

Commission on Gang Prevention and Intervention

Minutes

March 19, 2015
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Harmonium – The Epicentre
8450 Mira Mesa Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92126

Call to Order: 5:30 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Chair Rosa Ana Lozada
Commissioner Joyce Abrams
Commissioner Dana Brown
Commissioner Peter Collstrom
Commissioner Eduardo Corona
Commissioner Bonnie Dumanis, District Attorney
Commissioner Dr. Rodney Hood, M.D.
Commissioner Mack Jenkins
Commissioner Gary Lynn
Commissioner Archie Robinson
Commissioner Carol Williams
Commissioner Shelley Zimmerman, San Diego Police Chief

Welcome by Jackson Muecke, Harmonium's Vice-Chair

- Melissa Sayviseth, Epicentre Manager
 - Kingkarn Chanontree
 - Romel Autus
 - Fidencio Pampo

Non Agenda Public Comment:

- Marissa Berumen – Deputy Chief of Staff, Committee Consultant for Council President Pro Tem, Marty Emerald, District 9
 - A joint meeting between Council Member Marti Emerald, Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee and The Commission on Gang Prevention and Intervention will be held in May.
 - In that meeting Council Member Marti Emerald would like the focus of to be about Trauma Informed Care. She recognizes this to be an important subject in this District and would like the Commission to share their thoughts, ideas and concerns regarding this important topic.

- Petros Alemeselassie – Assistant Deputy Director Health & Human Services Agency
 - On behalf of Barbara Jimenez, Regional Manager, the Commission on Gang Prevention and Intervention has been awarded the Live Well San Diego 2015 Public Health Champion for its work over the years. The ceremony will be held on April 10, 2015. *(Lynn Sharpe-Underwood, retired Executive Director of Commission on Gang Prevention and Intervention, will be invited to the ceremony.)*

Approval of the Joint Meeting Minutes from January 23, 2015

The minutes of January 23, 2015 did not include requests made by the speakers from Toralta Park Family. Commissioner Zimmerman requested delaying approval for the revision of the minutes with the additional information included.

Motion 2nd by: Commissioner Hood

Vote: *Motion passes- Approval of the minutes of January 23, 2015 will be delayed until the next Commission Meeting.

Action Agenda:

Item A

On February 25-27, 2015, Community Connections for Youth (CCFY), a community based organization in Bronx, New York came to San Diego to provide a training called “Alternatives to Incarceration” (A.T.I). Individuals and organizations engaged in the A.T.I. training will collaborate with Southeast Police Division to provide support to youth who are currently on a wait list to enroll in a diversion program.

Motion made by Commissioner Dana Brown: Establish an Ad Hoc Committee, in partnership with San Diego Police Department and County of Probation, to identify and support region specific gang intervention and prevention strategies within the City of San Diego. The focus will be on interventions where components of A.T.I. are applied.

Seconded by: Commissioner Hood

Vote: Motion Passes unanimously

(Ad Hoc Participants: Commissioners Rosa Ana Lozada, Eduardo Corona, Chief Mack Jenkins, Dana Brown, Dr. Hood)

6. Information Scan

- Gang Statistics and Initiative Updates- Lt. Mark Bennett
 - Lt. Mark Bennett presented the SB548 required letter and the additional letter that SDPD Gang Unit will mail to parents regarding voluntary participation for positive alternatives. The San Diego Police Department is working proactively with the faith based leaders, volunteers, and community leaders to offer an Opportunity Network Dinner. This innovative approach enables parents to better understand positive alternatives to gang influence and access to community resources within a supportive environment. *(handouts provided)*
 - Lt. Mark Bennett suggested if anyone has questions regarding either one of the letters and its content to have them call him directly as the letter indicates or to call one of the other non-Police phone numbers provided on the letter.

- **Special Presentation by:** Mira Mesa Gangs by SDPD Gang Unit Detective Christopher Tews
(power point provided)
 - The Power Point highlighted several Asian Gangs, as well as the common attire and the manner in which they conduct themselves.
 - Detective Tews also mentioned that they are one of the hardest types of gangs to identify due to the lack of red flags normally seen in other gang types, such as: ditching school, low grades, not graduating. The Asian Gangs tend to be very good in school, they graduate and go on to college and stop gang affiliation.
- **Probation Update** – Commissioner Mack Jenkins, Chief of Probation
 - Alternative to Detention Grant – Diversion Intervention Programs
 - Commissioner Chief Jenkins informed that over the last 5 years youth detention has been reduced from 1150 detained youth to 450 detained youth. Commissioner Chief Jenkins stated that he attributes the program's effectiveness to providing immediate interventions for low risk offenders to deter them from re-offending.
 - Probation is committed to providing Trauma Informed Training to all staff

7. Status of Prior Action Items

- The letters approved from the Joint Commission on Gang Prevention and Intervention and Human Relations Commission were updated to include language regarding Trauma Informed and Restorative Practice as requested by the Commissioners. These letters have been forwarded to Board of Supervisors, Mayor, City Council, Chief of Police, and the Sheriff as discussed during the Joint Commission meeting of March 19, 2015. (*Handouts provided*)

8. Ad Hoc Committee Updates

- Update from Ad Hoc Committee to research current laws and California statues specific to the criminal activities of gangs – **Tabled**
(*Ad Hoc Participants: Bishop Bowser, Eduardo Corona, Joyce Abrams, Gary Lynn, Vinh Tran, Danny Villarreal, and Dana Brown.*)

9. Executive Director Report:

- In keeping with the Gang Commissions Strategic Plan 2015-2017:
Strategy #2: Work Readiness and Youth Employment--Jobs Can Turn Lives Around -- these collaborations and community discussions are keeping us on track:
- Workforce Partnership Workshop on “How to do Business with Workforce Partnership”
Faith Based Initiatives with Mayor Faulconer
- Job training and employment in collaboration with Urban league, Workforce Partnership, and Community Churches.
- Opportunity Network Community Dinner (*handout provided*)
- Executive Director Meet and Greet (*time, date, and location to be announced*)

10. Announcements - Community Information Update

- Commissioner Peter Callstrom
 - Met with Mayor Faulconer and Executive Director. Secured the Mayor's pledge for funding again this year.
 - Shared job field research display

- Work Force Partnership (WFP) released 1.6 Million of unobligated funds through youth services funding.
- Currently working on summer jobs and summer programs.
- Collaborating with San Diego County and Department of Labor to install a career center in jails. East Mesa Facility may be the first to receive one if all goes as planned.
- Executive Director shared that the Commission is collaborating with WFP to put on a “How to do business with Work Force Partnership” event. We will share the date, time and location when it is available.

11. Adjournment 7:30 PM

Next Meeting: May 2015 Joint Meeting with PS&LN

Location: Jacobs Center- Main Room

Attachments Provided:

Meeting Minutes from January 23, 2015

Joint Commission Letters (6)

Opportunity Network Community Dinner Flyer

Letters from SDPD to Parents and Letter from SDPD required per SB458