

MINUTES
MALIBU PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 1, 2017
MULTIPURPOSE ROOM
5:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Frost called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following persons were recorded in attendance by the Recording Secretary:

PRESENT: Vice Chair Chris Frost; Commissioners Ryan Addison, Christian Hanson, Carol Randall and Tracy Wright

ALSO PRESENT: Bob Brager, Public Works Director; Arthur Aladjajian, Public Works Superintendent; Lieutenant Jim Royal, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Liaison; and Mary Linden, Recording Secretary

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mark Russo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION Commissioner Randall moved and Vice Chair Frost seconded a motion to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA

Recording Secretary Linden reported that the agenda for the meeting was properly posted on February 23, 2017.

CEREMONIAL/PRESENTATIONS

A. Administration of Oath of Office to Commissioner Addison

Recording Secretary Linden administered the oath of office to Commissioner Addison.

B. Election of Chair and Vice Chair (continued from February 1, 2017)

Vice Chair Frost opened the floor to nominations for Chair.

Commissioner Hanson nominated Chris Frost and Vice Chair Frost nominated Carol Randall for Chair.

The question was called. Commissioner Hanson voted for Chris Frost, and Vice Chair Frost and Commissioners Addison, Randall and Wright voted for Carol Randall. Carol Randall was elected as Chair, 4-1.

Chair Randall opened the floor to nominations for Vice Chair.

Commissioner Hanson nominated Chris Frost for Vice Chair.

The question was called and Chris Frost was unanimously elected Vice Chair.

ITEM 1.A. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Meril May displayed a bicycle tire and bicycle helmet and discussed potential safety hazards faced by cyclists. He requested the public notify City Public Works staff or Caltrans of hazards observed on roads. He discussed road conditions in Malibu.

Annie Ellis discussed public accessways on Broad Beach Road. She stated signs indicate that the accessways are managed by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC). She stated the hours are 6:00 a.m. to midnight, but the gates are not being locked according to the posted schedules. She stated other gates in the City close at sunset. She expressed concern with the public walking through private property on their way to accessway gates.

ITEM 1.B. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

In response to Ms. Ellis, Lt. Royal confirmed that Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority (MRCA) is responsible for the gates but does not have personnel on duty at midnight.

In response to Commissioner Hanson, Deputy Mark Winn confirmed that bicyclists up to the age of 18 are required to wear helmets.

In response to Commissioner Wright, Public Works Superintendent Aladjajian stated he would notify the local Caltrans maintenance yard of potholes that need to be filled. Commissioner Wright stated bike laws need to be discussed within the community. She suggested cycling law awareness and safety be added to a future agenda. In response to Ms. Ellis, she stated she would look into the accessway gates.

Vice Chair Frost discussed the history of accessways and gates in Malibu. He stated responsibility for the accessways moved between agencies over the years. He agreed with Mr. May that bicyclists not wearing helmets is an ongoing, serious problem. He stated adding a sixth person with the ex officio position leads to longer meetings. He suggested the position not being filled. He discussed past meetings the Commission held with cycling groups regarding issues and concerns for both cyclists and motorists.

Chair Randall disagreed with elimination of the ex officio position. She stated having as much information as possible is better. She stated there is no control over the public's use of beaches after hours through unlocked gates. In response to Chair Randall, Commissioner Wright stated jumping the gate was the only way to get off the beach after a gate is locked. Lt. Royal explained the Coastal Commission's philosophy of public access to the beaches. Chair Randall requested rules related to public accessways be added to a future agenda.

In response to Chair Randall, Deputy Winn discussed the City of Santa Monica's unsuccessful efforts to ban the use of cellphones by pedestrians crossing the street. He stated there are currently no laws prohibiting the use of cellphones while walking.

ITEM 2 CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION Vice Chair Frost moved and Commissioner Wright seconded a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion carried unanimously.

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following items:

- A. Previously Discussed Items
None.

- B. New Items
 - 1. Approval of Minutes – February 1, 2017
Staff recommendation: Approve minutes of the Public Safety Commission Regular meeting of February 1, 2017.

ITEM 3 OLD BUSINESS

None.

ITEM 4 NEW BUSINESS

- A. Commission Rules of Procedure and Decorum
Recommended Action: 1) Review Rules of Procedure and Decorum for the Conduct of Public Safety Commission Meetings (Rules); and 2) Adopt Resolution No. PSC 17-01, amending Section 1.B. of the Rules to change the schedule for Election of Chair and Vice Chair to the Regular meeting held in February of each year.

Executive Assistant Linden presented the report.

MOTION Vice Chair Frost moved and Commissioner Wright seconded a motion to adopt Resolution No. PSC 17-01, amending Section 1.B. of the Rules to change the schedule for Election of Chair and Vice Chair to the Regular meeting held in February of each year. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Update on Projects Affecting Traffic on Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) and City Streets

Recommended Action: 1) Receive and file status updates on projects affecting traffic on PCH and City streets, including: a) Bus Stop Shelters Pilot Project; and b) Ongoing Storm Preparation and Response; and 2) Discuss maintenance work conducted by Caltrans in Malibu and provide feedback to Caltrans staff.

Public Works Superintendent Aladjajian presented the report. He thanked the Sheriff's Department and Volunteers on Patrol (VOP) for assisting the City with road issues during recent storm events. He announced a Caltrans project beginning March 6, which will require nightly closures of one lane in each direction on PCH to repair slopes damaged in recent storms.

Vice Chair Frost described areas where erosion left debris to the fog line.

Commissioner Hanson stated a 7:00 a.m. end time for PCH construction could be problematic for morning commuters. Chair Randall agreed with Commissioner Hanson. Public Works Superintendent Aladjajian stated he would extend their suggestion of an earlier end time to Caltrans.

Annie Ellis discussed removal and replacement of No Parking signs from El Matador to the far end of Broad Beach Road. She stated the new signs were insufficient to ensure safety for motorists, cyclists, pedestrians and beachgoers.

Vice Chair Frost agreed with Ms. Ellis. He stated many people are willing to pay the cost of a citation when parking in a No Parking zone. Lt. Royal suggested the best deterrent would be to make the No Parking areas tow-away zones.

C. Public Safety Agency Activity

Recommended Action Discuss recent Public Safety Agency activities and receive and file activity reports from the County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department and Fire Department.

Executive Assistant Linden announced that Maria Grycan, Los Angeles County Fire Department Community Services Liaison, was leaving Malibu to take a position in the Santa Clarita area. She stated the City Council would recognize her for her many years of service at its meeting on March 27, 2017.

Lt. Royal discussed statistics in the Sheriff's Department's monthly report. He stated the City averages 350 to 450 total collisions annually with about 1/3 of those involving injuries. Deputy Winn added that most rear-end collisions are either the result of traveling too fast for conditions or following too closely. Lt. Royal stated the project to synchronize traffic signals on PCH will help reduce collisions.

In response to a request he received from Chair Randall, Lt. Royal provided data regarding collisions near the intersections of PCH at Las Flores Canyon Road and at Rambla Pacifico from November through February. Chair Randall asked if there was a common denominator regarding the cause of the accidents. Lt. Royal stated he would review the PCH Safety Study and report back.

Vice Chair Frost requested the Sheriff's Department write an article for the local papers to educate residents about safe turning on PCH.

Commissioner Wright stated the reach of local papers is not as good as it used to be. She suggested additional signage to educate motorists. Commissioner Randall agreed that signage would be helpful, but reaching any residents through an article would be helpful.

Lt. Royal stated opportunities to make unsafe turns are a more frequent causal factor than many people realize. He added that many people believe that traffic accidents on PCH are a more serious concern than the crime rate.

Commissioner Addison asked if a left turn arrow had been considered for turns from northbound Webb Way to westbound PCH. Public Works Superintendent Aladjajian stated Caltrans had determined that could cause problems for pedestrian crossing. Deputy Winn stated the safe crossing signal for pedestrians to cross is displayed only when motorists are making left turns from the opposite direction. Commissioner Addison suggested moving the crosswalk to the other side of Webb Way. Lt. Royal stated he would bring the matter to Caltrans.

Commissioner Wright asked if there were potential development changes at the intersection of PCH and Webb Way.


ADJOURNMENT

MOTION At 6:48 p.m., Vice Chair Frost moved and Commissioner Hanson seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

Approved and adopted by the Public Safety Commission of the City of Malibu on April 5, 2017.


CAROL RANDALL, Chair

ATTEST:


MARY LINDEN, Recording Secretary