

**FIRE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

February 22, 2023, 5:00 p.m.

City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 400, San Francisco California, 94102

The meeting video can be reviewed by clicking the below link:
https://sanfrancisco.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=180&clip_id=43058

President Nakajo called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

Commission President	Stephen Nakajo	Present
Vice President	Armie Morgan	Present
Commissioner	Katherine Feinstein	Excused
Commissioner	Marcy Fraser	Present
Commissioner	Paula Collins	Present
Chief of Department	Jeanine Nicholson	Present.
Tom O'Connor	Deputy Chief – Administration	
Sandy Tong	Deputy Chief – EMS and Community Paramedicine	
Ken Cofflin	Bureau of Fire Prevention	
Shayne Kaialoa	Division of Training	
Niels Tangherlini	EMS	
Erica Arteseros Brown	Homeland Security	
James Kotter	PUC Liaison	
Darius Luttrupp	ESER Project Manager	
Matt Alba	Health, Safety & Wellness	
Simon Pang	Community Paramedicine	
Patrick D'Arcy	Airport Division	
Assistant Chiefs		
Bill Storti	Division II	
Pat Rabbit	Division III	
Staff		

RAMAYTUSH OHLONE LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

President Nakajo read the Ramaytush Ohlone Land Acknowledgement.

There was no public comment.

2. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES [Discussion and possible action]

Discussion and possible action to approve meeting minutes.

- Minutes from Regular Meeting on February 8, 2023.

Vice President Morgan Moved to approve the minutes and Commissioner Fraser Seconded. The motion was unanimous.

There was no public comment.

4. CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT'S REPORT *[Discussion]*

REPORT FROM CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT, JEANINE NICHOLSON

Report on current issues, activities, and events within the Department since the Fire Commission meeting on February 8, 2023, including budget, academies, special events, communications, and outreach to other government agencies and the public.

Chief Nicholson reported on activities since the last meeting. She touched on events she attended, including the Mayor's State of the City address, a celebration for former Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi, a Black History Month recognition meeting at City Hall, and the Board of Supervisors meeting where Assistant Deputy Chief Shon Buford was recognized by Supervisor Asaha Safai as part of Black History Month for everything he has accomplished and done for the city and the Department. She added that she and Fire Marshal Cofflin had a productive meeting with small property owners over their concerns with upgrading alarm systems. She talked briefly about the fire and explosion at 22nd Avenue and commended all the members of the Department that prepared and responded to that incident. She mentioned that the budget was submitted yesterday to the mayor's budget office and discussions will continue in terms of what direction things will take with the budget. She added that Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis was invited by Local 798 for lunch and a tour of Station 49 and Station 7. She touched briefly on the kerfuffle over the Capp Street barricades and that discussions are ongoing on how to resolve the safety issues.

Commissioner Collins confirmed that the Department is in discussions with MTA to talk about an alternative solution for the barricades on Capp Street and if it was up to the Chief, there would be no barricades and there would be a different kind of presence on that street to deal with some of the criminal activity.

Vice President Morgan confirmed that the Department is now working to get the SFPD involved in the Capp Street issue. Vice President Morgan acknowledged that public safety should come first. He commended the responders to the 22nd Avenue explosion and fire.

President Nakajo asked that the Chief keep the commissioners abreast as to the progress of cooperation of the Capp Street situation.

There was no public comment.

REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATION, DEPUTY CHIEF TOM O'CONNOR
Report on the Administrative Divisions, Fleet and Facility status and updates, Finance, Support Services, and Homeland Security.

Chief O'Connor presented his report for January 2023. He mentioned that Homeland Security has been very busy with the city-wide storm activation of the Emergency Operations Center as well as the planning of the Martin Luther King Day March. He touched on the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Division; Health, Safety and Wellness Division; the Employee Health Division; the Investigative Services Bureau, and the Support Services Division. He stated that under Assistant Deputy Chief Darius Luttrupp with the Earthquake, Safety, and Emergency Response bond, they had a Focus Scope work meeting where they developed a maintenance plan for the float cranes, and he added they had onboarding of Captain Kotter as the new water supply officer. He described the live fire demo they provided on Treasure Island for Commissioners Fraser and Collins. Chief O'Connor's report is attached: <https://sf-fire.org/media/2719/download?inline>

Commissioner Fraser stated that the live fire demonstration was enlightening as well as challenging and she has developed a completely enhanced appreciation for what the members do every day.

Commissioner Collins thanked the firefighters who helped and participated in the live fire demonstration and how it brought a new appreciation for space.

Vice President Morgan thanked Chief O'Connor for his report and stated he was sorry he missed the demonstration.

There was no public comment.

5. PRESENTATION FROM HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELLNESS DIVISION
Battalion Chief Matt Alba to provide an overview of the Health, Safety and Wellness Division.

Chief Alba thanked the commission for extending the invitation to present at tonight's meeting. He introduced Acting Captain Heather Buren and Jen Green, BHU navigator as well as dog handlers Lt. Christine Bibbs with Sadie and Lt. Colin Carter with Clifford. He provided a brief history of the Behavioral Health Unit as well as the staffing structure and plans for future expansion as well as explaining the current state of affairs of his division. His PowerPoint Presentation is attached: <https://sf-fire.org/media/2720/download?inline>

Commissioner Fraser thanked them for their report, and she expressed how happy she is that so many people are participating and that the program is growing. She confirmed that to be a navigator, it's important to be trained in critical incident stress debriefing and to be very keen on when to enact those debriefings, both for individuals and or groups as well as having training in suicide awareness as that is the single largest killer in the fire service. Captain Buren added that a big part of what a navigator does is addiction services and getting people into programs that they need and making those connections.

Commissioner Collins commented on what an incredible program it is, and she is glad it is growing. She confirmed that the most important form of support would be the addition of three BHU navigators.

Vice President Morgan stated he thinks it is a great program and confirmed that trust is a huge requirement for the program and he's willing to support them in any way they need.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEM 7

Public comment on all matters pertaining to Items 7(b) below, including public comment on whether to hold Items 7(b) in closed session.

There was no public comment.

7. POSSIBLE CLOSED SESSION REGARDING UNLITIGATED CLAIM

a. VOTE ON WHETHER TO CONDUCT ITEMS 7(b) IN CLOSED SESSION

[Action]

The Commission may hear Item 7(b) in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54957(b) and Administrative Code Section 67.10(b).

Vice President Morgan Moved to conduct items in closed session. Commissioner Fraser Seconded. The motion was unanimous.

Proceeded in closed session at 6:08 p.m.

Also in closed session: Secretary Maureen Conefrey, Chief Nicholson, and Claims Adjuster Remy Weiland

b. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – UNLITIGATED CLAIM. Conference with legal counsel to discuss Unlitigated claim pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a), (c), (d), and Administrative Code Section 67.10(d)(1) and possible recommendation to the Board of Supervisors for settlement approval or to take other action. *[Action item]*

Unlitigated claim:

Chinatown Community Development Center v. City and County of San Francisco

8. REPORT ON ANY ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION [*Discussion and possible action*] as specified in California Government Code Section 54957.1(a) and San Francisco Administrative Code section 67.12(b).

9. VOTE TO ELECT WHETHER TO DISCLOSE ANY OR ALL DISCUSSIONS HELD IN CLOSED SESSION, as specified in San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.12(a). [*Action*]

Reconvened in Open session at 9:16

Vice President Morgan Moved to not disclose. Commissioner Collins Seconded. The motion was unanimous.

10. ADJOURNMENT President Nakajo adjourned the meeting at 6:18 p.m.