an educational approach but have issued some citations. Captain Urena added that they have not had a big problem with the residents failing to following the guidelines.

Emergency Services Coordinator, Mr. Thomas Chin, reported that he is closely following the Santa Clara County Public Health Department as they are preparing themselves and recruiting a large amount of contact tracers. The Public Health Department is preparing their procedures so when things start to reopen, they will be prepared to handle a potential increase in contacts as well as an increase of residents infected with the virus.

4. Subject: Vehicle Burglary

Recommended Action: Discuss Vehicle Burglaries

Captain Urena went on to report that the number of vehicle burglaries has decreased because of people having to shelter in place. He further stated that he would definitely take the time to help educate residents in not leaving valuables in their vehicles. During the month of April only four vehicle burglaries were reported. He added that the incidents occurred in both shopping centers and some neighborhoods. Captain Urena also shared that there will most likely be an increase in vehicle burglaries once businesses start opening back up.

## NEW BUSINESS

## STAFF AND COMMISSION REPORTS

5. Subject: Report by the Santa Clara County Fire Department

Recommended Action: Receive report by the Santa Clara County Fire Department

Fire Chief Shumate went on to report that staff is practicing social distancing when at the fire house but they also wear face coverings while out with the public, whenever possible.

Fir Chief Shumate reported that sometimes high unemployment rates translate into unexpected fires. However, during this current time it has not been a problem. Currently,

the fire department is checking out fire hydrants to make sure they are working properly. The fire department is also working on brush inspections due to the fire season approaching.

Deputy Fire Chief Shumate thanked the public and residents for the outpouring support and understanding of the fire department during these unusual times.

Deputy Fire Chief Shumate explained that during the month of April there were 1069 calls for service which is a decrease in calls. Also during the month of April there were no fire calls. All response times for the month of April were met. The dollar loss for the month of April was \$1,175. The Community Education Program has been put on hold due to the SIP, although when available, the fire crew does try to participate in birthday parades whenever possible.

Commissioner Nellore asked about the predictions of wildfires for this year from historical data. Deputy Fire Chief Shumate said with the reduced amount of rain it is not enough to have the vegetation areas moist, which is one area that they can never predict. However, the department is ready for the fire season and has all staff prepared.

6. Subject: Report by the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office

Recommended Action: Receive report by the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office

Captain Urena went on to report that during the month of April all response times were met. Also during the month of April there were 4 priority one calls, 228 priority two calls, and 349 priority three calls.

Captain Urena went on to give a brief overview regarding the four robberies that occurred during the month of April. Out of these four incidents, three have been resolved, one incident remains open. He added that the City has experienced a decrease in residential burglaries due to the residents being home.

Captain Urena also reported that during the month of April there was a decrease in speeding citations compared to the previous month. There has also been a decrease in the amount of vehicle accidents.

Captain Urena shared a graph with the commission regarding reported domestic violence and family disturbance calls in all areas that the Sheriff's Office provides services. The graph depicts a slight increase in both, presumably due to the shelter in place order. Captain Urena provided a brief overview of the six domestic violence incidents which occurred in the month of April.

A child reported domestic violence between her parents, specifically that her father hit her mother in the past. The mother denied any abuse and the father claimed he grabbed his wife by the arm during an argument in the past. All involved parties reported feeling safe at home. The case was submitted to the District Attorney's Office for review.

During a 9-1-1 hang-up investigation call, deputies responded to a residence and heard a disturbance inside the house. An investigation revealed the victim girlfriend called for help then hung up during an argument with her boyfriend. She alleged he pushed her, causing her to fall backwards. The boyfriend was arrested and booked into Main Jail.

The daughter called to report waking up to a disturbance in the residence, overhearing an argument between her dad and his girlfriend. An investigation revealed the suspect boyfriend battered his girlfriend. The suspect was arrested and booked into Main Jail.

During an investigation by a neighboring agency, a separate domestic violence incident was alleged to have occurred in Cupertino. Deputies made multiple attempts to contact and interview the victim, but were unable to locate her. The case was submitted to detectives for further follow-up.

The victim boyfriend called to report that his girlfriend hit, slapped, and pushed him during an argument. The girlfriend was arrested and booked into Main Jail.

The victim girlfriend called to report her boyfriend grabbed and scratched her during an argument, in violation of a peaceful contact order protecting her. The suspect was arrested and booked into Main Jail.

Commissioner Nellore would like to know if Captain is aware if anything is being done regarding the homeless. Captain Urena did share that it is something that the City and the Sheriff's Office is currently working on.

7. Subject: Report by the City of Cupertino

Recommended Action: Receive Report by the City of Cupertino Liaison

Mr. Chin, City of Cupertino Emergency Services Coordinator, introduced himself to the commission. He provided a brief overview of his background including working previously for the City and County of San Francisco as well as with the County of Santa Clara Public Health Department. Everyone on the Commission welcomed him.

8. Subject: Commissioner Reports

Recommended Action: Receive Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Ankireddipally attended the Mayor's Meeting in March and wanted to notify the commission of the four harassment incidents that were brought to his attention. He was

also informed of the robbery incident where the victim was sprayed with pepper spray. Commissioner Ankireddipally requested information from Captain Urena related to the pepper spray incident so that the commissioner who attends the June Mayor's Meeting can report back.

Commissioner Shan agreed to attend the Mayor's Meeting in June.

Commissioner Chao shared an interest in creating a living ongoing document that would be accessible to all commissioners so as to add notes or information that comes across before the next monthly meeting. Captain Urena advised that they would have to keep in mind not to violate the Brown Act, as everything the commission discusses should be open to public view. Captain Urena agreed to check with the City to determine how best to create such a document. However, he suggested the commission use a word document and add notes during the meeting and to turn in the document at the end of each meeting so that it may be incorporated into the meeting packet and open to public view.

## **FUTURE AGENDA SETTING**

None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Commission Chair Chao adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 11, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

### **SUBMITTED BY:**

*Veronica Lara  
West Valley Patrol Division  
Santa Clara County Office of the Sheriff  
May 20, 2020*

### **APPROVED BY:**

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Yvonne Chao Chair

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Date