Oh, we make plans in the expectation that there’s not much that will derail them. Of course, I’m referring to the coronavirus (Covid-19) and who among us thought as 2020 got underway that we would be canceling meetings and events, washing our hands multiple times a day, watching non-stop news coverage of the spread of the disease, etc.

The Association canceled our March program as the City let us know a week before the meeting that the speaker on Clean Energy would not be presenting. And, of course, we seniors are being advised to avoid gatherings due to the higher health risk we face if we contract the disease. We are only mid-way into March so it’s possible the Association may have to cancel additional meetings as well. We will keep you posted as best as we can and strongly advise you check our website—www.sjrea.org—to find out the status of the April membership meeting.

I do apologize if you made a trip to Leininger only to discover the March membership meeting had been canceled.

At the end of February the Board of your Association held its annual retreat to make plans for 2020. We altered and added several committees to reflect new realities. For example, we established 2 new committees: one to look into how to recruit and retain officers and board members and another to advise on management of the Association’s assets. In addition, we staffed all the committees and drafted a budget for 2020 that will be adopted in March. Finally, the other major piece of business was to set 5 major projects for the year which include getting our new website operational and a membership drive to attract non-member retirees to join SJREA.

Finally, I hope all retirees have avoided contracting the coronavirus and suggest that you take precautions to reduce your risks. I won’t go into detail on appropriate steps to take, but advise you to refer to the many places like the CDC or your health provider on recommendations to reduce your risk of coming down with the virus (Kaiser has sent me several emails so far on what I should do to avoid getting the disease).

Aside from the coronavirus, February and the first half of March have been quiet so I do not have much else to report. I hope you enjoy the holiday most of us associate with March—I’m referring to St. Patrick’s Day—and the not-so-well-known Women’s History Month in March. Plus the 19th of March is the first day of Spring! For all of you who enjoy gardening, flowers, green hillsides etc., this is a special time of year. I wish you and those close a healthy and happy Spring!
RETIREMENTS
Rosemary P. Barnes, Public Information Manager, Airport Department, March 31, 2020
Nellita Burnett, Public Safety Communication Specialist, Police Department, March 21, 2020
Fidel De Castro, Senior Construction Inspector, Public Works Department, March 21, 2020
Eric Chen, Principal Engineer, Public Works Department, March 28, 2020
Michael C. D'Arcy, Waste Water Operations Superintendent II, Environmental Services Department, March 21, 2020
Joseph Flores, Maintenance Worker II, Department of Transportation, March 21, 2020
Wilson G. Galiguis, Senior Office Specialist, Police Department, March 21, 2020
Lori Gallardo, Public Safety Communication Specialist, Police Department, March 28, 2020
Catherine Hoang-Mendoza, Senior Environmental Inspector, Environmental Services Department, March 21, 2020
Fortunato T. Lapina II, Senior Construction Inspector, Environmental Services Department, March 28, 2020
Jane A. Lawson, Senior Park Ranger, Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, March 22, 2020
Sylvia Lopez, Analyst II, Police Department, March 21, 2020
Ray B. Martin, Instrument Person, Public Works Department, March 21, 2020
Kathleen McLeod, Division Manager, Planning, Building & Code Enforcement Department, March 21, 2020
Carla R. Mehrkens, Contract Maintenance Supervisor, Airport Department, March 21, 2020
Robert S. Meineke, Public Safety Radio Dispatcher, Fire Department, March 21, 2020
Rebecca Nunez, Library Clerk, Library Department, March 21, 2020
Varsha Patel, Environmental Inspector, Environmental Services Department, March 21, 2020
David C. Pentacoff, Public Safety Radio Dispatcher, Police Department, April 4, 2020
Pascal Roubineau, Assistant Environmental Inspector, Environmental Services Department, March 21, 2020
Hyun Soo Son, Deputy Director, Planning, Building & Code Enforcement, March 28, 2020
Lisa C. Taitano, Assistant Director, Finance Department, March 21, 2020
Catherine L. Tran, Senior Office Specialist, Information Technology Department/City Manager’s Office, March 21, 2020
Trena Wardel, Analyst II, Fire Department, March 21, 2020
Charles L. Willis, Program Manager, Planning, Building & Code Enforcement, March 21, 2020
Carolyn M. Workover, Senior Office Specialist, Planning, Building & Code Enforcement Department, March 21, 2020
Pey Hwa Yang, Enterprise Supervising Technology Analyst, Information Technology Department, March 21, 2020
Tina M. L. Yu, Office Specialist II, Environmental Services Department, March

DEFERRED VESTED
Khushvinder Dhanota, Associate Construction Inspector, Department of Transportation, March 27, 2020
Edward M. Escalante, Maintenance Worker II, Department of Transportation, March 31, 2020
Dennis Richardson, Deputy Director, Planning, Building & Code Enforcement Department, March 15, 2020
Karen A. Rodriguez, Custodian, Environmental Services Department, April 10, 2020

DEATH NOTIFICATIONS
John H. Atkinson, Communications Director, retired October 12, 1991, died February 13, 2020
Beatrice Dolan, Steno Clerk III, retired March 1, 1980, died January 22, 2020
Steven P. Garcia, Senior Maintenance Worker, retired June 26, 2010, died December 19, 2019
Ty Mayfield, Senior Analyst, retired June 28, 2010, died January 24, 2020
Helen Rao, Library Clerk, retired October 16, 1993, died January 24, 2020
Richard South, Director of Finance, retired July 13, 1990, died January 17, 2020
Edmund Vasquez, Senior Equipment Service Worker, retired September 22, 1984, died January 30, 2020

Has your Home Address, Phone Number or Email Address Changed?
Update your information and help keep our data as accurate as possible! Please let us know when you change your address, telephone number and/or email address. Send to newslettersjrea@gmail.com
Below is my September report to the SJREA on recent activities of the Federated City Employees Retirement System (FCERS) Board of Administration.

1. **2019 Final Valuation Results for the Federated Plan’s Retiree Health Trust**—The Federated Plan’s Retiree Health Trust is the fund through which retiree health and dental is paid. The plan’s actuary, Cheiron, determined that the funded status of the plan is 46.6% as of June 30, 2019. This is an improvement from 42.6% as of June 30, 2018, and it compares to the 53% funding level of the pension plan. The plans continue to be secure, the City continues to meet its funding obligations, and benefit payments continue to be timely and at anticipated levels. The current contribution rates are estimated to fully fund the plan in 2038.

   The full presentation can be found in the FCERS agenda of January 23, 2020, Item 4.a.

2. **ESG Investments**—The FCERS Investment Committee and the Board are beginning to explore the viability of ESG investments (that is, investing that use Environmental, Social or Governance factors in investment decision-making and management). At this point, we are in the educational phase of considering ESG investments. A presentation was made at the February 2020 board meeting by Meketa, the plan’s investment consultant. Policy decisions could be made later this calendar year.

   The full presentation can be found in the FCERS agenda of February 20, 2020, Item 3.c.

3. **March 2020 Meeting Canceled**—The March 2020 FCERS board meeting was canceled as encouraged by the City in their efforts to minimize exposure to COVID-19.

If you have any follow-up questions on any of the items, you’re welcome to contact me at jay_castellano@hotmail.com. Depending on the question, I’ll either respond directly or refer your question to the Office of Retirement Services.

To view the full meeting agendas and complete minutes, visit https://www.sjretirement.com/Fed/Meetings/Agendas.asp.

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**Do the Five Help Stop the Coronavirus**

1. **HANDS** - Wash them often
2. **ELBOW** - Cough into it
3. **FACE** - Don't touch it
4. **FEET** - Stay more than 3ft apart
5. **FEEL** Sick? - Stay home
**NEXT MEETING:** APRIL CANCELED

**PROGRAM:**

- Save the Dates:
  - May 14th - Airport Services
  - June 11th - Budget
  - July - No Meeting
  - August 13th - TBD
  - September 10th - Sam’s BBQ
  - December 2nd - Holiday Luncheon

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