

**FIRE COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES**

Wednesday, March 23, 2022 – 5:00 p.m.

The Video can be viewed by clicking this link:

https://sanfrancisco.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=180&clip_id=40861

President Feinstein called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

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|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| Commission President | Katherine Feinstein | Present |
| Vice President | Stephen Nakajo | Present |
| Commissioner | Francee Covington | Present |
| Commissioner | Armie Morgan | Present |
| Chief of Department | Jeanine Nicholson | Present. |
| Robert Postel | Deputy Chief -- Operations | |
| Thomas O'Connor | Deputy Chief --Administration | |
| Sandy Tong | EMS | |
| David Brown | Airport Division | |
| Ken Cofflin | Bureau of Fire Prevention | |
| Shayne Kaialoa | Division of Training | |
| Ramon Serrano | Support Services | |
| Erica Arteseros | Homeland Security | |
| Brice Peoples | Diversity, Equity & Inclusion | |
| Simon Pang | Community Paramedicine | |
| Staff | | |
| Mark Corso | Deputy Director of Finance | |

President Feinstein read the Ramaytush Ohlone Land Acknowledgement.

2. RESOLUTION 2022-06 [Discussion and possible action]

Resolution making findings to allow teleconferenced meetings under California Government Code Section 54953(e)

Commissioner Covington Moved to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner Morgan Seconded. The motion was unanimous.

There was no public comment.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

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

Discussion and possible action to approve meeting minutes.

- Minutes from Special Meeting on February 22, 2022, at 11:00.

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

- Minutes from Regular Meeting on March 9, 2022.

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

There was no public comment.

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 January 12, 2022, 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 that she attended during the reporting period, including the Mayor's State of the City address, the opening of Station 35, the St. Patrick's Day Parade, the Women's History Month City leaders photograph in the rotunda at City and a video shoot with the Warriors for a piece on women's empowerment. She acknowledged SFGOV TV for their collaboration in facilitating three snapshot videos showcasing three of the Department's amazing women leaders, Assistant Deputy Chief Sandy Tong, Assistant Deputy Chief Erica Arteseros Brown, and Section Chief April Sloan. She stated that she has met with candidates for their 9910 program, which they developed in concert with the Human Rights Commission, Office of Economic and Workforce Development, and a nonprofit, the City EMT program, which brings at-risk youth into an EMT program with wrap-around services such as trauma counseling, health and hygiene, and academic help. She added that at the end, they have an opportunity to take a test and pass the national registry to get their EMT license and they interview some of them to participate in the 9910 program, in which is they get to ride along on an ambulance to get their 500 hours on an ambulance as that is what is needed to enter the EMS portion of the Department as a permanent employee. She announced that she met with 10 candidates last week and she offered all of them an internship with the Department. She provided an update on the COVID-19 numbers within the Department. She mentioned that Assembly Bill 2607, which was sponsored by Assemblymember Phil Ting passed and it now goes before the Assembly Appropriations Committee before it goes to the full Assembly and then to the Governor, which will allow the purchase of land from the Port for the future training center. She announced that the supplemental budget request passed for over 14 million dollars at the Board of Supervisors yesterday.

Commissioner Morgan confirmed that the photo shoot with the Warriors will be at a game towards the end of the month.

Commissioner Covington thanked everyone who worked on the Station 35 project as she knows it was very challenging and she expressed how wonderful it was to celebrate the opening of the gorgeous facility. She acknowledged the 10 young members that are going through the process of completing their 500 hours and being on the path to success in their lives. She also acknowledged the fourteen million additional dollars that will cover overages for the Department as well as she gave a shout-out to Assemblyman Ting for his support of the new training facility.

Vice President Nakajo also commented on how wonderful the fireboat station ceremony was and acknowledged the Port Commission, Port Department, and the Department of Real Estate. He also congratulated the Chief on the 9910-program City EMTs; the 14 million budget supplement and the representation by the Commission at the Earl Gage ceremony.

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 Training within the Department.

Chief O'Connor presented his February administration report. He touched on Homeland Security which had a busy month planning the emergency event plan for the Chinese New Year 2022 parade. He added that the SFFD welcomed K-9s Marley and Sadie into the Department at a press conference at Station 4. He stated that the office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion was hard at work with outreach and recruitment. Chief O'Connor played a video of women in the SFFD throwing the 50-foot ladder up. He also touched on the Health, Safety, and Wellness Division; the Physician's Office; Investigative Services Bureau; and Support Services. He mentioned that the United Fire Service Women were at the Chase Center unfurling the flag and that Chief Nicholson went for a ride along with the Street Wellness Team to see how they're reaching out and trying to solve the problems of the more challenged members of San Francisco. He concluded by stating they had a great event with the San Francisco Rotary Club, which honored Emergency Services Day, and that Lt. Brook Mancinelli and Rescue Captain Beth Goudreau received honors for heroism in the line of duty at that event.

Commissioner Morgan confirmed that back injuries are preponderant of work-related injuries. He also confirmed that Station 14 is having its HVAC unit replaced.

Commissioner Covington thanked Chief O'Connor for his report and stated she enjoyed seeing the video of the 50-foot ladder throw and she added how wonderful it is to see all of the members of the Department being celebrated for the hard work that they do and that hopefully, they are inspiring young people to look seriously at the possibility of being of service as a firefighter or paramedic. She also thought it was very good to see him at the commemoration of the Earl Gage installation of art which was put on by the Black Firefighters Association and held at Rosa Parks School where they dedicated the mural and former President Sherman Tillman spoke about the historical significance of Chief Gage.

Vice President Nakajo thanked Chief O'Connor for his comprehensive report. He confirmed with Chief Serrano of Support Services that the old Station 49 (Evans Street) is where Community Paramedicine will be dispatched and is housed at. Chief Serrano added that they are going through some renovations and tenant and capital improvements to the building, such as painting, carpeting, electrical work, and HVAC work. He also confirmed that the clothing depot will remain at Evans Street. Vice President Nakajo also confirmed that at the new Station 49, they are at capacity.

President Feinstein confirmed that the Department is doing well in getting the members boosted with their third vaccine. She also mentioned that she had the opportunity to see in person these ladder lifts and it educated her as to their tradition. She commended the team from the Fire Department that struggled through so many challenges that were unforeseen at the construction of the new floating Station 35 and acknowledged Chief Dawn Dewitt for the wonderful job she did navigating through some choppy waters.

There was no public comment.

6. AMENDMENTS TO THE FIRE CODE *[Discussion and possible action]*

Discussion and possible action to approve amendments to the San Francisco Fire Code to require automatic sprinkler systems in existing high-rise residential buildings.

Fire Marshal Cofflin explained in detail the amendments to the fire code on the existing high-rise sprinkler ordinance that will go before the Board of Supervisors and sponsored by Supervisor Peskin. He explained the amendments in detail and recommended that the Fire Commission support the amendments as put forward by Supervisor Peskin's legislation for the safety of the city's residents, guests, and firefighters.

Commissioner Morgan Moved to recommend that the Board of Supervisors approve the amendments to the Fire Code. Commissioner Covington Seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

There was no public comment.

7. AGENDA FOR NEXT AND FUTURE FIRE COMMISSION MEETINGS *[Discussion]*

Discussion regarding agenda for next and future Fire Commission meetings.

- Update from Guardians of the City

There was no public comment.

8. ADJOURNMENT President Feinstein adjourned the meeting at 6:14 p.m.