



Alameda County Commission on the Status of Women Meeting Minutes



Wednesday, March 8, 2023 6:30-8:30 PM

The mission of the Alameda County Commission on the Status of Women (COSW) is to represent the women of Alameda County in maximizing social equality and parity for women of all ages in such areas as housing, employment, health services, child care, Selder care, education, transportation, credit, legal rights, and community services.

COMMISSION MEMBERS	
Nina Senn, Chair	Conference of Mayors Representative
Aliza Kazmi, Vice Chair	District 2
Aida Sizova Secretary	District 3
Megan Sweet Treasurer	District 3
Yasi Safinya-Davies, Member at Large	District 1
Shanta Franco-Clausen, Member at Large	District 2

Marie Gilmore	District 3
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Courtney Welch	District 5
Erin Scott	District 5
Orly Amey	District 1
Kathryn Lybarger (awaiting BOS Confirmation)	District 5
Vacant	District 1
Vacant	District 4
Vacant	Human Relations Commission
Vacant	District 2
Vacant	District 4
Vacant	District 4

Item No.	Item	Action
1.	Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions	<p>Chair Senn called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and took roll call and some word from commissioners in honor of International Women’s Day</p> <p>Commissioners Present: Nina Senn Aida Sizova Megan Sweet Courtney Welch Marie Gilmore Shay Franco-Clausen</p>

		<p>Kathryn Lybarger (awaiting BOS Confirmation)</p> <p>Commissioners Absent (Excused): Orly Amey Aliza Kazmi</p> <p>Commissioners Absent (Unexcused): Yasi Safinya-Davies</p>
2.	Approval of November minutes	Shay motioned to approve February minutes and Nina seconded. Unanimous approval.
3.	Commissioner Announcements	<p>a. Proclamation at BOS March meeting - Nina attended</p> <p>b. Alameda County Women’s Hall of Fame event March 25, 2023</p> <p>c. CCSWG @ Mount St. Mary’s in LA: March 22, 2023 -Nina will be attending and extended invitation to other commissioners to attend it in LA. Megan, Aliza and Aída expressed interest to join Nina.</p> <p>d. SF April Event</p> <p>e. City of Berkeley’s Commission Vacancies</p> <p>f. Other Announcements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Courtney Welch announced that today was her last meeting as a commissioner.

4.	Treasurer Report and Budget Request to BOS for funding to start Alameda County office of women’s policy (TBD)	<p>a. Reimbursements</p> <p>b. \$250k budget request, and potential timing of advocacy partnership with local CBOs addressing women and girls’ issues</p>
5.	COSW Retreat	<p>a. Next Regular COSW Meeting starting at 6 pm?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Was not agreed on. Waiting on retreat doodle results. If can’t arrive on a Saturday date, then will consider using the regular commission meeting for retreat time like was done in 2022. <p>b. Community Agreements (Aliza to present)</p> <p>c. Introduce 2023 visioning – where do we want to be by the end of the year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will be discussed during the retreat <p>d. Interest/Timing/planning for 2023 Commission Retreat to identify commission priorities and leverage commissioner strengths, skill-building, capacity building</p> <p>e. Follow-up on creation of Administrative Ad-hoc Committee to address commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No current capacity. Will wait for more commissioners to join. - logistics around strategy for filling vacancies, commissioner onboarding/offboarding, overall admin structure, and form Commission best practices <p>f. Reorganization of committees/categorizing the commission’s priority areas</p> <p>g. Strategy for BOS and SSA engagement (future)</p>
7.	Updates from Policy and Advocacy Subcommittee	<p>a. CEDAW tracking and work outline/commissioner Assignments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nina Created a draft letter, and asked congresswoman to support letter. For SB549. <p>b. Other updates – SSA advocacy, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shay gave an update
8.	Updates and Requests from Grant Implementation Committee	<p>a. Update on grant extension to August 2023 and next steps with a co-hosted (Sexual Assault Awareness) conference in April and other community engagement events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nina confirmed that we have until August to spend the grant received. - Reminded commissioners about the survey shared by Aliza to partner with NGOs and to actively look for partnerships to collaborate on Sexual Assault Awareness Month

9.	Open Public Comment	
10.	Agenda Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retreat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shay and Aída will co-facilitate to create the agenda for the retreat. - Shay will send a new doodle to find a new date for retreat. • Vacancies (COSW and committees) and absences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need to be filled soon. • Community Agreements • Community Engagement

11.	Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nancy Breneau. Shared some of the efforts Santa Clara County commission is doing to pass the CEDAW ordinances. Also shared how much funding requires for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - \$1.1 million to fund 6 full-time employees for the office of women’s affairs. - \$50 million for an office of equity and diversity.
12.	Agenda Building	Announcement on date and location for Commissions retreat
13.	Adjournment	7:48 pm