

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

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**Thursday, July 13, 2023**

**5:30 PM**

**Hybrid Meeting**

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**Commissioners Present:**

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

**Second District:** Caitlin Quinn (Chair), Julie Shulman, Katie Gordon

**Third District:** Ofra Isler\*, Melanie Jones-Carter, Ana Diaz-Garcia

**Fourth District:** Gina Fortino Dickson (Vice Chair)

**Fifth District:** Jessica Wood, Zobida McCorquodale\*, Angie Dillon-Shore

**\* Commissioner Isler attended via Zoom (AB 2449 Excuse)**

**\* Commissioner McCorquodale arrived late at approximately 6:05pm**

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

**1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL**

Meeting called to order at approximately 5:55 p.m. Roll call was conducted by the Chair.

**2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Commissioner Wood read the Land acknowledgement.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS**

- Melissa Hernandez Nieto

**4. APPROVAL OF JUNE 8, 2023 MEETING MINUTES**

No Public Comment.

Motion: Commissioner Wood

Ayes: 7

Noes: 0

Second: Commissioner Gordon

Absent: 1

Abstained: 4

Commissioner McCorquodale arrived late. Commissioner Brown, Dillon-Shore and Blalock abstained due to being absent at June 8, 2023 meeting. Chair Quinn 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. Chair Quinn announced that Commissioner Isler was attending the meeting under the “AB 2449- Just Cause” excuse. She also reported out on the transition meeting with new and old Officers.

## **6. OPENINGS AND APPOINTMENTS**

- a. Chair Quinn announced one opening in the 2<sup>nd</sup> district and two openings in the 4<sup>th</sup> district. Commissioner Cruz resigned from the Commission.

## **7. BUSINESS ITEMS**

- a. A Resolution to Affirm and Celebrate the Sonoma County LGBTQIA+ Community. There was no discussion on this part of the item.

A Donation in the Amount of \$1,000; \$250 each to Positive Images, LandPaths, TransLife, and LGBTQ Connection. Chair Quinn led the discussion on this second part of the item. Some Commissioners questioned the selection of organizations and lack of information of the organizations, but Chair Quinn confirmed that these organizations are more youth focus than others and she will provide a brief description of each organization. Some Commissioners voiced their support to publicize this resolution and donation to the press. Motion by Commissioner Diaz-Garcia to approve the donation and the resolution and seconded by Commissioner Shulman. Motion was amended by Commissioner Wood, with a second by Commissioner Shulman, to include a press release. Motion to pass the resolution, approve the donation and issue a press release.

No Public Comment.

Motion: Commissioner Diaz-Garcia	Ayes: 12	Noes: 0
Second: Commissioner Shulman	Absent: 0	Abstained: 1

Chair Quinn abstained as Chair. Motion passed.

- b. Proclamation: WOMEN’S EQUALITY DAY AUGUST 26, 2023. The proclamation will be presented on August 22, 2023 at Board of Supervisors’ meeting. Many Commissioners confirmed their attendance. Motion to issue the proclamation, submit this to the Board of Supervisors, and that each of the Commissioner ask their local city council to issue this proclamation.

No Public Comment.

Motion: Commissioner Brown

Ayes: 12

Noes: 0

Second: Commissioner Jones-Carter

Absent: 0

Abstained: 1

Chair Quinn abstained as Chair. Motion passed.

## **8. STRATEGIC PLANNING (order is subject to change)**

- a. Commissioners participated in an ice breaker. They shared their childhood memory, their best day of their life, and their hero/role model.
- b. Commissioner Blalock and Wood led the year-end review presentation. They shared pictures and talked about the Commission's projects and outreach from FY22-23.
- c. Vice Chair Fortino-Dickson led the discussion on the future of the Commission by guiding the group in different activities to narrow it to three goals. As she led the discussion, she shared survey results from a survey the Commissioners completed. Some of the information that stood out: many Commissioners believed economic stability and low wages are most important issues women face, Commissioners don't feel welcome when joining the Commission, Commissioners don't always have a clear direction on their participation, and many of the Commissioners have 7 or more hours a month to dedicate to the Commission. Vice Chair Fortino-Dickson paused her discussion due to time. The discussion on the mission and vision will continue next meeting.

## **9. AGENDA ITEMS FOR AUGUST 10, 2023 COMMISSION MEETING**

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

- a. Continue with Strategic Planning Meeting

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

This meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.