

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

Thursday, June 9, 2022

6.00PM

Virtual

Commissioners Present:

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

Second District: Caitlin Quinn, Katie Gordon

Third District: Ofra Isler

Fourth District: Marta Cruz-Concepción

Fifth District: Jessica Wood (Vice Chair)

Commissioners Absent:

Third District: Amber Lucas (On Leave of Absence)

Fourth District: Angélica Núñez**

Commissioner Brown* arrived at approx. 6:05 p.m.

Commissioner Núñez ** arrived at approx. 6:04 p.m. and signed off at 6:45 p.m.

Meeting held through publicly available link via Zoom Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

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

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Chair Blalock read the land acknowledgement.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS

No members of the public addressed the commission.

4. APPROVAL OF May 12, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

Motion to approve the May 12, 2022 minutes.

Motion: Commissioner Wood

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Second: Commissioner Quinn

Absent: 2

Abstained: 2

Commissioner Brown was absent during the approval of the minutes. Commissioner Lucas is on leave. Commissioner Cruz-Concepcion abstain, Commissioner Nunez abstain, Chair Blalock abstained as Chair. Motion passed.

5. OFFICER REPORTS AND ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

- a. New District 2 Commissioner, Julie Shulman was sworn in by Meira Bowcut.
- b. Potential changes to meeting teleconferencing as of July 1, 2022.

Governor Newsom is scheduled to announce his decision on whether or not he will extend AB 361, allowing for Public Meetings to be held via Teleconference. If it is not extended, there may be some restrictive guidelines for holding hybrid meetings. Brown Act requirements for hybrid meetings are very specific. It will be decided if the July meeting will be in person, via teleconference, or hybrid once there is more information.

- c. Athena House:
Support-NOW Zoom meeting June 13 at 6pm. There will be a ZOOM “Think Tank” meeting on what can be done to save Athena House.
Potential upcoming fundraiser/dinner July 23rd.
Commissioner Wood will send out more information on this as soon as she has it.
- d. All receipts for reimbursement must be in **before** June 30.
Commissioner Blalock asked for all receipts to be submitted to be counted in this fiscal year.
- e. Report out on Pride:
Commissioners Wood, Isler, and Cruz attended, along with 2 Junior Commissioners and a friend. Very successful event. Lots of resources were handed out. They encourage the group to attend more events.
- f. Chair Blalock talked about another opportunity for outreach- “A Night Out” in Petaluma, Tuesday, August 2, 2022. It has an educational component to it. She invited the commissioners to volunteer. Commissioner Shulman stated that she will be able to attend this event.
- g. Women’s Equality Day, Tuesday, August 26th.
Board Item for August 9, 2022. Deadline June 29th.
Chair Blalock stated that she will submit the Board Resolution to the Board. She stated that each Commissioner should submit it to their city calendar as well. Commissioner Cruz mentioned if you want to have it on your city calendar, they should ask that the item be put on the “forward calendar”.

6. COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Commissioner Nunez announced that this is her last meeting.
- b. Commissioner Cruz-Concepcion announced that Supervisor Gore won the election in the 4th District.
- c. Commissioner Gordon announced that she will be receiving an award in Public Sociology for her work with the Commission on the Status of Women.

7. OPENINGS AND APPOINTMENTS

- a. We currently have openings in the 1st District, but it may be filled, there is someone in mind, 3rd District; one opening, 4th District; one opening, and 5th District; 2 openings.

8. BUSINESS ITEMS

- a. Discussion and possible vote on date for Strategic Planning meeting. Options include Saturday, August 6, 10am-2pm, Sunday, August 7, 10am-2pm or Thursday, August 11 5pm-8pm.

It was decided to send out a doodle poll to decide when to hold the annual meeting.

- b. Discussion and possible vote regarding support of Roe v. Wade and Women's Reproductive Freedom. Commissioner Brown

Commissioner Brown asked that this item moved to the next agenda she is waiting for some decisions that are in the works.

9. AD HOC COMMITTEE AND PROJECT COMMITTEE UPDATES

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

- a. CSW Monthly Radio Project reported that they boosted a video on childcare that was created last year. Commissioner Nunez reported that she did not receive any feedback. She suggested that the advertising be re-done before it is sent out again.
- b. Impact of Covid-19 and Women in the Workforce Ad Hoc suggested to follow a bill that relates to food insecurity-SB744. In addition, there is a kick off event for "Our Kids, Our Future" coming up. The event is on June 23rd at Bacchus Landing. Chair Blalock will send a link to all regarding the event. Commissioner Wood encouraged the Commissioners to attend the event or to help with signature gathering.
- c. The Junior Commission on the Status of Women had their graduation. Commissioner Isler reported that some of the Supervisors attended and were very impressed with the projects. Next cohort will have 20 participants. Orientation is August 8, 2022. Commissioner Isler thanked all of the Commissioners who helped, and Meira Bowcut for all of their help with this project. Commissioners Quinn and Brown have offered to be mentors.
- d. Spirit Award Ad Hoc Commissioner Quinn reported that she has secured judges. They will be meeting Friday, June 17th. First District judge will be Larkin O'Leary, Second District judge will be Dennis Pocekay, Third District judge will be Elizabeth Quiroz, Fourth District judge will be Alma Bowen, Fifth district judge will be Councilwoman Neysa Hinton. They will be meeting regarding the theme for this year and plans for this year's award recipients.
- e. Voices of Sonoma County Women– Commissioner Gordon reported that they met this week about a grant and social media campaign. They will be meeting in July. Also, they will be meeting with the Center for the Advancement of Women, there is a professor

who is willing to analyze the data for the CSW. Meira reported that we are waiting for tax forms to complete the grant, but everything is on track.

- f. CEDAW Commissioner Gordon reached out to CAO's office regarding CEDAW. She is still waiting to hear back. She will report out next month.

10. COMMUNITY ISSUES, LIAISONS, AND COORDINATORS

Commissioners to provide brief updates or ideas on the following:

- a. Association of California Commissions for Women (ACCW) did not have anything to report.
- b. Human Trafficking Task Force Chair Blalock reported that she is looking into signage on bus backs. She is waiting for cost quotes. Signage inside will be free with Petaluma Transit, but still waiting on pricing on Sonoma County Transit. There is permanent signage inside the busses regarding Human Trafficking.
- c. The Legislative Advisory Group reported under Impact of Covid-19 on Women in the Workforce updates. No further updates.
- d. National Association of Commissions for Women (NACW) Information about the conference was sent today. If you want to attend please let Chair Blalock know by the beginning of July.
- e. YWCA had nothing to report.

11. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT COMMISSION MEETING

- a. Commissioner Cruz wanted to suggest a Guest Speaker for the next meeting. The speaker has agreed to present.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM