

Official Publication of the Retired Employees of the City and County of San Francisco

# News & Views

A Membership Organization working for All City Retirees

## Retirement Committee Report

By Claire Zvanski

According to CEO/CIO Alison Romano, the best news is that despite the fluctuations of the market, our pension fund as of Oct. 31 has remained at 100% funding with \$32.6 billion. The investment report indicates that real assets continue to perform well at 15.8% for the year to date but only 2.12% for the fiscal year. For those tracking the absolute return, know that the reports lag by a month and are only returning .65% for the fiscal year. We are finally seeing a report for that category (hedge funds) which remains only 10.4% of the portfolio. Real assets compromise 15.8%. The bulk of our portfolio is comprised of public and private equity for a total of 61.4%. As previously reported, both have not performed well this year. While the entire fund retains its 100% funding status, the return on investments (ROI) has not been sufficient to earn a supplemental COLA. The overall ROI for the year so far is -10.76% with -1.62% for the fiscal year. (Observation: it appears that many years ago banking excess earnings into the annual COLA bank to maintain a 2% annual COLA was a very shrewd board decision.)

SFERS continues to conduct environmental, social, and governmental (ESG) due diligence as a standardized component of all investment underwriting for 42 investment recommendations from December 2021 to November 2022. It has engaged with managers on ESG matters "off cycle," supported enhanced diligence of ESG/sustainability themed strategies and

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## Health Service Committee Report

By Claire Zvanski

Open Enrollment has concluded! This is now the busiest time of the year for everyone in HSS as they process the changes. The offices remain closed for in-person services. Call customer service to make a telephone appointment to resolve problems or questions. You *will* receive confirmation from HSS if you made changes. so please don't call just to confirm. There were 75,876 packets mailed. Calls totaled 7,224 in October and 4,134 in September. Over 667 consultations were conducted virtually and otherwise, with over 16 virtual seminars.

In consultation with Aon, SFHSS will host a mental health vendor summit in December to bring together all the health plans, their subject matter experts, vendors, and city department representatives to define and develop pathways to mental health services and programs that support the mental health and well-being of all our members. HSS led the public safety departments through a vendor selection process for a public safety EAP and is pleased to announce the selection of Mental Health Network (MHN), a market leader in providing mental health services for public safety employees and their families. The transition to the new vendor commenced on Oct.1. Additionally, Kaiser and Blue Shield of California—Health Net is pending—have made contractual arrangements for eligible firefighters to receive authorized treatment of the IAFF Substance Use Treatment Center as part of their

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## All Regularly Calendared December/January Meetings

### RECCSF

(For the immediate future, RECCSF will be communicating with members through *News & Views* and regular "e-mail blasts." Stay safe!)

### **Zoom Electronic meetings**

(Members welcome to attend:  
Contact: [sfskee1@gmail.com](mailto:sfskee1@gmail.com).)

### **Annual Holiday Party**

Wednesday, Dec. 14, 10 a.m.

### **General Membership Meeting**

Wednesday, Jan. 11, 10 a.m.

### **Program Committee**

Monday, Dec. 5, 1 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 2, 1 p.m.

### **Editorial Committee**

*No Editorial Committee Meeting in December*

Monday, Jan. 9, 10 a.m.

### **Executive Board**

*No Executive Board Meeting in December*

Tuesday, Jan. 17, 10 a.m.

### **Membership Committee**

Wednesday, Dec. 28, 11 a.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 25, 11 a.m.

### **Frugal Few Committee**

Friday, Dec. 16, 11 a.m.

Friday, Jan. 20, 11 a.m.

### **Retirement System**

### **Health Service System**

[sfgov.org](http://sfgov.org) and SFGOVTV.

### Public

(The following listed entities are individually choosing communication methods with their members.)

### **Retired Fire Fighters and Spouses Association**

Date and time to be announced

### **UESF Retired Division**

Contact: Rudi Faltus

1 (415) 956-8373 or

[Uesfrd01@gmail.com](mailto:Uesfrd01@gmail.com).

### **SEIU 1021 West Bay Retirees Chapter**

Contact: David Williams

(Zoom meetings)

[iamdhw@comcast.net](mailto:iamdhw@comcast.net)

or 1 (415) 939-5149.

# Retirement Committee Report

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worked with asset class teams on other initiatives. The board also reaffirmed its wishes to remain divested from Russian securities and Russian-related sanctioned securities.

The Deferred Compensation Stable Value Fund currently holds over \$1 billion in participant assets as of Sept. 30, 2022 and is managed by Galliard Capital Management. Russell Investments is the current target date funds investment manager. That contract is due to expire Dec. 31, 2022. After the request for proposal (RFP) process, T.

Rowe Price was recommended as the finalist and approved at the Oct. 20 SFERS board meeting.

It was reported by CEO/CIO Alison Romano that Proposition A on the San Francisco general election Nov. 8, 2022, ballot passed, restoring the supplemental COLA to the pre-96 retirees, and also formalizing the option to combine the CEO and CIO positions.

Questions? Comments? Contact Claire Zvanski at [czvanski@gmail.com](mailto:czvanski@gmail.com) or Herb Weiner at [h.weiner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:h.weiner@sbcglobal.net).

## RECCSF Officers

Adlai "A.J." Jew  
President  
First Vice President  
Vacant

David Williams,  
Second Vice President  
Bonnie Bompert,  
Secretary

George Lau,  
Treasurer  
Leo Martinez,  
Sergeant-at-arms

## Board Members

Sue Blomberg  
Richard Bridygham  
Carol Cochran  
Thomas Dang  
Ed "Rusty" Jepson  
Ann Killebrew

David Leeds  
Stephanie M. Lyons  
Ray Mason  
Mary Anne McGuire-Hickey  
Sheila Mullen  
Tim O'Brien

Linda Tabor-Beck  
Jean S. Thomas  
John "Skee" Tostanoski  
Herbert Weiner  
Claire Zvanski

# Health Service Committee Report

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respective networks. Specific materials are being developed that will instruct members on how to gain access to these services.

Some members continue to have issues with their dentists leaving the Delta Dental network. HSS is working with Delta to help monitor their network. Members must make decisions to find a Delta network provider or see their dentist as an out-of-network provider.

The annual financial audit was conducted by the independent auditing firm of MGO (Macias Gini & O'Connell LLP). This is the third year this firm has conducted this audit. No deficiencies in internal controls and no instances of noncompliance were identified by the auditor.

The 2023–2025 Strategic Plan Report was presented at this meeting. The Mission, Vision and Values of the Strategic Plan will inform and frame our efforts for at least the next three years and beyond. We are committed to our role as fiduciaries to assure all benefits paid by the trust are available to all SFHSS members without special favor or privilege.

Questions? Comments?

Please feel free to contact Claire Zvanski at [czvanski@gmail.com](mailto:czvanski@gmail.com).

## Friends of RECCSF

By Linda Tabor-Beck  
Chair, Frugal Few Committee

We thank the following RECCSF members who so generously donated this past month. Please note that the asterisk denotes a life member.

- Kathleen O'Connell
- Rich Brydgham\*
- Barbara M. Erhard\*
- Mary Anne O'Leary\*

## RECCSF 2022 General Membership Meeting Dates Wednesday at 10 a.m.

- December 14
- January 11 (2023)

## Useful Contact Information

### RECCSF Office

Email: [reccsf@att.net](mailto:reccsf@att.net)  
Website: [sfretirees.org](http://sfretirees.org)  
Phone Number:  
1 (415) 681-5949

### S.F. Retirement System

Website: [sfgov.org/sfers](http://sfgov.org/sfers)  
Phone Numbers:  
1 (415) 487-7000  
1 (888) 849-0777

### Health Service System

Website: [sfhss.org](http://sfhss.org)  
Phone Numbers:  
Member services:  
1 (628) 652-4700  
Employee Assistance:  
1 (628) 652-4600 (24/7)  
Toll-free: 1 (800) 541-2266  
Fax: 1 (628) 652-4701  
Benefits: [sfhss.org/benefits/retirees](http://sfhss.org/benefits/retirees)

### Health Service Quick Links

Blue Shield HMO Plans  
<https://sfhss.org/access-hmo-blue-shield-california>

Kaiser Permanente HMO  
<https://sfhss.org/kaiser-permanente-hmo>

City Plan & City Plan 20 PPO  
<https://sfhss.org/unitedhealthcare-ppo-city-plan>

UHC Medicare Advantage PPO  
<https://sfhss.org/uhc-medicare-advantage-ppo>

### Dental and Vision:

Delta Dental  
<https://sfhss.org/delta-dental-ppo>

UnitedHealthcare Dental  
<https://sfhss.org/unitedhealthcare-dental-dhmo>

DeltaCare USA  
<https://sfhss.org/deltacare-usa-dhmo>

VSP Vision  
<https://sfhss.org/vsp-vision-plans>

# President's Message

By Adlai "A.J." Jew

We will soon be ending 2022 and beginning the new year of 2023.

I am grateful that I survived the task of fulfilling duties as RECCSF president for the first six months of my tenure and want to thank those members who have continuously remained involved in RECCSF by participating in our zoom electronic general membership, executive board, and standing/special committee meetings.

However, I noticed recently that participation in our general membership meetings has declined somewhat and am concerned that some members may not be attending because we are not fulfilling their expectations.

The Program Committee has been working hard to in-

vite current speakers, as well as planning for the future, and always welcomes suggestions from the membership on speakers, topics, activities, and programs of interest.

Again, I hope that members will continue to contribute in any way they can, and that more members will step up and take on leadership roles. (We still need to fill the roles of first vice president and treasurer.)

Personally, I am very grateful for enduring through 2022, and look forward to 2023. I hope that it will be filled with many moments of joy and happiness for us all.

Happy holidays to all and have a wonderful new year!



The Frugal Few Committee would like to thank all the folks who responded to our Wishful Wednesday appeal last month. Your support of our organization is so greatly appreciated. Enjoy the holiday season, and please stay safe.

## San Francisco Firefighters Annual Toy Program

**needs your donations this holiday season!**

**(Especially needed are dolls and sports items.)**

Please mail checks payable to  
San Francisco Firefighters  
Local 798 Toy Program  
1139 Mission St.,  
San Francisco, CA 94103.

Please mail gift cards for older children—such as Amazon or Target—to  
2225 Jerrold Ave.,  
San Francisco, CA 94124.

Other donations and toys can be dropped off at any San Francisco firehouse.

The children thank you!  
Sally Casazza, chairperson  
1 (415) 777-0440



## Raffle Reminder

By Linda Tabor-Beck, Chair, Frugal Few Committee

First, many thanks to those who have been supporting our raffle, but "the more the merrier." The number of "tickets" purchased determines the number of cards given. We have been able to give out four gift cards at each of the last meetings. Wouldn't it be great to give out five?

As a reminder, here are the basics: **both steps are vital!**

- Send money (\$5 minimum for six numbers). Either mail a check to RECCSF office at 3915 Irving St., San Francisco, CA 94122, or directly to me via Zelle at either [lindareccsf@gmail.com](mailto:lindareccsf@gmail.com) or 1 (415) 622-8093.
- Send me an email with your mailing address, choice of card (Safeway, Lucky's, Trader Joe's, BevMo, or See's Candies), and, if you send more than \$5, how you want it used. (For example, many members have sent \$100 and asked for 12 numbers for 10 meetings.) Please do remember this second step, otherwise I won't be able to get your card to you if you're a winner.

I love ending our meetings giving away prizes, so thank you for your support of RECCSF.

## Nov 15 Zoom Electronic Board Meeting Results.

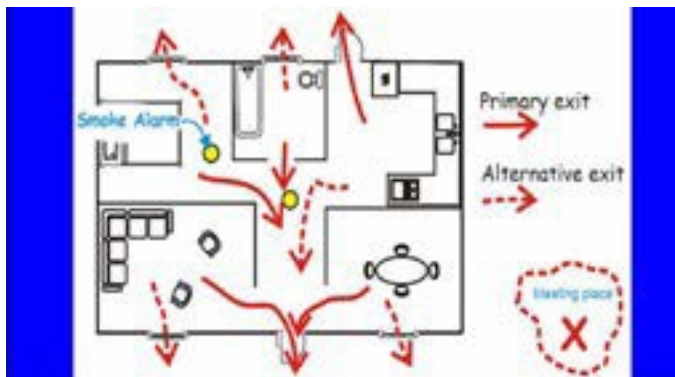
- A motion to limit speaking time in the executive board meeting to five minutes for any one speaker passed with seven "for" and two "opposing."
- A motion to postpone vote on restoring the San Francisco city seal on the RECCSF brochure passed by voice vote.



# Nov. 9 Zoom Electronic General Membership Meeting



Tomi Kato, San Francisco Fire Department, Fire Prevention Unit, gave a comprehensive presentation on home fire safety.



Below is a sampling of RECCSF members in attendance at the RECCSF Nov. 9 Zoom Electronic General Membership meeting.



## Is Downsizing Right for You?

*From Your Friends at San Francisco Federal Credit Union*

You may be considering downsizing because your children have grown and you don't need the space, or to live closer to your grandchildren. Downsizing may be part of your retirement strategy to save money. Whichever the reason, downsizing represents significant change.

Consider these tips to make a better-informed decision about downsizing your living space.

### Understand the Limitations.

Read the fine print before moving into a new community to understand any limitations, including:

- pet restrictions;
- design options;
- parking restrictions; or
- age restrictions for long-term guests.

Some communities even have restrictions concerning lawn maintenance and the color of the front door. Know what you're getting into before you commit to buy, especially if you're hoping to downsize your maintenance needs.

### Visit Before Buying.

When moving to another city or state, it may be tempting to buy a home based solely on the online photos and videos. However, it's important to visit and tour the property, explore the neighborhood, and experience the city before deciding to buy. Consider:

- if you'll feel safe in the home;
- if it has stairs you'll have to navigate; or
- if it is suitable for aging in place (wide hallways, accessibility features, etc.)

It's especially important that you tour smaller living spaces if your current home is much larger.

While downsizing is a great retirement strategy, many find it challenging to adjust to a smaller environment—or to part with items from your larger home.

### Begin the Process of Sorting and Eliminating.

For most people, downsizing belongings is the hardest part of the process. Take inventory to decide which items to keep, which to sell, which to give to friends and family, and which should be donated. Talk with your children about what treasures they'd like to pass on to their own children. Knowing your beloved items are in safe hands will make it easier to part ways with them.

**We're Here to Help!** At San Francisco Federal Credit Union, we're here to help with financing options, managing savings, retirement planning, and much more. Please visit one of our convenient branch locations or call us to learn about the many ways we can help you plan to manage your downsizing needs.

*This article is courtesy of San Francisco Federal Credit Union, with branches in San Francisco and San Mateo counties. For other financial tips, visit [SanFranciscoFCU.com/financial-tips](http://SanFranciscoFCU.com/financial-tips) and for more information on our products and services, visit [SanFranciscoFCU.com](http://SanFranciscoFCU.com), call (415) 775-5377 or stop by one of our branches.*



## RECCSF Zoom Electronic Annual Holiday Party

Wednesday, Dec. 14, 10 a.m.

RECCSF President Adlai (A.J.) Jew will present the history of the ukulele instrument, provide a demonstration, and lead the membership in holiday songs.

## RECCSF Zoom Electronic General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, Jan. 11, 10 a.m.

RECCSF will host a presentation on estate planning: wills and living trusts.

### News & Views

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Sheila Mullen, Editor

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### Zoom Electronic Executive Board Meeting

All in-person board meetings cancelled until further notice. Your RECCSF Executive Board is meeting by Zoom for the foreseeable future.

The next Executive Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 17, at 10 a.m.

### Note to members:

Please keep RECCSF updated with changes in address, phone number and email.

### News & Views

#### February 2023 Deadline:

Friday, Jan. 13, 5:30 p.m.

Please email your submissions to:

[sheilamullen@me.com](mailto:sheilamullen@me.com).

Letters to the editor and opinion pieces are welcome.

All submissions subject to further editing.

### Visit our website:

[sfretirees.org](http://sfretirees.org)

RECCSF office

email:

[reccsf@att.net](mailto:reccsf@att.net)

3915 Irving St.,

San Francisco, CA 94122

## Membership and Subscriptions

for retired city employees

Membership application: [www.sfretirees.org](http://www.sfretirees.org); email: [reccsf@att.net](mailto:reccsf@att.net).

Active city employees within five years of retirement are eligible to join RECCSF.

- \$68, annual
- \$600, lifetime (payable over four months in four payments of \$150 per month, or annually over four years in increments of \$150 per year)
- Members without computer access should contact the RECCSF office at 1 (415) 681-5949.

*News & Views* is the publication of the Retired Employees of the City & County of San Francisco, Inc., a nonprofit organization. *News & Views* is published to express the policies, ideals and accomplishments of the organization. Nothing shall be published herein that is racist, sexist or ageist, or that is derogatory toward religious beliefs and other personal issues; nor shall be published anything in violation of Article VII, Section 1 of the RECCSF constitution. Editorial contributions from individuals, organizations and groups other than RECCSF and its members may be included in *News & Views* only upon the approval of the Editorial Committee.

Submissions to *News & Views* are solicited and encouraged.

Submit in Word document to: [sheilamullen@me.com](mailto:sheilamullen@me.com).



I want to know!  
Join

# RECCSF

Retired Employees of the City and County of San Francisco

