

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

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**Thursday, August 11, 2022**

**5.00PM**

**Hybrid Meeting**

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**Commissioners Present:**

**First District:** Jan Blalock (Chair), Joanne M. Brown (OAL)\*, Nancy Padian

**Second District:** Katie Gordon, Julie Shulman

**Third District:** Ofra Isler, Ana Diaz

**Fourth District:** Marta Cruz-Concepción, Gina Fortino Dickson

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

**Commissioners Absent: Third District:** Caitlin Quinn, 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 5:03. 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 July 14, 2022 MEETING MINUTES**

Motion to approve the July 14, 2022 minutes.

Motion: Commissioner Brown

Ayes: 6

Noes: 0

Second: Commissioner Cruz-Concepción

Absent: 3

Abstained: 2

**5. OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEW COMMISSIONERS**

Chair Blalock administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Nancy Padian, and Commissioner Angie Dillon-Shore.

**6. STRATEGIC PLANNING (order is subject to change)**

- a. **Welcome/Purpose of Meeting - Chair** Blalock reviewed the purpose of the meeting.
- b. **Slide show presentation**-Slide presentation by Vice Chair Wood, and Chair Blalock. They reviewed the history of the Commission, the Commission's numerous projects, public

outreach and events, , and the guests who have attended the meetings and presented to the Commission.

The Ad-Hocs for consideration were introduced as follows:

- **Women’s Recovery Response**
  - **Spirit Award**
  - **Reproductive Health**
- c. **Ground Rules-** Chair Blalock reviewed the ground rules for the meeting
- d. **Ice Breakers-** Commissioners introduced themselves, shared what motivated them to want to join the Commission on the Status of Women and discussed the projects that they would like to focus on individually.

**Junior Commission presentation-**

Commissioner Isler presented the Junior Commission Project and the goals for this year for the Junior Commission. There are 22 Junior Commissioners. The Ad-Hocs they have identified are:

Empowered Women  
Healthy Body and Mind  
Human Trafficking  
Relationship Violence  
Reproductive Rights

- e. **Food Break – 10 minutes**
- f. **Context Review**
- Review of ad hoc requirements- Chair Blalock reviewed what constitutes an Ad-Hoc. An Ad-Hoc cannot consist of the number of members equal to the quorum for the Commission without holding meetings open to the public. Doing so would violate the Brown Act.

Presentations for:

- **Women’s Recovery Response Ad-Hoc Proposal** - Commissioner Gordon, and Commissioner Isler presented. This is an off-shoot of the Voices project from 2021. There is a partnership with the Center for the Advancement of Women at Mount Saint Mary’s University to produce a report for the Commission. In 2021, the Commission was awarded a state grant in the amount of \$ 25,000.00 They are asking for an additional amount of \$2,375 from the Commission Budget in order to complete their project. Budget consideration will be on the agenda at the next CSW Meeting. Commissioner Cruz informed the Commission that Supervisor Gore would like to meet with the D4 commissioners regarding the Voices Project.
- **Spirit Award Project-** Chair Blalock introduced the Spirit Award Project on behalf of Commissioner Quinn.
- **Women and Girls Reproductive Health-** Presented by Commissioner Padian. The Ad-Hoc will focus on mapping what resources are available to women and girls in Sonoma County District by District and what resources are needed. They may include an Community Advisory Group that will give

input on the needs assessment in the first year. The second year will follow-up on the recommendations made during the first year.

Commissioner Cruz asked that the presenters also share a “Wish List” on what the ad-hoc committees need from the other Commissioners in order for their projects to work.

Commissioner Isler asked the Commissioners to share their “special skills” that they are willing to share with the rest of the Commission and the various ad-hocs.

Commissioner Gordon asked the Commission to complete the work that was started with the data collected on incarcerated women. There was discussion on next steps including writing “white papers” to the new Sheriff presenting the information gathered from the VOICES survey/focus groups of incarcerated women.

- **Vote on projects**

Motion to approve 3 proposed Ad-Hocs: Commissioner Brown

Second: Commissioner Gordon

Ayes: 10                      Noes: 0

Absent: 2

Chair Blalock asked the Commissioners to choose the ad hoc(s) they are most interested in working on, and to email the presenters to let them know that they would like to serve on their ad-hoc.

**7. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT COMMISSION MEETING**

Strategic Planning Meeting Ad Hoc Proposals and Budget requests

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 PM