

**San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC)  
Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC)**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, May 21, 2019  
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
525 Golden Gate Ave., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Tuolumne Conference Room**

**Mission:** The purpose of the SFPUC CAC is to provide recommendations to the SFPUC General Manager, the SFPUC Commission, and the Board of Supervisors regarding the agency's long-term strategic, financial, and capital improvement plans (Admin Code 5.140-142).

**Members:**

<b>Amy Zock, Chair (D3)</b>	VACANT (D7)	Nicole Sandkulla (M-Reg'l Water Customers)
Wendy Aragon (D1)	Amy Nagengast (D8)	Mark Tang (M-Eng./Financial)
Suki Kott (D2)	Moisés García (D9)	Nathaniel Kinsey (M-Lg Water User)
Jim McHugh (D4)	Anietie Ekanem (D10)	VACANT (B-Small Business)
Ted Loewenberg (D5)	Jennifer Clary (D11)	Misty McKinney (B-Env Justice)
VACANT (D6)	VACANT (M-Env.Group)	

M = Mayoral appointment, B = Board President Appointment

Staff Liaisons: Tracy Zhu and Sabrie Grays  
Staff Email for Public Comment: [cac@sfgwater.org](mailto:cac@sfgwater.org)

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- Call to order and roll call:** The meeting was called to order at 5:39pm.

**Members present at roll call:** (9) Zock, Kott, Loewenberg, Nagengast, Ekanem, Clary, Sandkulla, Tang, Kinsey

**Members Absent:** (4) Aragon, McHugh, Garcia, McKinney

- Approve March 19, 2019 Minutes**

Motion was made (Clary) and seconded (Loewenberg) to approve March 19, 2019 minutes

AYES: (9) Zock, Kott, Loewenberg, Nagengast, Ekanem, Clary, Sandkulla, Tang, Kinsey

NOES: (0)

ABSENT: (4) Aragon, McHugh, Garcia, McKinney

- Report from the Chair – Amy Zock**

- Welcome members of the public and staff
- Recruitment for vacant CAC seats

**London N. Breed**  
Mayor

**Ann Moller Caen**  
President

**Francesca Vietor**  
Vice President

**Anson Moran**  
Commissioner

**Sophie Maxwell**  
Commissioner

**Tim Paulson**  
Commissioner

**Harlan L. Kelly, Jr.**  
General Manager



- Annual CAC Survey in June
- Annual CAC Leadership Retreat in July/August
- John Scarpulla with the SFPUC came to talk about the Auxiliary Water Supply System, now being called the Emergency Firefighting Water System. He explained that he hopes to present bi-annually or three times a year to the CAC to provide updates and get input on this important water system.

Public Comment: Bill Martin, a San Francisco resident, customer of the SFPUC and volunteer of the Sierra Club came to talk about the San Joaquin Tributaries Authority filing a lawsuit challenging the Waterboards Wetland Adoption. Since the SFPUC is a member of the Tributaries Authority, Mr. Martin stated that the SFPUC joined the lawsuit. He asked the CAC to please advise the SFPUC to withdraw from the lawsuit.

4. **Public Comment:** None

5. **Presentation and Discussion:** [SFPUC Preliminary Public Power Options Report](#), Barbara Hale, Assistant General Manager, Power Enterprise

- **Resources**
  - [SFPUC Preliminary Public Power Options Report](#)
  - [Press Release](#)

**Presentation Topics:**

- History of Power Provision
- SFPUC Power Operates Public Power & Community Choice Programs
- Historically, the City has paid PG&E for distribution services
- The City's trajectory of measured independence from PG&E
- Context of Report
- The City's Options
- Three Options
- The City's Options Compared
- Limited Independence
- Targeted Investment for More Independence
- Acquire PG&E Assets for Full Independence
- Next Steps
- Continue to Evaluate Public Power Expansion

**Discussion Topics:**

- *Member Nagengast* asked if the SFPUC will continue to have an increase of projects held up by PG&E.  
*AGM Hale* answered yes, PG&E has said that they are not going to negotiate with the SFPUC to work around the challenges they are putting in front of them.
- *Member Ekanem* inquired if present PG&E customers can decide to switch over to the SFPUC.  
*AGM Hale* replied yes, but only if the customer owns their own electrical equipment which is only common among large power consumers.
- *Member Clary* questioned if the bay corridor is the connection from Pittsburgh to here across the bay.  
*AGM Hale* responded no, that is a privately owned and operated large transmission line.
- *Member Sandkulla* asked where *AGM Hale* sees the next step for the SFPUC on the three Electric Service Options.  
*AGM Hale* answered that the SFPUC is working with the City Attorney and outside consultants to get more detailed cost estimates. One of

the challenges is the SFPUC can't see the PG&E electrical assets because most are underground or behind the walls of a sub-station.

- *Member Sandkulla* inquired if the PG&E bankruptcy judge has given the SFPUC any feedback on this idea.  
*AGM Hale* replied no, not yet.
- *Member Clary* questioned what regulatory authorities would rule on this if SFPUC could purchase PG&E's assets within the City of San Francisco  
*AGM Hale* responded that the bankruptcy judge has a say, and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has a role in looking at whether the price is fair on the rest of the ratepayers. Depending on what assets end up being offered for purchase, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission could have a role too.
- *Member Clary* asked if Prop 218 applies.  
*AGM Hale* answered no, it does not apply to electric utilities. What applies is Prop 26.
- *Member Kott* stated that she was curious to whether the SFPUC went through this whole analysis back in 2002 when PG&E filed for bankruptcy.  
*AGM Hale* replied no, the city did not go through an analysis at that time. It didn't get this far back then. What's happening now is a result of the bankruptcy, the safety concerns, liability and the disputes the SFPUC is having with PG&E.
- *Member Kinsey* questioned if the consultant who is going to be working on round two of the study been hired. If so, who are they.  
*AGM Hale* responded that the status of the work and who the consultants are can't be shared at this time.
- *Member Kinsey* asked if the SFPUC needs to go to the voters to ask for money to potentially buy PG&E assets  
*AGM Hale* answered that because Prop A passed, the SFPUC does not need to return to the voters for approval.
- *Member Ekanem* inquired if PG&E doesn't get a bankruptcy plan extension to November then what is the actual timeline.  
*AGM Hale* replied that they don't know exactly. The judge could say yes to November, or they could say no which would default to August.

Public Comment: None

**\*\*Member Loewenberg was excused at 6:32pm, quorum lost.**

*\*\* indicates a member left after roll call.*

6. **Presentation and Discussion: [SFPUC Communications Division](#)**, Kesinee Yip, Deputy Director, Communications Division, External Affairs

**Presentation Topics:**

- Who we are
- What we do
- Recent Earned Media
- Recent Public Education Campaigns
- Digital Innovation Underway
- Customer Insights Work Underway

**Discussion Topics:**

- *Member Sandkulla* commented that one of the issues she's heard in the past is that the SFPUC isn't in control of their website. She added that would be a thing to change because it doesn't make sense to

have someone not connected to the SFPUC making decisions about what gets put up and what is easy to find.

*Staff Zhu* offered that might have been an earlier iteration of the website, but that is not true for this current iteration. Everything is within Communications control and Communications staff are who make changes to the website. There are a lot of different people who can make changes to the website so now it's more quality control.

- *Member Kinsey* asked if they are going to keep sfwater.org as the website name.

*Staff Yip* answered that that's under discussion.

- *Member Kott* inquired if the customer survey was put on Nextdoor. *Staff Yip* replied that it may have been.

- *Member Kinsey* questioned if Communications is engaging with their municipal customers.

*Staff Yip* responded that she doesn't know the answer to that question, but she'd hope so.

Public Comment: None

## 7. Staff Report

- CleanPowerSF Videos: [Molecule Mob Activation](#) and [Thank you, San Francisco!](#)
- Regular Meeting of the Full CAC on July 13, will be rescheduled as Northpoint Wet Weather Facility Tour on Saturday, July 20, 10am-12pm

## 8. Future Agenda Items and Resolutions

- Social Impact Partnerships (*June*)
- Interagency Working Group on Sea Level Rise
- Agency-wide Planning on Climate Change & Adaptation Planning
- Southeast Community Facility
- SSIP Phase 2
- Human Resources
- Contracting Process
- Education Resolution
- PUC Properties and City Department Partnerships
- Water Equity and Water Access for Homeless
- Workforce Programs
- Water Rights and Raker Act
- Water Use and Parks
- Flooding Protection
- Water Quality Report
- Green New Deal
- Micro Hydroelectric Power
- Prop A Bond Funding

9. **Announcements/Comments** – The next meeting for the Full CAC will be on June 18, 2019. Check [www.sfwater.org/cac](http://www.sfwater.org/cac) for confirmation of the final meeting date for the next scheduled meeting.

## 10. Adjournment

Quorum lost, therefore no adjournment.