

Association of Retired San Jose Police Officers and Firefighters General Meeting Minutes

June 9, 2022

Meeting was in-person

Called to order at 11:35 am by President Ray Storms – Roll Call

Officers Present:

Ray Storms – President; John Shuman – VP Police; Walter Bugna – VP Fire;
Larry Samarron – Treasurer; Ken Jacksteit – Secretary

Officers Absent:

Directors Present:

Don Bartels; Joe Roberts; Jim Spence

Directors Absent:

Tim Miller; Gary Johnson

Guests:

None.

19 members attended the in-person General Meeting.

7 members attended via Zoom.

General Meeting Minutes from May 12, 2022 – Action Taken

- **Minutes will be uploaded to the Association website per direction of the Board of Directors.**

Treasurer's Report – No Action Taken

- Larry Samarron presented the financial report.

Reports from Committees – No Action Taken

- Election results: Dustin. Mayor's race. Ballots are still being counted. Cindy Chavez and Matt Mahan are front runners for mayor. Council races. District 1. Rosemary Kamei won with more than 50% of the votes cast. District 3. Omar Torres is first, and Irene Smith is second, so they will be in a runoff in November. District 5. Nora Campos took first with 32% of the votes. Unknown at this time who she will be in a runoff with. District 7 Maya Esparza came in first with 44% of the votes. District 9 Pam Foley received 100% of the vote.
- Jeff Rosen clinched the D.A.'s race. The Public Defender opponent came in last. Kevin Jensen and Bob Jonsen will be in a runoff for Sheriff. Sylvia Arenas and Johnny Khamis will be in a runoff for County Supervisor District 1. Dustin advised to get engaged early with the candidates as soon as the vote count is finished. There are approximately 144,000 votes that still need to be counted. This was a historic low voter turnout with only 18% of eligible California voters voting.
- **Old Business – No Action Taken**

- Retirement Board meeting Felonies/Treason. The Retirement Board met to discuss the possible reduction of a member's pension due to a felony conviction. The decision was made and was agreeable to all parties involved. The member will receive a one-time 10% reduction of his salary, \$647.30, by Oct. 2nd. No claw back. Future COLA not affected. No lawsuit and release of all claims. No impact on Survivor Benefits. Ray Storms will be asking the Retirement Board for clarification on the procedures for future decisions against members.

New Business – No Action Taken

Vice Presidents' Report – No Action Taken

- Police – John Shuman: Jim Spence SJPOA report: The SJPOA Board is adding two Tier 2 members to shadow current Board Members, so they get experience and exposure to the responsibilities and workings of the Association.
- Negotiations Update: The first proposal will be coming out in the next few days. Money package is proposed for a two-year contract. Further info after the proposal is released.
- Personnel Issues: 871 new officers in the last 5 years. The failure rate for recruits is up significantly from prior years. The last academy class was authorized for 50-60 officers but only 28 were hired for academy class. To date 61 officers have left the Department. There was discussion about maintaining current high standards for Officers making it through the FTO program to full duty officers.
- COVID ISSUES: The POA has notified the City that they will be taking the COVID discipline issue to arbitration.
- ACCOUNTABILITY: Supervisors will be held to a higher standard for the actions of their subordinates. With the Supervisors having to cover multiple districts the question is what are the standards for what accountability means. There is a move to release the names of those on Admin leave or terminations. The issue has been that officers have been reinstated after an appeal of the case disposition. POA is trying to make the point that names should not be released until the investigative and administrative cases are completed. The State at this time has not figured out or made any framework for the decertifying officers convicted of crimes or serious complaints.
- STATE ISSUES: Police Officers Bill of Rights has been under attack for the last few years. Any current changes or weakening of officer protections has been held off for this legislative session. The attempts to erode the protections will continue due to the on-going attack on the police structure of the country.
- EVENTS: Crisis Management Unit with the Police Department has scheduled a Pre-Retirement Empowerment Program (PERP). The program subjects covered are health management, financial decisions and stress management.
- POA Charitable Foundation is having the Bourbon and Smoke Fundraiser July 16, 2022, at the POA. Limited tickets are available.
- Fire – Walter Bugna: Local 230 Report from the May 16th meeting. They have 633 members. They are endorsing Omar Torres in District 3, Nora Campos in District 5 and Maya Esparza in District 7.

- Walter researched other fire departments to find who their providers are for EAP. Santa Clara County Fire and Mountain View Fire use Concern. No response from SFFD and Oakland Fire. Fremont. Sunnyvale, Foster City and San Mateo uses MHN. None of the above departments have EAP benefits for retirees even though suicides go up after retirement for both FD and PD.
- In April Local 230 voted that retirees can no longer be on the Board. Paramedics reverse mandatory overtime. They have been working 6-7 shifts in a row. This is a Bay Area wide issue.

President's Report – No Action Taken

- EAP: Pam Foley had submitted a City budget proposal for EAP for all retirees but was rejected. May have been entered late.
- Retirement Services to start a Medicare Part B education course in August. Their office is not open from 9am to 3pm and masks are required.
- If you retired with disabilities and are seeing doctors and are thinking of moving out of State, you need to investigate workers comp doctors in the area you are moving to and find out if they will accept Calif limits? Need to see your doctor at least annually if not every 6 months. If you decide to stop using workers comp doctors and use a private doctor, you may be held liable for those bills.
- A straw vote was conducted on whether to have a stipend for Board members. 15 voted yes in person. 5 voted yes on zoom.
- After the vote, individual members thanked the board and expressed their support of the stipend. Suggested to compare with other agencies their stipend amounts. The Board should communicate to active FD and PD that they can join the Association as well.

President Storms adjourned the meeting at 12:20 pm.