

CITY OF SAN RAFAEL

FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE COMMISSION MEETING

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

September 9, 2020

Meeting via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 4 p.m. by Chair Mizroch.

Present: Chair Stephen Mizroch, Vice Chair Larry Luckham, Nadine Hade, Eli Hill, Thomas Weathers, and Stan Burford.

Absent: David Fonkalsrud

Staff: Chief Robert Sinnott, Chief Darin White

1. Approval of Minutes: M/S Luckham/Burford to approve the minutes from the September 9, 2020, Fire Commission meeting.

- Chair Mizroch: Aye
- Vice Chair Luckham: Aye
- Commissioner Weathers: Absent at time of vote
- Commissioner Hade: Absent at time of vote
- Commissioner Hill: Aye
- Commissioner Fonkalsrud: Absent
- Commissioner Burford: Aye

2. Open Time for Public Expression: None.

3. Fire Foundation Report. \$26,267: Donna Mccusker made ~\$4,000 donation. Chair Mizroch shared that the Crab Feed has been cancelled due to safety concerns related to COVID-19 pandemic. Instead, request for donations will be sent to existing contacts with offer of Public Safety Center challenge coins.

4. Historic Subcommittee: No report.

5. Commissioner Reports: The commissioners provided their reports.

- Chair Mizroch: Urged for people to get the flu shot. Noted 170th birthday of the State of California. Recommended the film "Rebuilding Paradise". Sent gratitude to AmeriCorps for efforts to mitigate wildfire.
- Vice Chair Luckham: Shared advanced European fire helmet.
- Commissioner Weathers: No report this month.
- Commissioner Hade: Shared gratitude for the collegiality of the Fire Commission. Shared account of Cal OES fire response to an incident in San Luis Obispo.
- Commissioner Hill: Shared progress on enhancing data capabilities for SRFD.

- Commissioner Burford: Congratulated Paul and Yvonne Sasse on their 70th Anniversary; Paul retired as a Captain of the San Rafael Fire Department.

6. Fire Chief's Report: Chief White provided verbal report spanning several topics, including:

- Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority (MWPA)
 - Director position may be solidified in the next week.
 - Inspection staff (6) have conducted 1600 inspections this season; have been received positively.
 - Northern California Council for the Community (NCCC) may be able to be deployed in October.
- Wildfire Safety Forum
 - Held on August 31, 2020, with Officer Sgt Eberly, Quinn Gardner, and Chief White. Addressed topics that included evacuations, defensible space, community risk mitigation.
- September is National Preparedness Month and Public Safety Mental Awareness
 - Quinn Gardner to hold a weekly session with the community this month.
- Wildfire Mitigation Specialist will be joining the department to support safety efforts
- COVID-19 Impact
 - Short-term lodging has been cleared for re-open with restrictions.
 - Additional types of businesses are under consideration for re-open.
 - Provided current statistics of COVID-19 infections and deaths.
- Wildfire update
 - As of September 6, 2020, 7,448 fires had been ignited, noting that there are 13 major incidents.
 - Woodward Fire no longer has any local resources assigned.
- Recruitment
 - Three (3) recruits graduated and joined San Rafael Fire Department on September 5th.
- Chief White, Chair Mizroch and Vice Chair Luckham provided comments to dispel misconception of analogizing herd immunity to wildfire.
- Public Safety Center tour is scheduled for Wednesday September 16, 2020.

Adjournment: The Fire Commission meeting was adjourned at 4:53 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 14, 2020.

Submitted,

Eli Hill, Fire Commission