

**MINUTES
COUNTY OF SONOMA
COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

Thursday, November 10, 2022

6:00 PM

Hybrid Meeting

Commissioners Present:

First District: Jan Blalock (Chair), Nancy Padian

Second District: Caitlin Quinn, Katie Gordon, Julie Shulman

Third District: Ana Diaz-Garcia, Ofra Isler

Fourth District: Marta Cruz-Concepción, Gina Fortino Dickson

Fifth District: Jessica Wood (Vice Chair), Angie Dillon-Shore, Zobida McCorquodale

Commissioners Absent:

First District: Joanne M. Brown (OAL)

Third District: Amber Lucas (LOA)

Meeting held through publicly available link via Zoom Meeting, and in-person

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order at approximately 6:02 p.m. Roll call was conducted by the Chair.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Vice Chair Wood read the Land acknowledgement.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS

No members of the public addressed the commission.

4. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 13, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Commissioner Fortino Dickson

Ayes: 10

Noes: 0

Second: Commissioner Wood

Absent: 2

Abstained: 2

Commissioner Lucas (on leave) and Brown were absent. Commissioner Quinn abstained. Chair Blalock abstained as Chair. Motion passed.

5. OFFICER REPORTS AND ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

Officers and Staff to discuss administrative-related matters including, but not limited to, field trip ideas and speaker coordination.

- a. Provide Staff with updated information to update the roster

- b. Commissioners can provide updated bios and photos to staff by December 2, 2022
- c. Chair Blalock reminded everyone to finalize work plans for ad hocs
- d. Staff talked about asking the Board for a budget increase for the FY 23-24 budget. The commission will provide staff with work plans of potential projects that could happen with a higher budget by December 2, 2022.
- e. Chair Blalock shared information of the CSW Scholarship recipient and the reason she got chosen for the scholarship. Staff will review the criteria of the scholarship selection.
- f. A few of the Commissioners attended Los Cien event “ Los Dias de Cien” A fun and cultural event.

6. COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Commissioner McCorquodale and Wood met with Supervisor Hopkins. They reported out that she recommended that each district apply for the Community Investment Grant and to hold conversations with women about their barriers in running for office.
- b. Commissioner Cruz’ constituent sent a very damaging character attacked in communication to all the Supervisors in the county. She wanted to make the commission aware of this untrue information.
- c. Commissioner Gordon shared Supervisor Rabbitt’s letter to Commissioner Quinn where it states that she will serve on the commission until he reappoints someone else. There was discussion on whether Commissioner Quin is an active commissioner or not. Staff will find out.

7. OPENINGS AND APPOINTMENTS

- a. Currently have two opening in the 2nd and 4th district.

8. BUSINESS ITEMS

- a. **Submitting letters to officials regarding pesticide use**

Safe Ag Safe School reached out to Commissioner Quinn regarding the use of pesticide at schools. CalTrans is not a county agency, so they are allowed to use pesticides because they don’t need to comply with local regulations. The use of pesticides is worst for women and children. Motion to send letters to Senator McGuire and the Board of Supervisors with Commissioner Padian’s edits.

Motion: Commissioner Wood Ayes: 10 Noes: 0
Second: Commissioner Gordon Absent: 2 Abstained: 2
Commissioner Lucas (on leave) and Brown were absent. Commissioner Quinn abstained as unknown status. Chair Blalock abstained as Chair. Motion passed.

b. Idea for a community holiday project for the Commission to participate

The Commission talked about different volunteering opportunities such as Day of the Dead for next year, donate toys to the Conservation Corps kids or endorse the event, volunteer at the Foodbank, attend a celebration in April or March to highlight the women who were involved in the agricultural movement, serve food at the fairgrounds for the Great Thanksgiving, and write letters to people. Officers will discuss this further to see if the commission can purchase toys for the kids and create a list in a shared Google Doc.

c. Shall the officers spend up to \$300 on giveaways for tabling and events

Chair Blalock lead the discussion on purchasing items to giveaway. The Commission is running low on items to giveaway at events. The commissioners suggested certain items to buy. Motion to approve \$300 on giveaways.

Motion: Commissioner Dillon-Shore Ayes: 10 Noes: 0
Second: Commissioner Fortino Absent: 2 Abstained: 2

Motion to increase the amount to \$500 on giveaways.

Motion: Commissioner Fortino Ayes: 10 Noes: 0
Second: Commissioner Dillon-Shore Absent: 2 Abstained: 2

Commissioner Lucas (on leave) and Brown were absent. Commissioner Quinn abstained as unknown status. Chair Blalock abstained as Chair. Motion passed.

9. AD HOC COMMITTEE AND PROJECT COMMITTEE UPDATES

Commissioners to provide reports and/or updates from the work being done by their ad hoc committee(s) and/or project committee(s).

- a. Junior Commission on the Status of Women- Commissioner Isler reported that the Juniors submitted their work plans, and the mentors are reviewing them. The Junior Commission might partner up with Staff to update the Jr. Commission part of the website. There was a discussion on whether to provide them with business cards or name tags. One of the Junior Commissioners, Charlotte shared their experience working on the reproductive health ad hoc

- b. Sonoma County Spirit Award Project will be meeting next Thursday. The 2022 winners are listed on the website and their profiles are up in the HR building.
- c. Women's Recovery Response- Commissioner Gordon reported that the funding for the grant hasn't arrived so no updates.
- d. Women and Girls Reproductive Health is building on the work plan in Sonoma Valley to understand the needs and where there's access.

10. COMMUNITY ISSUES, LIAISONS, AND COORDINATORS

Commissioners to provide brief updates or ideas on the following:

- a. Association of California Commissions for Women (ACCW) will be having a in-person conference in January in San Mateo and Chair Blalock will provide more information later
- b. Human Trafficking Task Force will soon have the bus backs on buses
- c. Legislative Advisory Group didn't report anything- potential reproductive bills
- d. National Association of Commissions for Women (NACW) didn't have anything to report out
- e. YWCA didn't have anything to report out

11. AGENDA ITEMS FOR JANUARY 12, 2022 COMMISSION MEETING

Proposal, discussion, and possible action items for next Commission meeting. (No action required by commissioners for this section)

12. ADJOURNMENT 7:42 p.m.