

Santa Cruz County Women's Commission

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Meeting Minutes

DATE: Thursday, March 21, 2019

TIME: 6:30 to 8:00 PM

LOCATION: Coastlines Conference Room, 5th Floor, Santa Cruz County Building 701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

PRESENT: Theresa Cariño (Co-Chair, 1st District), Jillian Ritter (Co-Chair, 1st District), Carrie Beaton (2nd District), Laurel Schonfield (2nd District), Carole McPherson (3rd District), M. Miller (3rd District), Luci Basor (4th District), Sheila De Lany (5th District), Margaret Barr (5th District)

EXCUSED: None

STAFF: Ajita Patel (*County Personnel Director*), Kaite McGrew (*Commissions Coordinator*)GUESTS: (4) Suzanne Doty, Bev Strand, Audrey Sarto, Ariana Miller

- 1. <u>Call to Order/Roll Call/Introductions</u> Meeting convened at 6:30 PM.
- <u>Review and Approve Agenda</u> Motion/Second: Ritter/De Lany Motion passed unanimously.
- <u>Review and Approve February 21, 2019 Meeting Minutes</u> Motion/Second: Miller/Ritter Motion passed unanimously.
- 4. <u>Correspondence</u> Commissioners reviewed resignation letter from Ari Parker.
- 5. Public Comment
 - 5.1. Suzanne Doty, former President of the Association of California Commissions for Women, invited the Commissioners to the 2019 Spring Conference (4/27 from 9-4 PM) in Santa Clara, and encouraged the Commissioners to join the Association.
 - 5.2. Bev Strand, former Status of Women and Girls Commissioner in Santa Clara, reported on her recent travels with a women's leadership group to visit the Women's Federation in Cuba. Strand shared details of the progressive reproductive health care, maternity leave and daycare services currently available to Cuban women.
- 6. <u>Presentation: Operational Plan Update from the County Administrative Office</u> Ajita Patel, County Personnel Director, presented an update on the County's Operational Plan, including focus areas, goals, strategies and objectives. The plan is the first step in a long-term vision to change the County culture. The Commission expressed particular interest in Health Equity goals and stressed the importance of viewing all initiatives and strategies through a gender lens and ensuring accountability in goals.

7. <u>Reports of Officers and Subcommittees</u>

7.1. Co-Chairs Report

- 7.1.1. Cariño invited the Commission to save-the-date for *Salud y Cariño*'s annual fundraiser dinner and silent auction scheduled for October 5, 2019.
- 7.1.2. Cariño invited the Commission to attend the "100 Women Who Care" giving circle being held in the Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History on June 12th at 6:30 PM.

7.2. Status of Women and Girls (SOWAG) Report

7.2.1. Health Care Section: Data Subcommittee:

County Staff reported that the UCSC Feminist Studies Major will offer class credit for the internship if it meets the required time commitment of approximately 15 hours per week for 5 weeks. County Staff will attend the UCSC Employment and Internship Fair in April.

7.3. Justice and Gender Task Force Update

Cariño reported that Assembly Member Mark Stone presented to the Task Force on domestic violence and a three-year probation pilot program designed to lower the recidivism rate. The Task Force meets on the second Friday of every month and is open to the public.

7.4. Trailblazers Awards Subcommittee Report

Ritter reported that the awards will be presented on Tuesday, March 26th at the Board of Supervisors meeting, followed by a recognition reception in the Redwood Conference Room. The Art Wall exhibit has been installed. Commissioners will introduce the Awardees and District Supervisors will present the awards.

7.5. Women and Homelessness Town Hall Subcommittee Report

Schonfield reported that the Subcommittee reviewed raw data collected for the 2017 Homelessness report and is reconsidering the Town Hall format in light of the current landscape. Commissioners will contact agencies and organizations involved with the issue, as well as women who are currently homeless, to discuss options and determine the most impactful way to proceed.

- 7.6. Public Awareness Updates
 - 7.6.1. Beaton reported that the Commission's Facebook page has gained 15 followers for a total of 299 followers and gained more than 4000% in post reach and post engagement.
 - 7.6.2. The Commission's Instagram account gained 24 followers for a total of 245.
- 8. Staff Report None
- 9. Unfinished Business None
- 10. <u>New Business</u> None
- 11. Announcements
 - 11.1. Schonfield will reach out to the Coalition Against Human Trafficking to invite them to present to the Commission.
 - 11.2. Live Oak Resource Center is has not confirmed availability for the April meeting.
 - 11.3. The Commission will hold the September or October meeting in the Watsonville County Building.
- 12. <u>Adjournment</u>

Meeting was adjourned at 7:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Kaite McGrew, Commissions Coordinator