

**CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 28, 2021**

**City Hall  
First Floor Community Room  
910 Calle Negocio  
San Clemente, CA 92673**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Member Berkuta called the Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Committee of the City of San Clemente to order at 3:00 p.m.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Committee Member Loeffler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ROLL CALL**

Committee

Members Present: Chair Nick Berkuta  
Vice Chair Charles Hightower  
Rick Loeffler  
Joe Janis  
Marine Safety Captain Mellott  
Captain Benfield, Orange County Sheriff's Department  
Chief Capobianco, Orange County Fire Authority (Arrived  
03:09 p.m.)

Committee

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Adam Atamian, Manager – Deputy Community Development  
Director

**4. REGULAR ORDERS OF BUSINESS / REGULAR PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Selection of Public Safety Committee Chair and Vice Chair**

Annually, at the first meeting after the newly appointed Committee members assume office, the Committee is required to select a chair and vice-chair from among its members.

MOTION BY COMMITTEE MEMBER LOEFFLER, SECOND BY COMMITTEE MEMBER JANIS, AND CARRIED 4-0 to elect Nick Berkuta as Chair of the Public Safety Committee.

MOTION BY COMMITTEE MEMBER LOEFFLER, SECOND BY COMMITTEE MEMBER JANIS, AND CARRIED 4-0 to elect Charles Hightower as Vice Chair of the Public Safety Committee.

## 5. **MINUTES**

### **A. Minutes from the Regular Public Safety Committee meeting of August 24, 2021.**

MOTION BY COMMITTEE MEMBER LOEFFLER, SECOND BY VICE CHAIR HIGHTOWER, AND CARRIED 4-0 to approve the minutes from the Public Safety Committee of August 24, 2021 as submitted.

### **B. Minutes from the Special Joint Meeting of the Beaches, Parks and Recreation Commission, Golf Course Committee, Human Affairs Committee, and Public Safety Committee of August 26, 2021.**

CHAIR BERKUTA RECEIVED AND FILED THE MINUTES FROM THE SPECIAL JOINT MEETING OF THE BEACHES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION, GOLF COURSE COMMITTEE, HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE OF AUGUST 26, 2021.

## 6. **ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION**

None.

## 7. **REVIEWS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

None.

## 8. **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Consideration and Development of the Public Safety Committee Annual Work Plan FY 2021/22**

Committee discussed work plan ideas and which Committee member(s) would oversee each item:

- Neighborhood Watch – Implementation phase (Janis/Loeffler)
- Communication and Disaster Preparedness – Continuation (Berkuta/Hightower)
- Technology (Berkuta/Hightower)

- Legislative Review (Loeffler)
- Homeless and BMP's (Loeffler/Janis)
- Statistics and Review (Hightower/Loeffler)
- Human Trafficking (Loeffler)
- Traffic or Bicycle Safety (Loeffler)

MOTION BY COMMITTEE MEMBER LOEFFLER, SECOND BY COMMITTEE MEMBER JANIS, AND CARRIED 4-0 to draft a Work Plan to include the above categories and work on projects in identified non-quorum groups.

**9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**10. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND STAFF**

- A. Police Services – Orange County Sheriff's Department Captain Benfield
- B. Fire Services – Chief of San Clemente Fire Services, Chief Capobianco
- C. Marine Safety – Marine Safety Division Captain Mellott
- D. Committee Chair
- E. Committee Members
- F. City Staff

Captain Benfield reported on hazard mitigation maps on the City website and the opening of the new Police services substation.

Chief Capobianco reported on lowering COVID numbers, striketeam activities in Northern California, and trying to obtain new Huey helicopters.

Captain Mellott reported on life saving activities of the lifeguards, the influx in panga boats along the coast, and responded to questions from the Committee.

Chair Berkuta reported on the Public Safety Committee's accomplishments and presentations over this past year.

Vice Chair Hightower thanked the public safety service representatives in attendance.

Committee Member Janis reported on initiating coordination with Orange County Sheriff's Department on the Neighborhood Watch Program.

Committee Member Loeffler thanked Marine Safety staff for rescue.

City Staff reported on live in-person meetings.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION BY CHAIR BERKUTA, SECOND BY VICE CHAIR HIGHTOWER, AND CARRIED 4-0 to adjourn at 3:58 p.m. to the Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Committee scheduled to be held on Tuesday, October 26, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. at the City Hall, First Floor Community Room, 910 Calle Negocio, San Clemente, California.

Respectfully submitted,

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Nick Berkuta, Chair

Attest:

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Adam Atamian, Deputy Community Development Director

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