

**FIRE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

April 12, 2023, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

City Hall, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 416, 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=43377

President Nakajo called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

1. ROLL CALL

Commission President	Stephen Nakajo	Present
Vice President	Armie Morgan	Present
Commissioner	Katherine Feinstein	Present at 9:07
Commissioner	Marcy Fraser	Present
Commissioner	Paula Collins	Excused
Chief of Department	Jeanine Nicholson	Present.(remotely)
Bob Postel	Deputy Chief -- Operations	
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	
Shon Bufford	Equity, Diversity & Inclusion	
Simon Pang	Community Paramedicine	
Patrick D'Arcy	Airport Division	
Assistant Chiefs		
Brook Baker	Division II	
Bill Storti	Division III	

RAMAYTUSH OHLONE LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

President Nakajo read the Ramaytush Ohlone Land Acknowledgement.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Cyrus Hall spoke concerning his disappointment in the SFFD' s lack of involvement with the goals of Vision Zero and the MTA's street designs and suggested that the Department needs both a clear strategic and operational plan designed in coordination with other agencies and safe street advocates laying out how the Department will adjust the street designs that protect rather than expose uses and the SFFD should be involved in those designs.

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

Discussion and possible action to approve meeting minutes.

- Minutes from Regular Meeting on March 22, 2023.

Commissioner Feinstein Moved to approve the minutes. Commission Morgan Seconded. The motion was unanimous.

The below item was called out of order to accommodate Chief Nicholson so she could attend her Department Head meeting with the mayor.

4. PRESENTATION ON THE FIRE SCIENCE AND FIRE ACADEMY PROGRAM AT CITY COLLEGE OF SAN FRANCISCO

Retired Captain Jim Connors and staff to provide an overview of the Fire Science and Fire Academy Program at City College of San Francisco

Retired Captain Jim Connors introduced Dr. Edie Kaeuper, Dean of John Adams Campus, Dean of the School of Health, PE and Social Services, and John Halpin who oversees instructional service agreement. Dr. Kaeuper thanked the Department for their partnership, and she hopes it continues to grow and move the program forward. Mr. Halpin stated he works more behind the scenes on the program to make sure those students get registered, the invoices get paid, and the records are all kept. Ret. Captain Connors described the slides in the attached PowerPoint Presentation: <https://sf-fire.org/media/2746/download?inline>

Vice President Morgan thanked them for their report. He confirmed that their student population is about 60 percent serious about getting hired in the fire service, 20 percent think they want to get hired and another 20 percent are trying to figure out at age 18 or 19 what they want to do in life. He also confirmed that in 2019 the State Fire Marshal's Office and State Fire Training developed a common core curriculum that would apply to accredited regional training programs at community colleges as well as accredited local academies through government agencies. Vice President Morgan stated he thinks it is a great program.

Commissioner Fraser thanked them for their presentation and congratulated them on the successful placements that they are making out of the program and the incredible diversity in the classes. She was glad they added wildfire and hazmat to the training. Commissioner Fraser confirmed that their success rate is about 99 percent.

President Nakajo reminisced about his time at City College and how it afforded him time to figure out what he wanted to do. He confirmed that the Fire Science Program goes back to the 1960s. He also confirmed that they have a tremendously diverse faculty, and they work closely with the PE department, woman's studies, and the LGBTQ plus department to make sure that they have a good representation of other ethnic groups and

other student populations. He also confirmed that there's a program that is providing outreach to young students and trying to address their diversity where they have aligned with the San Francisco Unified School District where they teach two courses at Mission High School, Introduction to Fire Science and Fire Prevention and Lt. Hashim Anderson is one of the main players in the curriculum for that program. President Nakajo confirmed that Galileo and Mission High Schools both have robust EMT, and EMS programs.

Commissioner Feinstein confirmed that the program has a healthy budget even though enrollment is down. She complimented them on maintaining fiscal health during challenging times and that they should be proud of that as well as all the academic achievements they help their students attain.

5. 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 March 22, 2023, including budget, academies, special events, communications, and outreach to other government agencies and the public.

Chief Nicholson appeared remotely via Webex as she needed to attend the mayor's Department Head meeting. She touched on events she attended including meeting with Director Cheryl Davis of the Human Rights Commission and staff from the Office of Racial Equity to give an update on the Department's DEI work; the San Francisco Firefighter Youth Academy family appreciation lunch; and several events revolved around women's month. She added that tonight, Chief Simon Pang will be receiving the SPUR, Good Government Award.

There was no public comment.

REPORT FROM OPERATIONS, DEPUTY CHIEF ROBERT POSTEL

Report on overall field operations, including greater alarm fires, Bureau of Fire Prevention & Investigation, Training within the Department., and Airport Division, including an update from Assistant Deputy Chief Patrick D'Arcy.

Chief Postel reported on Operations during March 2023. He reported that during March they had 20 working fires, four of which were greater alarms, nine water rescues, and one cliff rescue. The first greater alarm was on March 3rd at 2143 Pine Street which was started by roofers working on the roof of the adjacent Delta Building. The second greater alarm was on March 5th at 626 40th Avenue which started on the stove of a second-floor flat. The third greater alarm was on March 17th at 959 Powell Street and the fourth was on March 27th at 470 Bayshore Blvd., which is a large commercial structure. He described each fire in detail as explained in his report. His report is attached: <https://sf-fire.org/media/2748/download?inline>

Chief Postel touched on the Bureau of Fire Prevention, the Airport Division, and the Division of Training. Chief Postel announced that on March 27, 1923, his grandfather Oscar Postel entered the Fire Department and since that day, his family has served continuously for 100 years, his grandfather, his father who entered in 1964, and Chief Postel who entered in 1991 and he is incredibly proud of that fact.

Vice President Morgan thanked Chief Postel for his report and for the Live Fire training they provided which gave him a whole new perspective of what they go through daily. He also thanked Chief Postel for his family legacy and the hundred years of service they have provided to the department and city. He acknowledged all the battalion chiefs that responded to the many fires throughout the month.

Commissioner Feinstein congratulated the Postel family for their hundred years of service. She also thanked Chief Postel, Chief Kaialoa, and his staff for arranging the Live Fire demonstration where she learned and experienced firsthand what the firefighters go through every day. She confirmed that the plan to turn 11,000 buildings from commercial to residential is currently in the planning phase and they are working with DBI and other city agencies to set parameters because taking an existing building and doing a change of use won't fit into modeled new code.

Commissioner Fraser congratulated Chief Postel for his family's 100 years of continuous service to the Department. Commissioner Fraser confirmed the difference between a high-angle rescue and a low-angle rescue. She also confirmed that the K rails at Capp and 18th Streets will be in place until the bollards are delivered, which is about six to eight weeks.

President Nakajo thanked Chief Postel for his comprehensive report and congratulated him and his family for the hundred-year legacy. He acknowledged Chief Pang for his Good Government award. He asked Fire Marshal Cofflin to give an update on driverless cars. Fire Marshal Cofflin responded that the Bureau of Fire Prevention works with the city's AV committee to get updates, but they are licensed by the Department of Transportation or DMV, and at this time they are allowed to go driverless throughout the city 24 hours a day. He added that they are working with Chief Postel and members in the field to get feedback when they have incidents. President Nakajo confirmed that there are extensions to the Shared Space/Parklet program and will have until September 1, 2023, to submit an application or remove their shared space.

There was no public comment.

REPORT FROM EMS AND COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE, DEPUTY CHIEF SANDRA TONG

Report on the EMS and Community Paramedicine Divisions

Chief Tong provided her March report. She stated that their call volume stayed the same over the last couple of months, averaging about 356 calls a day and their market share was about 75 percent. She mentioned that they had in-service paramedic training that was completed on March 31st and was a four-hour class that was mandated for all paramedics to get updated on policies and protocols. She highlighted the contributions of members to the community including Carlos Martinez, Shannon Stabile, Sean LaVelle, John Hernandez, Kelly Cronander, Hoi Cheung, Nicholas Koo, Jacqueline Blumeyer, Emily Tam, and Melody Mui. She described the slides in her attached report: <https://sf-fire.org/media/2747/download?inline>

Vice President Morgan thanked Chief Tong for her report and acknowledged the good humanitarian efforts her folks bring to those people who need help. He congratulated Chief Pang on his upcoming award.

Commissioner Fraser congratulated Chief Pang and told him it was well deserved. She confirmed that 20 percent of the transports are unhoused people. She commented on how wonderful the volunteer work is.

Commissioner Feinstein agreed that the combination of the wellness and crisis programs is going to better utilize the right resources to respond to the right kinds of calls and she stated how impressed she was at how quickly it all came together. She thanked Chief Tong for her report and congratulated Chief Pang on his well-deserved award.

President Nakajo expressed his appreciation of the volunteer efforts in the community and the San Francisco lifeline and the endorsement of the Department in terms of getting this information to the firefighters and members of the seniors in the community.

There was no public comment.

6. ADJOURNMENT President Nakajo adjourned the meeting at 11:09 a.m. in recognition of the Chicago Fire Department where two of their members passed away.