

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

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**Tuesday, September 27, 2022**

**5:30PM**

**Virtual**

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**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:** Lyndsey Burcina, D’Ayona Jerome, Nichole Warwick

**Staff:** Adriana Call

**This meeting is dedicated in memory of former Commissioner  
Kathleen Finigan, R.I.P.**

The September 27, 2022 Commission on Human Rights Meeting will be facilitated virtually through Zoom.

Participate by computer, table, or smartphone application:

Go to:

<https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/99283822992?pwd=Wi9wZUpzOTBsSDVSaFRQOHBOZmFTUT09>

Passcode: 308124

Participate by phone:

Dial +1 (669) 900 9128

Webinar ID: 992 8382 2992

Passcode: 308124

**Instructions for the Public:**

In accordance with AB 361, Governor Newsom’s March 4, 2020 State of Emergency due to COVID-19 pandemic, Sonoma County Public Health Officer’s Recommendation for Teleconference Meetings, and the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors Resolution 21-0399, the Commission on the Status of Women meetings will be held virtually.

Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 361 (AB 361) on September 16, 2021, which amends the Ralph M. Brown Act to provide additional provisions that allow meetings of legislative bodies to continue to be conducted via teleconference. This Resolution makes the findings to confirm the current conditions allow teleconference meetings pursuant to AB 361 for the Board of Supervisors and on behalf of all of the commissions and committees created by the Board of Supervisors pursuant to Government Code section 54952(b). This will allow members of the public to safely observe and participate in local government meetings during the continued pandemic.

The following are key provisions of the Executive Order with the substantive changes from the prior order identified in bold below:

- Allows public agencies to hold public meetings via teleconference and to make the meeting accessible electronically or telephonically to all member of the public seeking to attend and address the Board.
- The requirement that each teleconference location be publicly accessible is suspended.
- The requirement to post agendas at all teleconference locations and notice each location where the member is calling in from is suspended.
- The requirement that at least a quorum be present in the boundaries of the jurisdiction is suspended.
- Notice must still be given 72 hours in advance for regular meeting and 24 hours in advance for special meetings.
- Local Agencies may hold meetings via teleconferencing and allow the public to observe and address the meeting telephonically or otherwise electronically. (NOTE: the prior order required at least one physical location be open for the public to observe and address the meeting. A physical location for observing the meeting is no longer required.)
- If meeting is held telephonically or otherwise electronically, agencies must implement a procedure for receiving and swiftly resolving requests for reasonable modification or accommodations from individuals with disabilities, consistent with the ADA. The procedure must be advertised each time notice of the meeting is given.
- Agencies are encouraged to use sound discretion and to make reasonable efforts to adhere to the Brown Act as closely as possible.

**Agendas and Materials:** Agendas and most supporting materials are available on the Commission's website at <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Human-Rights/Calendar/> Due to legal, copyright, privacy or policy considerations, not all materials are posted online. **NOTE: Due to the ongoing Covid-19 situation, materials that are not posted will be available directly from the Commission at [chr@sonoma-county.org](mailto:chr@sonoma-county.org).**

**Disabled Accommodation:** If you have a disability which requires an accommodation, an alternative format, or requires another person to assist you while attending this meeting, please contact the Deputy Clerk at (707) 565-1851, as soon as possible to ensure arrangements for accommodation.

**Approval of the Consent Calendar:** The Consent Calendar includes routine financial and administrative actions that are usually approved by a single majority vote. There will be no discussion on these items prior to voting on the motion unless Commission Members request specific items be discussed and/or removed from the Consent Calendar.

**Public Comment:** Any member of the audience desiring to address the Commission on a matter on the agenda: Members of the public are invited to join this meeting via Zoom teleconferencing. In order that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak, please be brief and limit your comments to the subject under discussion. Each person is usually granted three minutes to speak; time limitations are at the discretion of the Chair. While members of the public are welcome to address the Commission, under the Brown Act, Commission members may not deliberate or take any action on items not on the agenda, and generally may only listen.

**Commitment to Civil Engagement:** All are encouraged to engage in respectful dialog that supports freedom of speech and values diversity of opinion. Commissioners, Staff, and the public are encouraged to:

- Create an atmosphere of respect and civility where Commissioners, County Staff, and the Public are free to express their ideas within the time and content parameters established by the Brown Act and CHR's standard Parliamentary procedures (Robert's Rules of Order);
- Establish and maintain a cordial and respectful atmosphere during discussions;

- Foster meaningful dialogue free of attacks of a personal nature and/or attacks based on age, (dis)ability, class, education level, gender, gender identity, occupation, race and/or ethnicity, sexual orientation;
- Listen with an open mind to all information, including dissenting points of view, regarding issues presented to the Commission;
- Recognize it is sometimes difficult to speak at meetings, and out of respect for each person's perspective, allow speakers to have their say without comment or body gestures, including booing, whistling or clapping.

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

**II. APPROVAL OF THE August 23, 2022 MINUTES – PHILLIPS**

**III. OPENINGS & APPOINTMENTS – PHILLIPS**

1. Appointments- Commissioner Liz Cruz, Third District, Commissioner Nichole Warwick, Fifth District
2. Openings – two (2) in the First District, and three (3) in the Fourth District.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS – PHILLIPS**

Public comment is limited to **two** minutes per topic or **four** minutes when using interpretation services

**V. REGULAR CALENDAR – Discussion and possible action on items below**

1. **Honoring Kathleen Finigan** – Spotlight, with guest speakers
2. **Kathleen Finigan Merit Award for Champions for Human Rights.**  
Form a committee to determine a budget and criteria for nominations to be awarded on July 1<sup>st</sup>, on Ms. Finigan’s birthday each year.
3. **Commission on Human Rights Mission Statement Review** - Phillips  
Final Draft of the revised Mission Statement for approval.

**VI. 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. **Upcoming Outreach Events-** October 1, 2022, LandPaths Harvest Festival at

Bayer Farms. No fee to participate. Need volunteers to help at the table. - Katrina Phillips

**VII. 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).

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

**1. Meet and Greet in October**

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

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

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**Tuesday, August 23, 2022**

**5:30PM**

**Virtual**

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**Commissioners Present:**

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

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

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

**Fourth District:** Paulina Lopez

**Fifth District:** Lyndsey Burcina, D’Ayona Jerome

**Staff:** Adriana Call

**Commissioners Absent:**

**First District:** Kathleen Finigan

**Fourth District:** Rosa Reynoza

**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, by staff. Chair Phillips asked for an Approval of the minutes from July 26, 2022.

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

Commissioner Jacobo noted that the minutes state that she attended the July 26<sup>th</sup> meeting and she was absent.

Motion to approve with correction: Commission Sapper

Second: Commissioner Madrigal

Aye: Commissioner Jacobo, Commissioner Sapper, Commissioner P. Lopez, Commissioner Madrigal, Commissioner I. Lopez, Commissioner Escalante, Commissioner Burcina

Absent: Commissioner Finigan,

Abstain: Commissioner Jerome, Chair Phillips

Motion passed

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE MINUTES – PHILLIPS**

No one addressed the commission.

**IV. OPENINGS & APPOINTMENTS – PHILLIPS**

1. **Openings** –one (1) in the First District, one (1) in the Second District, one (1) in the Third District, and three (3) in the Fourth District.

Chair Phillips noted a correction to the agenda. There are no openings in the 2<sup>nd</sup> District.

**2. Recruitment brainstorming and ideas –**

Chair Phillips requested for Commissioners who are not requesting re-appointment, that they encourage and recruit others in their District to come and join in on this important work.

Commissioner Sapper suggested that Commissioners attend the Board meetings and speak during public comment about openings in their district. “Farmer’s Market tabling would also be a good platform”, he said. Commissioner Sapper also suggested reaching out to other organizations leadership and ask them to get the word out as well.

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

Three people addressed the Commission with Public Comment.

**VI. REGULAR CALENDAR**

**1. CHR Junior Commission – Spotlight** Former Chair, and founder of the Junior Commission on Human Rights, D’Mitra Smith spoke to the Commission regarding the importance of the Junior Commission. Ms. Smith has documents on a google drive and she asked for a list and she will add all commissioners who would like access. Chair Phillips will send Ms. Smith a list.

No Public Comment

Commissioners asked questions.

**2. Commission on Human Rights Mission Statement Review** – Chair Phillips shared the Final Draft of the revised Mission Statement.

One member of the public made a comment.

Commissioner Jacobo asked for clarification on the length of the statement.

Commissioner Escalante suggested that the statement be broken down into a Mission and a Vision Statement.

Chair Phillips asked for a small group to stay after the meeting to finalize the statement.

She also asked that the commissioners join the waiting room area of the meeting 10 minutes early so that the meetings could start on time.

**VII. 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. Work Plan Rough Draft** – Commissioner Escalante reviewed the ad-hocs and work plans. She suggested that the new Commissioners decide which ad-hocs they would like to be a part of. She also requested that the commissioners review the ad-hocs and prioritize them into Tier One, and Tier Two. She reminded the commissioners that each commissioner should be on at least one ad hoc, and that they dedicate at least one hour per week to their ad-hocs.

**VIII. 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 Escalante reviewed some of the ad-hocs that need to be moved to Tier 2. She asked if the Indigenous Ad-hoc could be moved to tier 2, or if a Commissioner can step up to take a lead role.

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

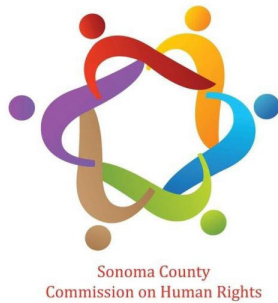
Chair Phillips would like to have a community spotlight with representatives to talk about the the Palms Inn.

Commissioner Escalante would like to discuss the investigation of the David Pelaez Lopez incident.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.





## **SONOMA COUNTY COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

**The County of Sonoma Commission on Human Rights provides leadership, education, and advocacy to ensure all members of our community, especially those among us who are marginalized, disadvantaged, or whose rights are being violated, enjoy the full range of human rights to which every person is entitled.**

### **ACTION STATEMENT**

In the fulfillment of our mission, we are committed to:

Promoting better human relations among all residents of Sonoma County by fostering the recognition and appreciation for the vibrant diversity of our community.

Creating awareness of human rights issues faced by members of our communities; working in partnership with community organizations and County agencies by means of media campaigns, educational programs and training;

Advocating for policy changes necessary to better protect human rights at the local, state, and federal levels by investigating issues raised by our community; commenting on and, where appropriate, drafting policies for consideration by lawmakers and/or regulatory bodies, and regularly reporting to the Board of Supervisors on the state of human rights in the County.

Recognizing that the key to the success of the Commission in successfully achieving its mission will be the development of consistent and credible working relationships with key members of the community, including policy makers, policy enforcement, the media, community organizations, and the general public.

## **HISTORY**

The County of Sonoma Commission on Human Rights (CHR) was established in 1993 to promote better human relations between all people in Sonoma County. We are advisors to the Board of Supervisors on areas that impact the human rights of members of our community.

The basis for our work is the International Declaration of Human Rights established by the United Nations in 1948. It comprises the worldwide standard of Human Rights for all people on earth.