

San Francisco Animal Commission
Meeting Minutes
October 9, 2025

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Chair Michael Angelo Torres; Vice Chair Irina Ozernoy; Commissioners: Mikaila Garfinkel; Michael Reed; Nick Chapman

Absent: Commissioner Dayna Sherwood; Department Representatives: Deputy Director Amy Corso, SF Animal Care and Control; Natural Resources Manager Christopher Campbell, SF Recreation and Parks; Officer Greg Sutherland, SF Police Department; Dr. George Han, SF Department of Public Health

2. General Public Comment

A community member paid tribute to Jane Goodall and expressed support for Zoe Rosenberg, who at the time was facing trial.

3. Approval of the draft meeting minutes from September 2025

Draft minutes were approved.

4. Chairperson and Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Torres shared several updates:

- Potential plans by the city to make repairs in the meeting room
- Plans to amend PDFs on the Commissioner webpage to be ADA compliant. Commissioner Chapman agreed to help support the PDF project.
- The Recreation & Parks department will be holding a community meeting regarding the planned use of artificial turf in Crocker Amazon park.

Commissioner Ozernoy shared that the California Fish & Games commission voted on a petition to clarify regulatory language regarding trapping laws. The Department of Pesticide Regulation is attempting to weaken restrictions on anticoagulant rodenticide usage.

Public Comment

A community member thanked Commissioner Ozernoy for the information on the rodenticide issues.

5. New Business

A. Proposition E and the Commission Streamlining Task Force [Commissioner Torres]

Commissioner Torres introduced the topic of the Commission Streamlining Task Force and their process for reviewing and making recommendations on keeping, eliminating or combining public bodies. He shared that the recommendations for the Commission of Animal Control & Welfare will be posted prior to the meeting in which the commission is discussed.

Commissioner Chapman provided insights into the political background and details behind the work of the Commission Streamlining Task Force.

Commissioners had a general discussion on engaging the community to support and critical points to emphasize to show the breadth of the Commission's work. Key points include:

- Messaging the Commission of AWC as the voice of the animals in a way that the Animal Care & Control is not able to do.
- Highlighting the media coverage that has featured the work of the Commission of AWC
- The differences in scope and goals between the Commission of AWC and SF ACC
- The low cost and general low impact on city resources
- Creating templates or materials to share on the website and with community members who would potentially be open to writing a letter of support

Public Comment

A community member expressed support for the Commission and the potential to make an impact.

Another community member representing the student body of Legal Defense Fund at University of San Francisco expressed support for the Commission's work, notably, the proposal for a ban on glue traps.

6. Old Business

A. Banning the Use and Sale of Glue Traps in San Francisco Follow-up [Commissioners Ozernoy and Torres]

Commission Torres shared a general update on efforts to engage the community around the topic. One suggestion would be to hold a presentation and meeting at City Hall to educate and engage with city staff and residents.

Public Comment

A community member suggested focusing on the public health risks of rodent glue traps.

7. Items to be included on the Agenda for Future Commission Meetings. The next meeting is Nov 12th.

Commissioner Garfinkel suggested inviting a guest speaker who researches the impact of anticoagulant rodenticides.

8. Adjournment - 6:23 PM PT