

**MINUTES**  
**COUNTY OF SONOMA**  
**COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS – REGULAR MEETING**

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**Tuesday, September 27, 2022**

**5:30PM**

**Virtual**

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**Commissioners Present:**

**First District:** Howard Sapper (Officer-at-Large), 2 vacancies

**Second District:** Elizabeth Escalante (Vice Chair), Iliana Madrigal, Yensi Jacobo

**Third District:** Katrina Phillips (Chair), Isabel Lopez, Liz Cruz

**Fourth District:** 3 vacancies

**Fifth District:** D'Ayona Jerome, Nichole Warwick

**Staff:** Adriana Call

**Commissioners Absent:**

**Third District:** Isabel Lopez

**Fifth District:** Lyndsey Burcina

**Meeting held through publicly available link via Zoom Meeting**

**I. CALL TO ORDER – MISSION STATEMENT – ROLL CALL – PHILLIPS**

Meeting called to order by Chair Phillips at 5:34 PM. Chair abstained from reading the Mission Statement as it is in the process of being revised and will be read later in the meeting. Roll Call, Chair Phillips. Chair asked for an Approval of the minutes from July 26, 2022.

**II. APPROVAL OF THE JULY 26, 2022 MINUTES – PHILLIPS**

Chair made a motion to approve the minutes of August 23, 2022

Second: Commissioner Sapper

Aye: Commissioner Jacobo, Commissioner Sapper, Commissioner Madrigal, Commissioner Escalante, Commissioner Jerome, Commissioner Cruz, Commissioner Warwick

Absent: Commissioner Burcina, Commissioner Lopez

Abstain: Commissioner Cruz, Chair Phillips

Motion passed

**III. OPENINGS & APPOINTMENTS – PHILLIPS**

1. **Openings** –two (2) in the First District, and three (3) in the Fourth District.

Chair Phillips introduced Commissioner Warwick, and Commissioner Cruz. Each gave a brief intro of themselves.

#### **IV. REGULAR CALENDAR**

**1. Spotlight: Honoring Kathleen Finigan** – Spotlight, with guest speakers

Guest speakers: Marylou Hillberg, Jerry Threet, Katrina Phillips, and Carl Tennenbaum, in addition to Commission members, gave a heartfelt tribute to Ms. Finigan and all of her great work as an activist and Commissioner of the Commission on Human Rights in Sonoma County.

#### **V. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS – PHILLIPS**

One person addressed the commission. Chair Phillips asked him to contact the Commission for further discussion.

#### **VI. Kathleen Finigan Merit Award for Champions for Human Rights.**

Chair Phillips asked for a motion to form a committee to determine a budget and a criteria for nominations for members of the public to be awarded on July 1st, in Ms. Finigan's name.

Motion: Commissioner Sapper

2nd Commissioner Warwick

Aye: Commissioner Jacobo, Commissioner Sapper, Commissioner Madrigal, Commissioner Escalante, Commissioner Jerome, Commissioner Cruz, Commissioner Warwick

Absent: Commissioner Burcina, Commissioner Lopez

Chair Phillips asked for a committee – Commissioner Sapper and Chair Phillips will be on the committee. Proposal to come in the next few months.

#### **VII. Commission on Human Rights Mission Statement Review - Phillips**

Chair Phillips read the Final Draft of the Mission Statement, Action Statement and the History. In the future she will only read the Mission Statement at the beginning of each meeting.

##### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON Mission Statement – PHILLIPS**

None

Motion to approve Mission Statement: Chair Phillips

2nd Commissioner Madrigal

Aye: Commissioner Jacobo, Commissioner Sapper, Commissioner Madrigal, Commissioner Escalante, Commissioner Jerome, Commissioner Cruz, Commissioner Warwick

Absent: Commissioner Burcina, Commissioner Lopez

#### **VIII. OFFICER REPORTS AND ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES**

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

- 1. Outreach Event- Landpaths Harvest Festival** – Chair Phillips asked for volunteers to work this event at Bayer Farms  
Commissioner Madrigal, Commissioner Cruz, Commissioner Jerome volunteered.

**IX. AD HOC COMMITTEE AND PROJECT COMMITTEE UPDATES**

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

Commissioner Jacobo reported on the Junior Commission on Human Rights. Chair Phillips asked that they be invited to attend the CHR Meetings.

Commissioner Sapper reported about the Sonoma Developmental Center

Chair Phillips asked staff to send a list of the committees and ad-hocs to the new commissioners.

**X. ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT COMMISSION MEETING – PHILLIPS**

Vice Chair Escalante asked for agenda time to speak about Anti-Semitism in the County, and Indigenous People's Day.

Commissioner Cruz asked for awareness and support on the situation in Iran and the protests and Human Rights violations occurring at this time. She asked for solidarity with the people who are struggling in Iran.

Chair Phillips recognized the need to show support and write a resolution.

Commissioner Warwick asked for awareness of Children's Environmental Health Day (October 13<sup>th</sup>)

Chair Phillips shared that she would like to have an in-person "meet and greet" casual meeting, for commissioners to get to know each other.

Commissioner Sapper offered to host the event

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.