

MEETING MINUTES
Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee
January 26, 2023
9:38 AM – 11:36 AM

Committee Members

Nina Catalano
Michelle Cunningham-Denning
Julia D'Antonio
Jennifer Friedenbach
Julie Leadbetter
Ken Reggio
Shanell Williams

This meeting was held by WebEx pursuant to the Governor's Executive Orders and Mayoral Emergency Proclamations suspending and modifying requirements for in-person meetings. During the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) emergency, the Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee (OCOH) will convene remotely until the Committee is legally authorized to meet in person.

Note: The Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee meetings are live streamed at SFGovTV.org. The agenda, video recording, audio recording, and caption notes are posted at:
https://sanfrancisco.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=209.

Supporting materials including presentations and reports are posted at:
<https://sf.gov/meeting/january-26-2023/our-city-our-home-oversight-committee-regular-meeting>

Ramaytush Ohlone Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone, who are the original inhabitants of the San Francisco Peninsula. As the indigenous stewards of this land and in accordance with their traditions, the Ramaytush Ohlone have never ceded, lost nor forgotten their responsibilities as the caretakers of this place, as well as for all peoples who reside in their traditional territory. As guests, we recognize that we benefit from living and working on their traditional homeland. We wish to pay our respects by acknowledging the ancestors, elders and relatives of the Ramaytush Community and by affirming their sovereign rights as First Peoples.

1) ***Call to Order***

Chair Williams called the meeting to order at 9:38AM.

Roll Call:

Member Catalano: Absent
Member Cunningham-Denning: Joined Late
Vice Chair D'Antonio: Present
Member Friedenbach: Present
Member Leadbetter: Present
Member Reggio: Present
Chair Williams: Present

Quorum confirmed.

The Committee voted to excuse Member Catalano's absence.

2) ***Opportunity for the public to comment on any matters within the Committee’s jurisdiction that are not on the agenda.***

Gay Grunfeld, a resident of San Francisco made a public comment. She said she was unable to watch the meeting live through WebEx. She asked about the relationship between the OCOH Oversight Committee and the Homelessness Oversight Commission established by voters in November 2022.

Jessica Shimmin, OCOH Policy Analyst in the Controller’s Office said that WebEx now requires a password, which is 1234.

Member Friedenbach said that when the Homelessness Commission is seated the OCOH Oversight Committee will make recommendations to the Commission.

Alejandra, a maternity rights organizer and resident of San Francisco, made a public comment. She proposed hiring more doctors and nurses to help avoid overdoses among people struggling with addiction on the streets. She said addiction is rooted in unresolved trauma.

3) Action Item:
Approval, with possible modification, of the meeting minutes from October 27, 2022; November 16, 2022; November 17, 2022; December 15, 2022.

Chair Williams requested a motion to approve the minutes from the past four meetings.

Member Reggio moved to approve the minutes from October 27, 2022; November 16, 2022; November 17, 2022; December 15, 2022. Member Cunningham-Denning seconded the motion to approve the minutes.

Roll Call Vote:

- Member Catalano: Absent (excused)
- Member Cunningham-Denning: Yes
- Vice Chair D’Antonio: Yes
- Member Friedenbach: Yes
- Member Leadbetter: Yes
- Member Reggio: Yes
- Chair Williams: Yes

The minutes are approved.

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

4) Action Item:
Resolution making findings to allow teleconferenced meetings under California government code section 54953(e).
[Full text of the Resolution can be found here.](#)

Chair Williams summarized the resolution to allow teleconferenced meetings. She asked staff about plans to meet in person.

Jessica Shimmin, OCOH Policy Analyst in the Controller's Office, said that state and local emergency public health orders will be lifted at the end of February. Beginning in March, public bodies begin using the public meeting rules that were in place before the pandemic. She said that with limited exceptions Members will be required to be physically present at the OCOH Oversight Committee meetings. The [City Attorney's Office memo describing the legal rules for remote participation by Members of policy bodies beginning March 1, 2023](#) is available as part of the meeting materials.

Member Friedenbach asked whether the public will be able to comment by telephone? And, she asked about the limited exceptions to physical presence at meetings. Ms. Shimmin said that Controller's Office will explore options for remote public participation. Reasonable accommodations to the physical presence requirement may be granted, for instance to accommodate a disability and parental leave. Staff can work with Members to request reasonable accommodations.

Member Friedenbach asked about flexibility to accommodate a Member who is sick but still wants to participate in the meeting? Ms. Shimmin (Controller's Office) said she can look into this.

Chair Williams said she would work with staff as the Committee makes this change.

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

Roll Call Vote:

Member Catalano: Absent (excused)

Member Cunningham-Denning: Yes

Vice Chair D'Antonio: Yes

Member Friedenbach: Yes

Member Leadbetter: Yes

Member Reggio: Yes

Chair Williams: Yes

The resolution passed for the next 30 days.

5) Discussion/Possible Action Item

Discussion of Committee priorities and values to guide fiscal year 2023-24 and 2024-25 spending recommendations, with possible action by the Committee.

Jessica Shimmin, OCOH Policy Analyst in the Controller's Office, presented a cross walk of priorities and values the Committee set out in their [Two-Year Investment Plan](#) (final approval in June 2021) and [Needs Assessment](#) (final approval in December 2022). [The slides for this presentation are available here.](#)

Chair Williams suggested taking public comment. She also noted for public commenters that the OCOH Oversight Committee does not respond to public comments during the meeting.

Alejandra, a maternity rights organizer and resident of San Francisco, made a public comment. She asked about eligibility criteria for homeless housing in San Francisco. She asked, what is the purpose of housing when people don't make any changes to their lifestyle?

Vice Chair D'Antonio said she sees low-barrier programming as a value and priority across all the OCOH Fund categories. She would also prioritize homeless families according to the broadest definition. She expressed concern about the lack of data about doubled up households. She wants to prioritize victims of domestic violence (DV), since DV is a significant cause of homelessness

among families. Vice Chair D'Antonio said she would like to know more about the reasons people are turned away from programs. She said this would reveal barriers.

Vice Chair D'Antonio suggested two questions to guide the Committee's process: What are the biggest gaps in the system? How can we house more Black households?

Member Friedenbach said she wants to see low threshold access to shelter and hygiene programs for all populations. She said low-threshold access and targeted contracting with minority providers are additional ways to prioritize racial equity beyond set-asides.

Member Friedenbach suggested a third question to guide the Committee's process: What barriers prevent people from being able to access OCOH funded programs?

Member Cunningham-Denning said that she would like to know more from community stakeholders about the barriers they confront when trying to access housing. She said that in her professional role as Director of Housing at the TAJA's Coalition she sees low incomes and financial literacy as major barriers. Additionally, she said that LGBTQIA people who are experiencing homelessness face additional barriers when accessing shelter and housing services, specifically around their safety.

Ms. Shimmin (Controller's Office) reminded the Committee about the Liaison meetings with City departments beginning in February as part of the budget recommendation process. She also reviewed some agenda items for upcoming meetings this quarter (January-March).

Member Friedenbach asked about the timeline for making budget recommendations. She said that the Committee should make recommendations on any proposed adjustments to the OCOH budget, including those proposed by the Departments. Ms. Shimmin (Controller's Office) clarified that by ordinance the OCOH Oversight Committee makes formal spending plan recommendations to the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors. As the departments are key stakeholders, Ms. Shimmin proposes to open dialogue with the departments about the spending plan in February and March with the goal of clarity and alignment.

Chair Williams said she would work with staff to fine tune the timelines.

Member Reggio said that the timing proves tricky every year. He encouraged beginning the Liaison meetings to allow for as much consensus between the Committee and Departments as possible. He said that typically, the Departments and Committee agree on 95% of the investment plan. The Committee' role is to identify areas of consensus and difference in its recommendations to the Mayor and the Board.

Chair Williams said that the Liaison meetings with City departments have been an important part of the recommendation process. She said she will workshop the calendar offline and come back to the Committee.

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

6) Action Item

Officer elections and Community Liaison appointments.

Chair Williams asked for nominations for Chair, Vice Chair, and Data Officer roles.

Member Cunningham-Denning nominated Member Williams to continue as Chair. Member Friedenbach seconded the nomination. Member Williams accepted the nomination.

Member Reggio said the Committee is well served by the current chair, Member Williams.

Member Friedenbach appreciated Member Williams's leadership, skill, and knowledge.

Chair Williams asked for nominations for Vice Chair. Member Friedenbach nominated Member D'Antonio to continue serving as Vice Chair. Member Friedenbach appreciated Member D'Antonio's knowledge and commitment. Chair Williams seconded the motion in unison with Member Cunningham-Denning.

The Committee reviewed the role and responsibilities assigned to the Data Officer and the Community Liaison. Member Friedenbach, Vice Chair D'Antonio, and Chair Williams each spoke in support of merging the Community Liaison responsibilities into the Data Officer role, as a task/duty assigned by the Chair.

Chair Williams asked for nominations for Data Officer. Member Friedenbach nominated Member Leadbetter to continue serving as Data Officer. Member Friedenbach said Member has been doing a great job. Member Reggio seconded the nomination. Chair Williams said she hoped Member Leadbetter would accept the nomination because she has already learned a great deal from her.

Member Leadbetter accepted the nomination. She said that it's a fulfilling role, and she is happy to serve.

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

Roll Call Vote on the nomination of Member Williams to the office of Chair:

Member Catalano: Absent (excused)
Member Cunningham-Denning: Yes
Vice Chair D'Antonio: Yes
Member Friedenbach: Yes
Member Leadbetter: Yes
Member Reggio: Yes
Chair Williams: Yes

Chair Williams was elected to another term as Chair.

Roll Call Vote on the nomination of Member D'Antonio to the office of Vice Chair:

Member Catalano: Absent (excused)
Member Cunningham-Denning: Yes
Vice Chair D'Antonio: Yes
Member Friedenbach: Yes
Member Leadbetter: Yes
Member Reggio: Yes
Chair Williams: Yes

Vice Chair D'Antonio was elected to another term as Vice Chair.

Roll Call Vote on the nomination of Member Leadbetter to the Data Officer role:

Member Catalano: Absent (excused)
Member Cunningham-Denning: Yes
Vice Chair D'Antonio: Yes
Member Friedenbach: Yes
Member Leadbetter: Yes
Member Reggio: Yes
Chair Williams: Yes

Officer Leadbetter was elected to another term as Data Officer.

Chair Williams nominated Member Friedenbach to continue serving as Shelter and Hygiene Liaison. Member Reggio seconded the nomination. Member Friedenbach accepted the nomination.

Member Friedenbach said that since the Committee hasn't had a Behavioral Health Liaison and she would be happy to take on that role instead. Member Cunningham-Denning nominated herself for Behavioral Health Liaison and Chair Williams seconded the nomination.

The Committee would revisit the Diversion and Prevention Liaison appointment at a later date when Member Catalano could be present.

Member Reggio said that he has been in conversation with the Mayor's Office and is stepping away from the Committee for personal and family reasons, all positive. Chair Williams thanked Member Reggio for his service and said the Committee would revisit the Housing Inventory and Pipeline Liaison appointment at a later date.

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

Roll Call Vote on the nomination of Member Friedenbach to the Shelter & Hygiene Liaison role.

Member Catalano: Absent (excused)
Member Cunningham-Denning: Yes
Vice Chair D'Antonio: Yes
Member Friedenbach: Yes
Member Leadbetter: Yes
Member Reggio: Yes
Chair Williams: Yes

Officer Friedenbach was elected to another term as Shelter and Hygiene Liaison.

Roll Call Vote on the nomination of Member Cunningham-Denning to the Behavioral Health Liaison role.

Member Catalano: Absent (excused)
Member Cunningham-Denning: Yes
Vice Chair D'Antonio: Yes
Member Friedenbach: Yes
Member Leadbetter: Yes
Member Reggio: Yes
Chair Williams: Yes

Member Cunningham-Denning was elected to serve as the Behavioral Health Liaison.

7) Discussion/Possible Action Item

Mental Health Spotlight presentation with discussion and possible action by the Committee.

Dr. Kunins, Director of Behavioral Health Services, began a presentation on the Mental Health SF Population and Core Metrics, with support from Dr. Monica Rose. [Slides from their Mental Health Spotlight presentation are located here.](#)

Chair Williams asked for Committee questions.

Vice Chair D'Antonio thanked the presenters. She asked what proportion of the service population have dual-diagnoses? And she asked what kinds of drugs fall into the categories, "stimulant" and "opioid"? Vice Chair D'Antonio said the kind of support people need may depend on the kinds of substances they're using and how they're consuming them.

Dr. Rose (DPH) said that the available data show a 35% of the Mental Health SF population has been dually diagnosed with a Serious Mental Illness (SMI) and a Substance Use Disorder (SUD).

Member Cunningham-Denning asked how DPH collects data for Mental Health SF? Dr. Rose (DPH) said that DPH collects administrative data when people access services. And, they have data sharing agreements with the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing for homelessness data.

Member Friedenbach said she would like to see more effort put toward getting overdose prevention materials out to users and training them to prevent overdoses, rather than getting materials out to community-based organizations.

Director Kelly Kirkpatrick thanked Member Friedenbach for her comment. She talked briefly about additional work the Department of Public Health is doing to implement programs that are informed by analytics and advance equity.

Chair Williams noted the time and asked that DPH return at another meeting to continue the conversation.

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

Chair Williams thanked the presenters for their time.

8) Discussion/Possible Action Item

Opportunity to propose future agenda items with discussion and possible action by the Committee.

Members did not propose future agenda items.

There were no public comments on this agenda item.

9) ***Adjourn***

Chair Williams requested a motion to adjourn the Meeting.

Vice Chair D'Antonio moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Cunningham-Dunning seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call Vote:

Member Catalano: Absent (excused)

Member Cunningham-Denning: Yes

Vice Chair D'Antonio: Yes

Member Friedenbach: Yes

Member Leadbetter: Absent

Member Reggio: Yes

Chair Williams: Yes

The meeting adjourned at 11:36AM.