



**MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 18, 2022 SPECIAL MEETING**

WebEx Event

**1. SAN FRANCISCO FILM COMMISSION LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT (02:05)**

The San Francisco Film Commission and Film SF staff acknowledges 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 Ohlone community and by affirming their sovereign rights as First Peoples.

**2. CALL TO ORDER AND COMMISSIONER ROLL CALL (03:42)**

President Villy Wang called the meeting to order .

**Jim Beaumonte**

Present  Late  Excused  Absent

**Alix Rosenthal**

Present  Late  Excused  Absent

**Jack S. Song**

Present  Late  Excused  Absent

**Claudine Cheng**

Present  Late  Excused  Absent

**Jon Rubin**

Present  Late  Excused  Absent

**Julie Gilman Veronese**

Present  Late  Excused  Absent

**Tony Delorio**

Present  Late  Excused  Absent

**Lynne Newhouse Segal**

Present  Late  Excused  Absent

**Villy Wang (President)**

Present  Late  Excused  Absent

**Belle Taylor-McGhee**

Present  Late  Excused  Absent

**Matt Stiker (Vice President)**

Present  Late  Excused  Absent

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:**

Janet Austin, May Liang, Zefania Preza, Ismael Castillo

Also in attendance: Lauren Curry



**3. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 4, 2022 SPECIAL MEETING'S MINUTES** (05:36)

[Action Item]

Presentation of and possible action to approve the minutes of the January 4, 2022 Special Commission meeting.

MOTION: (05:58)

Commissioner Rosenthal motioned to approve the special meeting minutes; Commissioner Beaumonte seconded the motion.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT: (06:39)

No Commissioner Comment on this item.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (08:11)

No Public Comment on this item.

ACTION: (08:32)

**Beaumonte**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Taylor-McGhee**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Segal**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Veronese**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Cheng**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Rosenthal**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Stiker**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Wang**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Delorio**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Rubin**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Song**

Ayes Nays Absent

The Commission approved the minutes for the January 4, 2022 special meeting.

**4. APPROVAL OF THE SAN FRANCISCO FILM COMMISSION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JOB DESCRIPTION** (09:25)

[Discussion and Possible Action Item]

To review, discuss and approve the job description for the open Executive Director position for the San Francisco Film Commission.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT: (10:30)

Commissioner Rosenthal thanked for including her comments in the suggestions from previous meeting and wanted to add technology using social media as an additional bullet point.

Commissioner Segal asked what is the definition of stakeholders and who are the clients? It's not clear to her who are clients and who are the stakeholders. Are the clients in film related business? Not sure if the stakeholders include the residents of San Francisco or other San Francisco agencies.

MOTION: (26:22)

Commissioner Beaumonte motioned to approve the job description, the qualifications for executive director with the amendment of the social media be added. Vice President Stiker seconded the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (27:32)

No Public Comment on this item.

ACTION: (28:34)

**Beaumonte**

Ayes Naves Absent

**Taylor-McGhee**

Ayes Naves Absent

**Segal**

Ayes Naves Absent

**Veronese**

Ayes Naves Absent

**Cheng**

Ayes Naves Absent

**Rosenthal**

Ayes Naves Absent

**Stiker**

Ayes Naves Absent

**Wang**

Ayes Naves Absent

**Delorio**

Ayes Naves Absent

**Rubin**

Ayes Naves Absent

**Song**

Ayes Naves Absent

The Commission approved the motion the open Executive Director position with amendment of social media for the San Francisco Film Commission.

**5. DISCUSS PROCESS FOR NOMINATING CANDIDATES FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POSITION AND SELECT A NOMINATING COMMITTEE** (36:06)

[Discussion Item]

To discuss the process of how the Film Commission will nominate possible candidates for the open Executive Director position.

The Commission discussed a nominating committee, so the expectation is that we as a body and a film commissioner will nominate up to three candidates which we could rank order as we decide to choose.

President Wang proposed to create a nominating committee of three commissioners to support the vetting and interviewing process. This committee will definitely be doing extra labor between the meetings beyond the regular monthly meetings, and expected to be able to expedite this process to be meeting weekly in the interest of appointing an executive director. Commissioner Cheng, even though excused, has expressed interest and has offered to volunteer her time and services to be on the nominating committee as well. President Wang opened up for commissioner to volunteer and comment for this role.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT: (42:46)

Commissioner Rosenthal expressed she would to love to participate and felt like it's one of the most important things we do as a commission and would love to be involved.

Commissioner Beaumonte expressed to volunteer with his 30 years of experience in the film business, working with productions and production companies.

President Wang noticed we had four candidates with herself included and was hoping for an odd number in case this group needs to break a tie. Commissioner Rosenthal was happy to drop off in order to have a tie breaker within the committee.

MOTION: (42:11)

President Wang asked for a motion to form a nominating committee composed of herself, Commissioner Jim Commissioner Beaumont, as well as Commissioner Cheng. Vice President Stiker motioned to approve, Rosenthal seconded the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (42:46)

No Public Comment on this item.

ACTION: (46:12)

**Beaumont**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Taylor-McGhee**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Segal**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Veronese**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Cheng**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Rosenthal**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Stiker**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Wang**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Delorio**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Rubin**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Song**

Ayes Nays Absent

The Commission approved to form a nominating committee composed of President Wang, Commissioner Beaumont, and Commissioner Cheng.

**6. CLOSED SESSION: PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT – REVIEW OF POTENTIAL CANDIDATES FOR APPOINTMENT AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE FILM COMMISSION [CLOSED SESSION](47:31)**

[Discussion Item]

To discuss the process of how the Film Commission will nominate possible candidates for the open Executive Director position.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (48:21)

Sean House: (48:35)

*“Good morning, commissioners. Thank you for your time. My name is Sean House and as a local Bay Area film industry worker for more than a quarter century. I’m pleased to address you at this moment in time. I helped found the Bay Area Film Alliance in 2001, was the president of the Oakland Film Center for many years. I currently am a principal and head of fabrication at 3210 studios and San Rafael. Former Industrial Light Magic up there. You have an incredibly important decision before you to make that will affect the Bay Area film industry professionals, Bay Area film businesses and indeed the reputation of the city for years to come. The film commission has an amazing opportunity in choosing and appointing the new head of film San Francisco Film Office and president of the Film Commission. Your timing could not be more fortuitous. You have, before you today, a candidate of unprecedented skill and experience. Not since the days of the late Robin Eichmann has sent San Francisco had a better candidate put forth for consideration in business, Ami Zins brings with her over 13 years of film office experience as the former head of the Oakland Film Office during her tenure in Oakland, she excelled in community outreach from the film office and reached across department city department lines to*

*establish firm working relationships with many departments, including the police department. She strove for inclusiveness and quality across the local film community. She worked for three years to try and help bring the Wayans Brothers studio to Oakland. As a volunteer member of the Bay Area Film Alliance she helped create the Flicks, which are film liaisons in California statewide, which is running to this day to be able to interact with other local film offices and film commissions on a continuing basis. Ami helped craft recommendations for the San Francisco film and incentives forwarded by the Bay Area Film Alliance and initially adopted in 2004. She was also responsible for helping promote the state film incentives adopted in 2009. In 2004, recognizing that many film related businesses were leaving the Bay Area. Ami helped found the Oakland Film Center on the former army base. It started with twelve film related businesses and when it closed in 2013, had grown to 32 businesses. There are so many exemplary things that Amy did as the head of the Oakland Film Office. It would take hours to go through. Ami's love throughout the community, including film unions and guilds, independent filmmakers, film students, local film businesses and clearly is a stakeholder in the local film community. As someone whose livelihood and career depends upon local film projects, I'm here to tell you that Ami is the most outstanding candidate you could possibly have to consider as the head of the San Francisco Film Office. Thank you very much, commissioners."*

Julie Rubio: (51:22)

*"Dear Mrs. President Wang and fellow film commissioners, the San Francisco Film Office, and to all people concerned here today, it was with great enthusiasm that the Board of Directors of Women in Film San Francisco Bay Area recommends Ami Zins for the role of executive director of the San Francisco Film Office. Ami Zins exemplifies qualities that our organization deeply values first with film always her focus, Ami has a longstanding track record of championing filmmakers and building bridges in the industry. She is to be celebrated for her deep roots, knowledge and connections. She understands production, and she has a knack for navigating local and regional networks with diplomacy and grace. And over the years, Ami has supported inspired a great many women, both on professional and personal levels at all levels of experience, from all walks of life and at all stages of production and a longstanding organization in this area. Many of our members can attest to the fact that they have been directly impacted by Ami and the work that she's given to our community, including several of our board members, including myself on my film Eastside Sushi, from on many occasions before I actually met Ami Zins. This is from Tasha, This particular part of the letter. I use the Oakland Film Office looking for resources while making my feature film, and over the years as an independent producer working on projects across the Bay Area, I recall finding what I needed quickly and easily. I remember being struck by the welcoming and supportive tone of the Oakland Film Office, where she served as director, something I had not found strongly in the community at that point. I eventually met Ami and immediately recognized her as a powerful, a powerhouse behind the film office. Ami's legacy was and is unattainable because of the impact that she has on her team and have been making on my project and the projects of my peers. And then this was a portion of the letter that I also wrote for myself. I've worked with Amazon for many years. She was the head of the Oakland Film Office. She was completely supportive of all of our film projects, I believe Ami would be an amazing addition to the San Francisco Film Commission and would elevate the environment. She understands filmmaking permits and the filmmaking process. No matter if you're a big studio film or small independent filmmaker, she always treats everyone equally. She's extremely knowledgeable, always fair and a true expert. I've always found Ami to be honest, communicative, extremely supportive person. I believe she would be a great addition to the San Francisco Film Commission and a joy to work with. Thank you for carrying our letter today."*

COMMISSIONER COMMENT: (55:45)

Commissioner Segal asked if this just an interview or is this would this person be able to be hired after a vote on the closed session.

President Wang clarified to Commissioner Segal we needed to enter a closed session because of personnel that will be discussed and it needs to be done with privacy in mind and that isn't an interview. There would be no action voted during the closed session.

MOTION: (55:26)

Commissioner Beaumonte motioned to go into Closed Session to review the potential candidates for appointment as the Executive Director position for the San Francisco Film Commission; Commissioner Rosenthal seconded the motion.

ACTION: (58:12)

**Beaumonte**

Ayes  Nayes  Absent

**Taylor-McGhee**

Ayes  Nayes  Absent

**Segal**

Ayes  Nayes  Absent

**Veronese**

Ayes  Nayes  Absent

**Cheng**

Ayes  Nayes  Absent

**Rosenthal**

Ayes  Nayes  Absent

**Stiker**

Ayes  Nayes  Absent

**Wang**

Ayes  Nayes  Absent

**Delorio**

Ayes  Nayes  Absent

**Rubin**

Ayes  Nayes  Absent

**Song**

Ayes  Nayes  Absent

The Commission voted to go into Closed Session to review the potential candidates for appointment as the Executive Director position for the San Francisco Film Commission.

The Commission went into Closed Session: (58:57)

The Commission reconvened into Open Session: (59:18)

President Wang: (59:31) Public members, during the closed session, we are reporting that no action was taken in the closed session. The commission will now decide whether to disclose any, any or all of the discussion held in closed session, except to the extent that discussion in closed session is confidential under federal or state law, the charter or non-bailable privilege. The standard of disclosure is whether the majority deems disclosure to be in the public interest.

MOTION: (1:00:05)

President Wang asked for a motion not to disclose the Closed Session discussion. Commissioner Beaumonte motioned and Commissioner Stiker seconded the motion.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT: (01:01:05)

No Commissioner Comment on this item.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (01:00:50)

No Public Comment on this item.

ACTION: (01:01:09)

**Beaumont**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Taylor-McGhee**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Segal**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Veronese**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Cheng**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Rosenthal**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Stiker**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Wang**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Delorio**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Rubin**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Song**

Ayes Nays Absent

The Commission voted not to disclose the Closed Session discussion

**7. ADJOURNMENT: (1:01:54)**

[Discussion and Action Item]

MOTION: (1:02:08):

President Wang asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Rosenthal motioned and Commissioner Beaumont seconded the motion.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT: (01:02:14)

No Commissioner Comment on this item.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (01:02:14)

No Public Comment on this item.

ACTION: (01:02:40)

President Wang asked for a vote to adjourn the meeting

**Beaumont**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Taylor-McGhee**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Segal**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Veronese**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Cheng**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Rosenthal**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Stiker**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Wang**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Delorio**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Rubin**

Ayes Nays Absent

**Song**

Ayes Nays Absent

The vote was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned.