



Alameda County Commission on the Status of Women Meeting Minutes



Wednesday, March 11, 2020, 6:42 PM

Mission Statement: 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, elder care, education, transportation, credit, legal rights, and community services.

MEETING LOCATION	COMMISSION MEMBERS	
<p>Alameda County Eden Area Multiservice Center Social Services Agency 24100 Amador Street 3rd Floor-Lupine Room A Hayward, CA 94544</p> <p>Free parking after 6:00 PM</p> <p>Call in: Toll-free number 1-877-402-9753 Enter the Access Code 988632 followed by the # key <i>(please mute when not speaking)</i></p> <p>Wheelchair accessible location. For other accommodations, please contact staff Kim Fogel at least 72 business hours in advance at (510) 645-9339 or krfogel@acgov.org.</p>	Lucy Hernández, Chair	District 2
	María Domínguez, Vice Chair	District 3
	Erin Scott, Secretary	District 5
	Olga Borjón, Treasurer	District 2
	Yasi Safinya-Davies, Member at Large	District 1
	RocQuel Johnson, Member at Large	Human Relations Commission
	Martha Kreeger	District 1
	Orly Greenwood (to be sworn in)	District 1
	Marie Gilmore	District 3
	Susan Gonzales	District 3
	Jaclyn Coleman	District 4
	Amy Levine	District 4
	Courtney Welch	District 5
	Ge'Nell Gary	District 5
	Vacant	District 2
Vacant	District 4	
Vacant	Conference of Mayors	

Alameda County Commission on the Status of Women

Minutes for March 11, 2020

Called to order at 6:42 pm

Present: Commissioners Hernández, Domínguez, Scott, Safinya-Davies, Kreeger, Greenwood, Gilmore, Gonzales, Coleman, Levine, Welch, and Gary. Also present: Sylvia Soublet, Director of Public Affairs, SSA.

Absent: Commissioners Borjón and Johnson.

1. Welcome and Introductions – It was noted that Commissioner Greenwood was sworn in today.

2. Approval of the Minutes from the 2/13/20 Meeting - Commissioner Domínguez moved to approve the minutes with the following corrections: At 5.b, the next bylaws committee is “tentatively scheduled on 2/27” and at 8., the name of the commission should read “Human Relations Commission.” Commissioner Gilmore seconded. All ayes. Motion passed.

3. Women’s Hall of Fame 2020 – Commissioners Hernández and Domínguez participated in the nomination process; there is a 48-hour waiting period after the nominating committee makes its selection so the names are not public yet.

a) Scholarship funding - Fundraising has been low so as of now there is only one youth scholarship. Discussed whether COSW can use Supervisor Valle’s individual donation to increase the scholarship pool. Ms. Soublet offered to check with SSA and County Counsel. Issue was tabled to the April meeting.

b) Vote for Community Partners awards - Discussed COSW’s nominations for the Community Partners awards. Commissioners who nominated organizations gave short presentations and there was a discussion about the difference the award money could make for smaller organizations. Each Commissioner gave their top five and then we voted on a priority order: Afghan Coalition, Alliance for Girls, Mujeres Unidas y Activas, Sogorea, and Youth ALIVE! Commissioner Scott moved to accept this list as COSW’s recommendations to the Women’s Hall of Fame organizers for the Community Partners awards, Commissioner Gonzales seconded. All ayes. Motion passed.

c) Attendance - COSW has 10 seats at the Women’s Hall of Fame. Commissioners Kreeger, Greenwood, Scott, Safinya-Davies, Gary, Levine, Fogel, Gonzales, and Domínguez said they would attend. First come, first served for the last seat. An email will be sent to all COSW members. Also noted that Commissioner Hernández is donating a wine basket on behalf of COSW; everyone signed the card.

4. Bylaw Committee Report

a) Future of Junior Commission - Commissioner Hernández shared her experience as a junior commission mentor. Former projects included a coat drive and an art project for a domestic violence shelter, but then learned that COSW cannot fundraise for community partners and did not know what other projects to offer. Created two youth summits. Commissioner Hernández did a lot of recruitment work. Commissioner Domínguez shared that when she took over she found it very difficult to manage without staff support. She looked at other youth groups run by the county for ideas or partnerships. Supervisor Chan told her that she thinks the program is crucial and is willing to look for resources. Commissioner Scott raised the issue of stipends; youth might need to work. Commissioner Safinya-Davies suggested that we create a subcommittee to reimagine it. Commissioner Gilmore asked for a vote: do we want to keep the Junior Commission? Commissioner Coleman abstained. All others, ayes. Commissioner Gilmore proposed creation of an ad hoc subcommittee. Commissioner Gary will lead the committee, and Commissioners Hernández, Greenwood, Kreeger, and Safinya-Davies will be members.

b) Election procedures – Commissioner Domínguez needs to reach out to the Human Relations Commission with questions; will do this before the next COSW meeting.

c) Other proposed revisions – Commissioner Safinya-Davies raised the issue if making COSW’s mission and bylaws gender inclusive. Commissioner Gilmore said that the bylaws committee will discuss this issue. Commissioner Safinya-Davies also raised the issue of intentional on-boarding in alignment with COSW’s values. Should this be in our bylaws? Commissioner Gilmore noted that this can become scripted if it is in the bylaws. Can we instead incorporate

Alameda County Commission on the Status of Women

Minutes for March 11, 2020

this into our culture? The bylaws committee can think about this more. Commissioner Domínguez will send a Doodle poll for the next committee meeting.

5. Retreat Planning – Retreat will be held on April 26, 2020 from 10 am to 3 pm. Currently, Commissioners Gilmore, Kreeger, Johnson, and Borjón will be unavailable on that date. COSW has allocated \$800 for the retreat but needs more to hire a facilitator. Commissioner Hernández moved to reallocate \$2,000 from the health conference budget to the retreat. Commissioner Safinya-Davies seconded. All ayes. Motion passed.

6. Treasurer’s Report and Budget Update – No report this meeting. Tabled until next meeting.

7. Oakland Pride 2020 – Sunday, September 13, 2020

a. Partnering with Human Relations Commission - Commissioner Hernández emailed the HRC today to ask if we can split the cost of registration. The cost has risen to \$330.

8. Human Relations Commission Report - No report this meeting. Tabled until next meeting.

9. Open Public Comment – None.

10. Communications Committee – This committee has not held meetings for the last two months. A meeting will be scheduled. Let Commissioner Domínguez know if you want to help her post information on Facebook. Commissioner Coleman asked whether we have looked into having interns help. Commissioner Domínguez said that she met with representatives from Mills College who said they would circulate the opportunity; she will check in with them. Commissioner Scott noted that interns can require a lot of supervision.

11. Education and Employment Committee – The March 23, 2020 event has been postponed. Looking at having it in May instead.

12. Events Committee – Tabled for the retreat.

13. Health and Wellness Committee – Commissioner Coleman said that she is planning to meet with Commissioner Johnson to discuss having listening sessions next year. Donate Period update - Commissioner Hernández will follow up with former Commissioner Lockett-Fahimi regarding her outreach with public libraries. Commissioner Hernández noted that she is interested in working on this project more. Commissioner Scott asked whether we have looked at who is collecting menstrual supplies throughout the county and who needs them.

14. Policy and Advocacy Committee – The committee met yesterday and voted to support: former AB944/now budget request, AB31, and AB732. Lorena Briseno will take our position to the PAL. The committee also asked Lorena Briseno to take our request for the county to pass a resolution re: asylum seekers to the PAL. The committee discussed increasing accessibility at county meetings and talked about how COVID is anticipated to have a negative impact on Census 2020. Commissioner Safinya-Davies asked about getting census information to share and Commissioner Domínguez noted that she is posting regularly on Facebook about the census. Commissioner Kreeger also noted that the county has resources that everyone can share. The committee also created a subcommittee on unhoused women with Commissioner Scott chairing.

15. Agenda Building for Next Meetings –

a) Rescheduling April 8 meeting - Commissioner Hernández moved to change the meeting date to April 6, 2020. Commissioner Scott seconded. All ayes. Motion passed. Commissioner Hernández asked that everyone forward agenda items to her. It also was noted that if a commissioner wants to share information by email, she should not send

Alameda County Commission on the Status of Women

Minutes for March 11, 2020

it to Commissioner Hernández for approval first and should bcc everyone to avoid commissioners accidentally “replying all.”

16. Announcements – At the Board of Supervisors meeting on March 17, 2020, the Board will pass a proclamation for women’s history month. Commissioners Hernández and Domínguez will attend and all are encouraged to join them. Commissioner Hernández noted that Union City passed their own proclamation. Commissioner Scott mentioned that the City of Berkeley has their own COSW that is very active. Commissioner Domínguez said she thinks that Berkeley’s COSW is working on the gender wage gap and issues related to women at Santa Rita jail. Commissioner Coleman asked whether there was an update on getting a shared Google drive for COSW. Commissioner Domínguez said she will follow up about that with Kim Fogel.

17. Good of the Order and Adjourn – Commissioner Gilmore requested that we adjourn this meeting in honor of Dr. Wheatley. Meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm in honor of Dr. Wheatley.