Date: Friday, September 4, 2020
Time: 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
Location: Zoom online, San Francisco

MINUTES

Present: Henry Karnilowicz (Co Chair), Commander Daryl Fong, Captain Juan Daniels, Captain Timothy Falvey, Sergeant Louie Benavidez, Vas Kiniris, Gwen Kaplan, Brandon Quan, Grace Horikiri, Bill Barnickel, Mike Zwiefelhofer, Janet Tarlov, Alex Mullaney, Maryo Mogannam, Betty Louie.

Meeting commenced at 12:05 pm.

Grace Horikiri hosted the meeting.

Gwen Kaplan made a motion to approve the minutes and Grace Horikiri seconded and approval was unanimous.

Commander Daryl Fong commenced the meeting welcoming Captain Timothy Falvey from Southern Station. He said robberies are down 15%, assaults are down 18%, auto burglaries are down 38% - thanks to effect of COVID and more officers out in the street. Having challengers with burglaries which are up 41% and auto theft 33% which are up. Residential burglaries are mostly from garages with thefts of bicycles. Having challengers with violence and an increase in homicides and shootings particularly in Ingleside and Bayview. Department has been undergoing presentations before the supervisors about budget particularly reduction of funding of overtime which impacts funding of academy classes for hiring.

He acknowledged planning of merchants walk with Maryo Mogannam and I on Divisadero. On the two hour walk from SFPD there was also Chief Bill Scott and the Northern Station Captain Paul Yep who got to meet with many of the merchants. He also thanked everyone who participated in the budget hearings.

Gwen Kaplan said that SFPD is short of officers and how is that going to affect academy classes. Commander Fong said that the City Charter Mandate requires 1971 officers however there is pending legislation to amend the mandate reducing the requirement. They are having difficulty in recruitment and retention which is happening nationwide. Officers are promoting social distancing and working with park rangers. He stressed that safety is number one.
Betty Louie asked how many police officers are in SFFD and how many are retiring and how can merchants help. He replied that it was really helpful having so many merchants supporting SFPD at the budget hearings. SFFD has just over 2,000 sworn officers which includes the airport and they do have an ongoing recruitment effort.

Maryo Mogannam said that everyone was happy to see the Police on the Divisadero merchants walk. Maryo Mogannam said that foot beats are not extraneous. Commander Fong that foot beats are a model of success and captains are responsible for deploying them. They still have active academy classes.

Captain Timothy Falvey has been captain for 8 1/2 years and spent 3 years in tactical team and was captain of security for Superbowl 50. He has been with SFPD for 25 years and was an accountant for 7 years prior for the SDFD. Most of his family is associated with SFPD. He said violent crime is down 16%. Property crimes are down. Crime is down because of COVID and no tourism. Burglaries are up at businesses mostly lap top computers being stolen. Increase in residential break ins into storage lockers and stealing of parcels that are delivered. Whole Foods has storage lockers. He warned about avoiding tail gating. They are working with SF SAFE. He has a community advisory board which is made up from the entertainment industry, small businesses and residents. Southern Station sends out a newsletter from SFPDSouthernStation@sfgov.org. He goes to 120 meetings a year. He also said to let him know if anyone wants him to be at a meeting.

Vas Kiniris said SOMA is a huge area and explained how is it patrolled. Captain Falvey that they are addressing homeless encampments to move them to shelters and foot beat patrols are mostly on Mission Street between 2nd and 9th Street. He has plain clothes units for auto break-ins and robberies.

Going to many community meetings Captain Falvey gets direct input and puts together each month a traffic safety plan and with narcotics he has a cousin at SFPD to address this issue. He also partners with many business associations.

Captain Falvey is working with narcotics regarding the dealing at 7th and Mission and his foot beats go out and make quite a few arrests. They are working with HSOC to stop large encampments from forming and keeping the away at least 6’ from small business entrances.

Maryo Mogannam reported that it was good to see Chief Scott, Commander Fong, Captain Yep on the Divisadero Merchants walk. He was impressed that Chief Scott stayed for the two hours walk. Couple of takeaways was that if something happens its needs to be reported and then merchants should ask for contact cards from the police. Trespassing cards are supposed to turn into annual cards not semi annual cards.

Captain Falvey said the cards do work but businesses should request passing calls.

Captain Juan Daniels provided the following regarding graffiti: Two owners of Painting Companies have offered their services to paint some merchants and small business owner’s business which were vandalized with graffiti during the protest and demonstrations.

1. Sam Meyer from Sourdough Painting; contact information samuelmeyer@yahoo.com
2. Peter Illes from Modamas Inc. Fine Painting; contact information prilles@yahoo.com or (415) 678-0087

If possible, please let Captain Daniels know so that SFPD can be included in the painting project if staffing permits

Because of COVID 19 the Autumn Moon Festival this year was virtual, planned by the Chinatown Merchants Association. It started at 7:00 pm and finished around 9:30 pm. I stayed on for the whole festival as it was really fabulous including music, dances, moon cake and other cooking classes and videos from Chinatowns around the world including from Melbourne, Australia, Mexico City, South Africa, Rio de Janiero and Hong Kong. I was really
please see Mayor London Breed, Supervisor Aaron Peskin and Assessor-Recorder tie speeches. Congratulations to Eva Lee for this awesome event! Lastly, just want to say that I really enjoyed the “Conversation for the Common Good on Constitution Day: Speaking Truth to Power – Election 2020”, panel organized by Derick Brown.

Meeting adjourned at 12:54 pm.

Minutes presented by Co-Chair Henry Karnilowicz