

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

Thursday, April 20, 2023

6:00 PM

Hybrid Meeting

Commissioners Present:

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

Second District: Caitlin Quinn, Julie Shulman

Third District: Ana Diaz-Garcia, Ofra Isler

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

Commissioners Absent:

Second District: Katie Gordon

Third District: Melanie Jones-Carter

Fourth District: Marta Cruz-Concepción (LOA), Gina Fortino Dickson

Fifth District: Zobida McCorquodale

Meeting held through publicly available link via Zoom Meeting, and in-person

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

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

- a. Chair Blalock introduced Commissioner Melanie Jones-Carter from the 3rd District. Everyone introduced themselves to Commissioner Jones-Carter.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Vice Chair Wood read the Land acknowledgement.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS

No public comment

4. APPROVAL OF MARCH 9, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

No Public Comment.

Motion: Commissioner Dillon-Shore

Ayes: 6

Noes: 0

Second: Commissioner Shulman

Absent: 6

Abstained: 2

Commissioner Cruz-Concepción (LOA), Gordon, Jones-Carter, Fortino Dickson, and McCorquodale were absent. Commissioner Quinn had left the room.

Commissioner Brown abstained due to the attendance. Chair Blalock abstained

as Chair. Motion passed.

5. OFFICER REPORTS AND ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

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

- a. Commissioner Brown announced Cecilia Aguilar Curry, who is serving in the California State Assembly, might present in August.
- b. Staff reminded everyone to complete their photo release forms and to submit all invoices and reimbursements by June 9th due to the end of the fiscal year.
- c. Chair Blalock reported that she and Commissioner Padian attended the Women's Policy Summit in San Francisco. The main topics of the summit were safety, generational poverty, lack of access for Generation Y, and the importance of taking STEM and become programmers to earn more money. More money, more freedom was the key message the Commissioners received.
- d. Commissioner Diaz-Garcia will invite Susan the president of United Way to speak potentially to present on their campaigns.
- e. Commissioner Wood reminded the Commissioners to submit their photos in support of Denim Day by the weekend. Chair Blalock gave a brief history of Denim Day.

6. PRESENTATION BY JENALYN SOTTO OF NATIONAL WOMEN'S LAW CENTER

- a. Chair Blalock introduced Jenalyn Sotto by reading her bio. Jenalyn Sotto thanked the Commission for inviting her. She shared national data trends for how COVID-19, the dual public crisis and economic crisis that it triggered, and the impact on working women. First, she provided national data before COVID-19, then data from during COVID-19, and finally data specifically from California. The presentation was interactive with a Q and A.

7. COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Chair Blalock announced different tabling opportunities such as tabling at Victim's Rights Week Community and Resource Fair April 29, 12-4pm, Old Courthouse Square, Wednesday Night Market May 31, shifts TBD and tabling and March at Sonoma County PRIDE June 3, 10am-4pm. She will send out an email for sign-ups.

8. OPENINGS AND APPOINTMENTS

- a. Chair announced two openings in the 2nd district and in the 4th district.

9. BUSINESS ITEMS

a. **Discussion and possible vote on additional budget request from Spirit Award Committee- Commissioner Fortino-Dickson**

Commissioner Wood lead the discussion about the request to committee is asking. The Spirit Award Committee spent more money than the allocated budget. They are asking for an additional of \$339.46. Staff provided the updated budget and reviewed the spreadsheet with them. Motion to approve the additional \$339.46 amount.

No Public Comment.

Motion: Commissioner Quinn	Ayes: 8	Noes: 0
Second: Commissioner Dillon-Shore	Absent: 5	Abstained: 1

Commissioner Cruz-Concepción(LOA), Gordon, Jones-Carter, Fortino Dickson, and McCorquodale were absent. Chair Blalock abstained as Chair. Motion passed.

b. **Discussion and possible vote on sponsorship of 'Women Take Flight' art event for women veterans.**

Chair Blalock mentioned that they asked for \$1,000, but Trisha Almond said anything will be fine. No discussion. Motion to approve \$500 in sponsorship.

No Public Comment.

Motion: Commissioner Brown	Ayes: 8	Noes: 0
Second: Commissioner Wood	Absent: 5	Abstained: 1

Commissioner Cruz-Concepción(LOA), Gordon, Jones-Carter, Fortino Dickson, and McCorquodale were absent. Chair Blalock abstained as Chair. Motion passed.

c. **Discussion on upcoming Officer Election and strategic planning.**

Chair Blalock gave a brief overview of the structure of the strategic planning event. She invited everyone to bring ideas of potential projects and present during the strategic planning event. They discussed tentative dates of the event either June or July with a final date of July.

Chair: Commissioner Dillon-Shore nominated Commissioner Quinn for Chair; Quinn accepted.

Vice Chair: Commissioner Dillon-Shore nominated Commissioner Fortino Dickson; Fortino Dickson accepted.

Motion: Commissioner Dillon-Shore
Second: Commissioner Shulman

Officer-At-Large: Commissioner Gordon nominated Commissioner Brown; Brown accepted.

Nominations will continue next meeting.

10. 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).

- a. Junior Commission on the Status of Women reported on the graduation and planning a get together, perhaps at a women run sanctuary. They have extra funds available to pay for a fieldtrip and the farm sanctuary. Graduation is on May 8th at 5pm via Zoom. Interviews for next cohort will happen in May.
- b. Sonoma County Spirit Award Project reported on their debrief on what they can do differently next year. The theme for next year might be a feminism theme but will bring that forth in July.
- c. Women's Recovery Response is busy revising the report.
- d. Women and Girls Reproductive Health is meeting with the Superintendent and the head of their wellness program. Their focus groups are meeting next week. After their meeting, they will have ideas for year 2 of the ad hoc.

11. COMMUNITY ISSUES, LIAISONS, AND COORDINATORS

Commissioners to provide brief updates or ideas on the following:

- a. Association of California Commissions for Women (ACCW)- didn't have anything to report out.
- b. Human Trafficking Task Force (SCHTTF)- Chair Blalock reported out that HTTF is partnering up with Verity for the film showing of "Survivors: Living Beyond Sexual Assault" at Rialto on May 9th. Doors open at 6:30pm and the film will play at 7pm. Tickets are \$15.
- c. Legislative Advisory Group will review some bills that Commissioner Quinn shared with the team. AB 51 Childcare Stabilization Bill will be watched from the team.
- d. National Association of Commissions for Women (NACW) didn't have anything to report
- e. YWCA – didn't have anything to report

12. AGENDA ITEMS FOR MAY 11, 2023 COMMISSION MEETING

Proposal, discussion, and possible action items for next Commission meeting. (No action required by commissioners for this section)

- a. Presentation from The United Way President
- b. Nominations and Elections

13. ADJOURNMENT at 8:10 p.m.