



**MEETING OF THE CITY OF LA MESA
CITIZEN PUBLIC SAFETY OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE
5:00 PM, LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY ROOM
8085 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, LA MESA, CA 91942**

**MINUTES
June 17, 2020**

This meeting was conducted utilizing teleconferencing and electronic means consistent with State of California Executive Order N-29-20 dated March 17, 2020, regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

CALL TO ORDER

City Clerk Wiegelman called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL (X indicates present)

Robert Duff	X
Dr. Janet Castanos	X
Jamal McRae	X
Susan Wayne	X
Caitlin Tiffany	X
Patricia Dillard	X
Rev. Frank Willey	X
Joshua David Morse	X
Steven Evans	X
Jack Shu	X
Vacant (Police Beat 4 Resident Representative)	

Others present: Megan Wiegelman, City Clerk; Lieutenant Chad Bell, La Mesa Police Department; Community Service Officer Nora Allsberry, La Mesa Police Department

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Weber addressed the Task Force regarding the importance and urgency of their mission.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

City Clerk Wiegelman and LMPD Lieutenant Bell read aloud the emailed public comments submitted by 3:00 p.m. the day of the Task Force Meeting.

Kara Whitford submitted a comment regarding the possibility of police station cats and fire department dogs.

Melissa Walter submitted a comment encouraging the creation of a Citizen Police Oversight Committee as soon as possible.

David Myers submitted a comment requesting the resignation of the Citizen Public Safety Oversight Task Force members and for the City Manager to develop framework for an independent commission on police practices.

Emily Green submitted a comment regarding the importance of creating an oversight commission in a timely manner, with a transparent process.

N. Mueller submitted a comment regarding concern over interactions between the police department and people of color.

Vickie White submitted a comment regarding the selection of the Task Force's Chair and Vice Chair and the components of an independent police oversight body.

Glenda Didienne submitted a comment regarding support of an Independent Police Community Member Oversight Commission on Police Practices.

Jessica Hale submitted a comment regarding the responsibilities of the Citizen Public Safety Oversight Task Force.

Sasha Fitzpatrick submitted a comment regarding LMPD's handling of the protests and the reallocation of police funds.

Meegan Nolan submitted a comment regarding the need for transparency and accountability at LMPD.

Kelsey Johnson submitted a comment regarding defunding the police.

Rebecca and Demetrius Antuna submitted a comment regarding the need for a Police Oversight Commission.

Rebecca Littlejohn submitted a comment regarding support for a Community Police Oversight Committee.

Dustin Lothspeich submitted a comment regarding support for a Police Oversight Commission.

Hallie Silvas submitted a comment regarding concern over the actions of members of LMPD.

Emily Green submitted a comment regarding homeless outreach.

Apryl Stepp submitted a comment regarding accountability and transparency within LMPD.

Taylor Martin submitted a comment regarding police brutality in La Mesa.

Cheri Robertson submitted a comment regarding the requirements of a Police Oversight Committee.

Sasha and Jones von Jonestein submitted a comment regarding dysfunction in the community.

Edward Perry submitted a comment regarding the necessary aspects of an Oversight Commission.

Jimmy Long submitted a comment regarding Citizen Public Safety Oversight Task Force commentary.

Gino Serrano submitted a comment commending the police.

Anna submitted a comment regarding Officer Dages and defunding the police.

Mike Dawson submitted a comment regarding the support of an Independent Police Community Member Oversight Commission on Police Practices.

Kasey Zahner submitted a comment regarding approval of a citizen oversight committee.

Heela Tucker submitted a comment regarding the need for transparency in LMPD.

Ozra Malikyar submitted a comment regarding the need for transparency in LMPD.

Jennifer Hallisay submitted a comment regarding a virtual town hall and the Yellow Vest group.

Mejgan Afshan submitted a comment regarding civil rights in La Mesa.

Rachel Rosado submitted a comment regarding transparency in the city and police department.

Kimberly Randles submitted a comment regarding transparency in the city and police department.

The following comments were not received by the 3:00 p.m. deadline, and therefore were not read aloud during the Task Force Meeting:

Andy Trimlett submitted a comment regarding the creation of an oversight commission.

Teri Andre submitted a comment commending the Task Force.

John Moore submitted a comment regarding investigation of the riots in La Mesa.

An anonymous citizen submitted a comment regarding Officer Dages and at risk kids.

Mary Cook submitted a comment regarding transparency and accountability of the police department, and redistribution of community funds.

Kendra Gray submitted a comment regarding police training and responsibilities.

CURRENT BUSINESS

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

ACTION: Motioned by Robert Duff and seconded by Jack Shu to approve the minutes for the Citizen Public Safety Oversight Task Force Regular Meeting held Tuesday, February 18, 2020.

Vote: 10-0

Yes: Robert Duff, Jamal McRae, Susan Wayne, Caitlin Tiffany, Rev. Frank Willey, Joshua David Morse, Steven Evans, Jack Shu, Dr. Janet Castanos, Patricia Dillard

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

2. SELECTION OF TASK FORCE CHAIR

Jimmy Long submitted a comment supporting Jamal McRae for Chair.

Natalia Valerdi-Rogers submitted a comment regarding the Task Force's work and tokenizing.

ACTION: Motioned by Jack Shu and seconded by Janet Castanos to appoint Jamal McRae as Chair of the Citizen Public Safety Oversight Task Force.

Vote: 10-0

Yes: Robert Duff, Jamal McRae, Susan Wayne, Caitlin Tiffany, Rev. Frank Willey, Joshua David Morse, Steven Evans, Jack Shu, Dr. Janet Castanos, Patricia Dillard

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

3. SELECTION OF TASK FORCE VICE CHAIR

Jimmy Long submitted a comment supporting Jack Shu for Vice Chair.

ACTION: Motioned by Janet Castanos and seconded by Jamal McRae to appoint Jack Shu as Vice Chair of the Citizen Public Safety Oversight Task Force.

Vote: 10-0

Yes: Robert Duff, Jamal McRae, Susan Wayne, Caitlin Tiffany, Rev. Frank Willey, Joshua David Morse, Steven Evans, Jack Shu, Dr. Janet Castanos, Patricia Dillard

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

4. REVIEW OF TASK FORCE MISSION

Task Force Mission read aloud by Task Force Vice Chair Jack Shu.

Task Force questions and comments ensued.

Natalia Valerdi-Rogers submitted a comment regarding surveying the community and people of color.

Teri Andre submitted a comment regarding Task Force Vice Chair Jack Shu's sense of urgency.

Debbie Kinsinger submitted a comment regarding public access to documents discussed during the meeting.

Missy Solis submitted a comment regarding community sensing.

Rebecca Littlejohn submitted a comment regarding the mission of the Task Force.

Gregg Ward submitted a comment regarding his support as a resource to the Task Force.

Following Task Force questions and comments, no action was taken.

5. DISCUSSION OF ASSIGNMENTS AND TIMELINE TO COMPLETE THE TASK FORCE MISSION OF CONDUCTING RESEARCH ON OVERSIGHT COMMITTEES OF SIMILARLY SIZED CITIES

Task Force questions and comments ensued.

Colin Campbell submitted a comment regarding a two-pronged approach to establishing an emergency oversight committee.

Travis W. submitted a comment regarding surveying the public.

Dmitriy submitted a comment regarding racism in the community.

Jimmy Long submitted a comment regarding overlapping committee meetings and an interest in joining the Task Force.

Dan Bickford submitted a comment regarding Task Force Vice Chair Jack Shu's view of voting.

Debbie Kinsinger submitted a comment regarding town halls.

Teri Andre submitted a comment regarding police accountability.

Donna Cross submitted a comment regarding Eight Can't Wait.

Natalia Valerdi-Rogers submitted a comment regarding Eight Can't Wait.

Leroy Johnson submitted a comment regarding creating a ballot initiative.

Debbie Kinsinger submitted a comment regarding a community forum.

Jeff Clemetson submitted questions regarding the Task Force's proposals.

Rebecca Littlejohn submitted a comment regarding subpoena power.

Debbie Kinsinger submitted a comment regarding public forums.

Debbie Kinsinger submitted a comment regarding racism.

Missy Solis submitted a comment regarding sharing research.

Task Force questions and comments continued.

ACTION: Motioned by Janet Castanos and seconded by Robert Duff to create the following ad hoc subcommittees comprised of the stated Task Force members for the purpose of to gather information to form a proposal to take to the City Council:

- General Law vs. Charter Cities
 - o Jamal Mc Rae
 - o Jack Shu
 - o Janet Castanos
- Various Police Oversight Commissions of General Law Cities of Similar Size
 - o Caitlin Tiffany
 - o Steven Evans
 - o Patricia Dillard
 - o Susan Wayne
- Identifying stages/process/tasks to place measure of the November ballot
 - o Jack Shu
 - o Caitlin Tiffany
 - o Frank Willey
- Value of subpoena power
 - o Steven Evans
 - o Joshua David Morse
 - o Robert Duff

Vote: 10-0

Yes: Robert Duff, Jamal McRae, Susan Wayne, Caitlin Tiffany, Rev. Frank Willey, Joshua David Morse, Steven Evans, Jack Shu, Dr. Janet Castanos, Patricia Dillard

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

ACTION: Motioned by Jack Shu and seconded by Janet Castanos to recommend to the City Council to place a ballot measure on the November 3, 2020 ballot regarding the formation of a police oversight board

Vote: 10-0

Yes: Robert Duff, Jamal McRae, Susan Wayne, Caitlin Tiffany, Rev. Frank Willey, Joshua David Morse, Steven Evans, Jack Shu, Dr. Janet Castanos, Patricia Dillard
No: None
Abstained: None
Absent: None

Motion passed.

6. STAFF AND TASK FORCE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Jamal McRae adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 15, 2020.

Prepared by:

Nora Allsberry, Community Service Officer