

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

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**Tuesday, February 28, 2023**

**5:30PM**

**Virtual**

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**Commissioners Present:**

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

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

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

**Fourth District:** Trevor Merrell

**Fifth District:** Nichole Warwick, Lyndsey Burcina\*

**Staff:** Meira Bowcut

**Commissioners Absent:**

**Fifth District:** D'Ayona Jerome

**\*Commissioner Sapper arrived late at approximately at 5:41pm**

**\*Commissioner Burcina arrived late at approximately at 5:44pm**

**\*Commissioner Jacobo left early at approximately at 6:04pm**

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

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

Meeting called to order by Vice Chair Escalante at 5:36 PM. Vice Chair read the mission statement. Roll call was taken by staff.

**II. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 24, 2023 MINUTES – PHILLIPS**

Vice Chair asked for a motion to approve the minutes of January 24, 2023.

Motion: Commissioner Madrigal

Ayes: 7

Noes: 0

Second: Commissioner Warwick

Absent:3

Abstained: 1

Commissioner Jerome was absent. Commissioner Sapper and Burcina arrived late. Vice Chair Escalante abstained due to leading the meeting. Motion passed.

**III. OPENINGS & APPOINTMENTS – PHILLIPS**

1. Vice Chair Escalante announced two (2) openings in the First District, one (1) opening in the Second District, and two (2) in the Fourth District.

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

The commission had no public comment.

**V. REGULAR CALENDAR**

1. The Black History Month announcement was disregarded due to Chair Phillips' state.



Commissioner Cruz Reyes reported that the Jr. Commission is finalizing their presentation for the adult Commission. They are scheduling interviews for the new cohort. The Jr. Commission received an invitation from Raven Performing Arts Theatre to start an event with them where they can have more discussions on school violence. They offered the Commission to share materials at their event.

5.LGBTQIA+ Ad Hoc Committee is still meeting with Wake Up Sonoma. Commissioner Cruz Reyes attended a Sonoma town meeting on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. They presented on the issue about people who are buying multiple properties that have homophobic views. They are asking for the Commission's support.

6.People with Disabilities Ad Hoc Committee- Commissioner Sapper shared an observation that homelessness has a link to special needs and disabilities.

7.Visibility Project is seeking a new chair to lead the ad hoc. Commissioner Madrigal can help train the new person to continue to help the community.

8. Commissioner Warwick recommended to speak up on the appointments and reappointments of commissioners. She thanked both Commissioners who didn't get reappointed for their service.

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

1. Write a letter collectively to ask for new appointees and bring forth to vote on
2. Resolution Proclamation National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women on May 5<sup>th</sup>

#### **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.