



MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 24, 2022 MEETING - DRAFT

WebEx Event

1. SAN FRANCISCO FILM COMMISSION LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT (03:06)

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 (03:54)

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:

Manijeh Fata, Janet Austin, May Liang, Zefania Preza, Ismael Castillo



3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES (06:41)

[Action Item]

Presentation of and possible action to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2021 Commission meeting.

Explanatory Document:

https://filmsf.org/sites/default/files/Meetings/2021/Minutes%2012.13.21%20DRAFT%203_MF.pdf

MOTION: (07:00)

Commissioner Delorio motioned the approve to the minutes of the December 13, 2021 Commission Meeting; Commissioner Rosenthal seconded the motion.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT: (07:15)

No Commissioner Comment on this item.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (07:37)

No Public Comment on this item.

ACTION: (8:06)

Beaumont

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 minutes of the December 13, 2021 Commission Meeting.

4. AB 361 LEGISLATION RESOLUTION (10:07)

[Discussion and Action Item]

Discussion and possible motion to adopt a resolution setting forth findings required under Assembly Bill 361 that would allow the Film Commission to hold meetings remotely according to the modified Brown Act teleconferencing set forth in AB 361.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT: (11:20)

No Commissioner Comment on this item.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (11:25)

No Public Comment on this item.

MOTION: (11:45)

Commissioner Cheng motioned to allow the Film Commission to hold meetings remotely according to the modified Brown Act teleconferencing set forth in AB 361; Commissioner Beaumonte seconded the motion.

ACTION: (11:11)

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 to allow the Film Commission to hold meetings remotely according to the modified Brown Act teleconferencing set forth in AB 361.

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT (13:15)

[Discussion Item]

By President Villy Wang. This report is to allow the President to report on recent Film Commission activity and to make announcements. President Wang will speak about the transition period and next steps. She will then discuss with the Commissioners their hopes for this new year.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT: (17:47)

President Wang asked *"What's a hope that you have for the film commission in 2022?"*

President Wang is hoping to complete the whole transition of the Executive Director. She's looking forward to working more closely with each Commissioner during staff transition and to articulate a clear goal and vision together, so that we each know what our roles and responsibilities could be and of course, centering equity, diversity, inclusion.

Vice President Stiker wants to continue the work from last year that we started on racial equity and figuring out where and how to really incorporate that into not only what the office does, but how the commission works and also how we work with the industry and really demonstrate to the industry who ultimately are a really key stakeholder of ours.

Commissioner Cheng wants to include a clarification on the roles and responsibilities as a member of this Commission. She hopes that we can also think more broadly to include more connections with film festivals in the city. She also is looking at the possibility of refreshing our website.

Commissioner Taylor-McGhee would like to see us be able to demonstrate more broadly and clearly our commitment for inclusion. What would that look like really? And how do we convey that to our stakeholders and constituencies?

Commissioner Song wants to promote are our annual report, our economic studies, thinks we have great data that he really supports. He wants to be able to leverage that educating the community, but also local neighborhoods and our target audience trying to bring additional production into San Francisco.

Commissioner Beaumonte shared the importance of the film mixers of bring the production community and City departments together. He also wants us to continue bringing productions back to San Francisco and working on the developing a permanent stage space. And to make sure we are supporting our independent filmmakers. He also wants the Commission to investigate a couple of bills that were introduced to the state legislature. One is the SB-831, a firearm safety bill and thinks we should probably keep an eye on because if they want all productions to move forward all-digital, that might not be the best interest for the film industry. He feels that film safety or the firearm safety has been pretty good throughout the industry for a lot of years. He also mentioned Senator Portantino is introducing the renewal of SB-85 the California Film and Television Tax Incentive. He states we need to be involved in because he doesn't feel that film and television tax incentive has been spread throughout the state fairly.

Commissioner Segal wants to a smooth transition with our office and would like to know what the OEWD's goals are for our mission. And like to hear from them specifically about that and if it's changed in any way from when our department was first established.

Commissioner Rosenthal really would like to hire a director who can bring a fresh new perspective on how to market San Francisco as a film destination.

Commissioner Rubin wants to support small venues in San Francisco, especially ones such as the Castro. He would like make sure no more of those little theaters close.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (35:54)

No Public Comment on this item.

6. ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT (36:35)

[Discussion Item]

By Acting Executive Director Manijeh Fata. This report will include: (1) Manijeh Fata discuss key priorities this year and clarifying the role of the Commission – SF Admin. Code, Chapter 57.3

Manijeh Fata expressed some key priorities for our office as we move forward into this year. Foremost, is that we have an office that is empowered and supported in their work. We have a new team and a few more staffing transitions. She addressed how the voices of our office will be present in the meetings and how we will hear from them about some highlights of their work.

Another priority continuing develop some important projects and initiatives. The first one is really working on the dedicated stage space. There's been some headway and a quick update on that is Susannah had been working with Supervisor Safai and Andrico Penick, Head of Real Estate, to secure land to build a stage. Mark Walter from Cinelease has developers that are interested in helping build that stage space on that land, so conversations are moving along. Another huge piece, is that we've already made some accomplishments in creating opportunities for San Franciscan young adults to gain access into the film and media industry and especially those from underrepresented communities. It's important we've made internships with Matrix and Nash Bridges. We've had internships opportunities that have been as a result of the partnership with ITASE Local 16, the Mayor's Opportunities for All program. We have the Mayor's support in building those initiatives.

A key priority is really about having a Commission that feels engaged and confident in their roles, and think it's important that we really talk about clarifying the role because looking at some of the onboarding materials for Commissioners, she asked if we have documents that talk about the role of the Commission. She wants the Commissioners to revisit Chapter 57.3 and have a discussion around it and know this is going to be the first of many conversations clarifying the role as a Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT: (51:26)

Commissioner Beaumonte wanted to add he looks at participation as a pie and all the commissioners are a slice. He wants everybody brings something in their own slice and the main thing is to participate. An example could be showing up to the filmmakers and it doesn't always have to be the big thing.

Commissioner Cheng appreciated Manijeh proactively inviting them and welcoming them to be more involved in the ways that they each can as commissioners. As for as the Chapter 57.3 maybe it is helpful to send them the link again between now and the next meeting. And in the future, if the commission collectively feels the need to make changes that they can do so. In addition Cheng hopes that maybe the film office can also send out a list of items that the commission would be able to support them with.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (55:19)

Kathleen: (55:27)

"I thank you very much for this opportunity and thank you, Manijeh, for taking the baton. I'm really excited to hear your words and how it feels like a fresh take on, you know, with all respect to Susannah, who's just remarkable, but your fresh eyes and fresh take on this it sounds like we may have an opportunity to promote San Francisco in a way that that we haven't before. And thank you for pooling our resources together. I love the idea that that you're all intent on looking for stage space and production space. And lastly, I want to thank you in this statement for also caring about the filmmakers and being that conduit. You're incredibly important to us, and I have been really fortunate to have been working in this town for ten years and I've just felt really represented well and I'm grateful to you now and in advance for all that you're going to be doing. All of you. It's so important to get some more work here. So thank you all. I'm so excited for this that all that fresh start. And that's it for me."

7. FILM SF STAFF REPORT (57:46)

[Discussion Item]

By Acting Executive Director Manijeh Fata and Film SF Staff - Janet Austin, Ismael Castillo, May Liang, and Zefania Preza. This report is to allow staff to report on recent film related activity and production work, and to make announcements.

1. (01:01:46) Manijeh Fata and Ismael Castillo will share what staff are working on and how the transition has been going.
2. (01:07:46) Zefania Preza share plan to update Commission section on website and info needed
3. (01:10:12) Production Spotlight by May Liang and update on in-person Commission meetings
4. (01:18:45) Janet Austin give stats on recent permits and productions
5. (01:21:38) Manijeh Fata discuss staffing changes.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT: (01:17:26:17)

Commissioner Commented on wishing the staff a farewell.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (01:33:43)

Frank Simeone: (01:34:23)

"Thank you. As an independent filmmaker here in San Francisco, I just want to thank Janet and me for everything they've done. They know how often I've bothered them with different issues and they've always been there for me. They've always been there for the filmmaking community here in the Bay Area, and I just can't thank them both for their great, great work and I wish them all the very best in the future. I should also mention I was on the crew recently for the Disney project This Is Us and Manijeh came and visited the set, which was wonderful. And that was such a fabulous shoot. We were at the top of Lombard Street. We were at Pier 39. We were at the top of Vallejo Street. Yacht Club. It just was worked swimmingly. We got such remarkable footage and it wouldn't have happened without the good, good work of the film commission pulling that all together. It just it was just another bright star. So thank you all. Thank you all. That's it. Thanks very much."

8. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (01:36:21)

[Discussion Item]

This item is to allow members of the public to comment generally on matters within the Commission's purview as well as to suggest new agenda items for the Commission's consideration.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT: (01:36:34)

No Commissioner Comment on this item.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (01:36:50)

No Public Comment on this item.

9. ADJOURNMENT: (01:37:00)

[Action Item]

MOTION: (01:37:04)

President Wang asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Stiker motioned and Commissioner Song seconded the motion.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT: (01:37:32)

No Commissioner Comment on this item.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (01:37:47)

No Public Comment on this item.

ACTION: (01:38:00)

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.