



Santa Cruz County Women's Commission

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Meeting Minutes

DATE: Thursday, January 28, 2021

TIME: 6:00 to 7:00 PM

LOCATION: Remote meeting

PRESENT: Theresa Cariño (Co-Chair, 1st District), Jillian Ritter (Co-Chair, 1st District), Laurel Schonfield (2nd District), Maryanne Campbell (3rd District), Jenny Sarmiento (4th District), Vanessa Quiroz-Carter (4th District), Sheila De Lany (5th District), Rachel Bickert (5th District)

EXCUSED: Maria Boutell (3rd District)

ABSENT: Carrie Beaton (2nd District)

STAFF: Kaite McGrew (*Commissions Coordinator*)

GUESTS: None

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

Meeting convened at 6:06 PM.

Commission welcomed District 4 Commissioner Vanessa Quiroz-Carter.

2. Review and Approve November 19, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Motion/Second: De Lany/Bickert

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Correspondence: None

4. Public Comment: None

5. Continuing Business/Action Items:

5.1. County Equal Employment Opportunity and Cultural Competence Plan

Individual Commissioners will review assigned segments and suggest feedback for consideration by the Commission at the February meeting.

5.2. 2021 Commission Goals and Priorities

Commission reviewed goals and priorities from the 2018-2019 Biennial report. All outstanding goals will be carried forward as well as the addition of a new goal to update the Economic Justice segment of the Status of Women and Girls report (SOWAG). The Women and Homelessness Speakers series will resume in a virtual format, and previous speakers will also be invited to update the Commission on their efforts during the pandemic.

Motion to update the Economic Justice segment of the SOWAG report in 2021.

Motion/Second: De Lany/Sarmiento.

Motion passed unanimously.

Cariño established the *Economic Justice Ad Hoc Subcommittee* to look into the disproportionate financial impact the pandemic is having on women in Santa Cruz County. Subcommittee members will be appointed at the next meeting.

5.3. 2021 Trailblazers Awards

Commission discussed options for a virtual event in 2021. Suggested categories included economic justice leadership, crisis response leadership, anti-racism leadership, leadership from women without benefit of privilege, and posthumous recognition for Board Analyst Allison Endert who passed away in 2020. Cariño appointed Campbell and Sarmiento to the *Ad Hoc Trailblazers Subcommittee*. The subcommittee will suggest a strategy at the next meeting.

6. Reports of Officers and Ad Hoc Subcommittees

6.1. Co-Chairs Report

Ritter reported that County efforts have been focused on vaccination distribution and wildfire recovery.

Cariño reported that she and Ritter have both met with Supervisor Koenig to discuss reappointment to the Commission. Because there is a possibility that both Co-Chairs may not be reappointed in April, Cariño and Ritter expressed their support for other Commissioners who may be interested in developing their capacity to chair meetings after that time.

6.2. Public Awareness Subcommittee: No Report

7. Staff Report:

County COVID-19 vaccine distribution rollout has begun. Detail is available on the County Health Vaccine page, including a link to the County's distribution plan. County Debris Flow evacuation orders were in effect until this morning when they were downgraded to evacuation warnings. Several evacuation relief sites have been established to support evacuees.

8. Announcements:

De Lany reported that of the 44 San Francisco schools being considered for renaming, only two were named after women. The Commission discussed the impact that growing up in a culture that primarily recognizes men in its naming conventions has on the aspirations of girls and women.

9. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Coordinator*