

**Public Safety Council Committee
Minutes**

Wednesday, August 13, 2008

10:00 a.m.

Municipal Plaza Room C

Members Present: Councilmember Justin Rodriguez, *Chair, District 7*
Councilmember Philip Cortez, *District 4*
Councilmember Delicia Herrera, *District 6*
Councilmember John Clamp, *District 10*

Members Absent: *None*

Staff Present: Erik Walsh, *Assistant City Manager*; William McManus, *Police Chief*; Charles Hood, *Fire Chief*; Steven Baum, *Park Police Chief*; Janet Martin, *Parks & Recreation Assistant Director*; Brandon Smith, *Office of the City Clerk*

Others Present: Frank Gonzalez, *SAPPOA*; Richard Kelley, *SATAC*; Micheal Helle, *SAPOA*; Dean Fischer, *SAPOA*; Jay Ellis, *SAPOA*; Verner Eglit, *ATAC*

Call to Order

Chairman Rodriguez called the meeting to order.

At this time the Committee addressed Item 2.

2. Approval of minutes from the June 12, 2008 Meeting

Councilmember Herrera moved to approve the minutes from the June 12, 2008 Meeting. Councilmember Clamp seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Citizens to be Heard

Verner Eglit, ATAC, addressed the Committee and spoke in opposition to the consolidation of Airport Police into the San Antonio Police Department.

3. Police Differential Response Program

Presented by Police Chief William McManus

Chief William McManus highlighted the benefits of improved Differential Police Response practices. He noted that the proposed initiative would increase officer availability for calls requiring Police response and maximize the use of sworn officers. Councilmember Herrera asked if there were any conflicts with the Police Contract and what the cost impact of the proposed initiative would be. Chief McManus replied that there was no Contract conflict or cost impact. Councilmember Clamp spoke in support of the initiative and stated that a public

education program would be developed. Councilmember Cortez inquired about the web-based reporting option for those with no computer. Chief McManus stated that citizens could file a report at a substation or by phone. Chairman Rodriguez spoke in support of the proposed initiative and noted possible revisions.

Councilmember Clamp moved to forward said item for discussion during the Police Department's Budget Presentation (B Session). Councilmember Herrera seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Fire Medical Response Program

Presented by Fire Chief Charles Hood

Chief Charles Hood reported that the Fire Medical Response Program would increase Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulance availability, reduce response times, and reduce EMS Division workloads. He noted that calls would be screened to determine if a Basic Life Support (BLS) response was appropriate and would free ALS ambulances for critical medical emergencies. He added that up to 47 calls could qualify for Fire Medical Response.

Councilmember Clamp moved to forward said item for discussion during the Fire Department's Budget Presentation (B Session). Councilmember Herrera seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Update on Parks and Airport Police Transition into SAPD

Presented by Erik Walsh, Assistant City Manager

Erik Walsh presented information regarding the transition of Parks and Airport Police into the San Antonio Police Department. He reported that due to State Law, the civil service statute, and collective bargaining agreement with Police Officers, the certified Peace Officers could not be transitioned under the Police Chief. He noted a solution to the issue was to have the officers vote to amend their Meet and Confer Agreement to waive those considerations under State Law in exchange for transition into the Police Department. He added that if said amendment was passed it would be forwarded the City Council for consideration.

Chief McManus clarified that Parks and Airport Police would become Divisions within the Police Department and that their current duties would remain the same. Mr. Walsh added that the Parks and Airport Police Officers would still operate under their own Meet and Confer Agreements.

Councilmember Herrera noted some concerns and requested additional discussion.

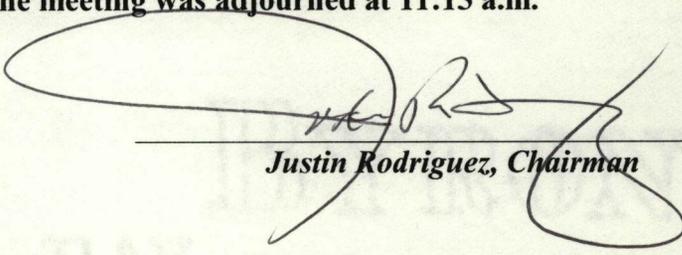
Park Police Officer Frank Gonzalez spoke in support of the transition and the retention of their specialized skills under their own Meet and Confer Agreement.

6. Consideration of items for future meetings

Councilmember Cortez – Revitalization of the San Antonio Crime Commission

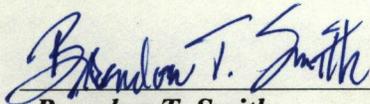
7. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.



Justin Rodriguez, Chairman

Respectfully Submitted,



Brandon T. Smith
Office of the City Clerk

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