



# COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

## COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

### Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday, February 28, 2017**

**San Mateo County Office Building**

**455 County Center, Redwood City – Room 101 (first floor)**

**6:30 PM**

#### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by the president Linda Koelling at 6:34 pm.

#### **2. Roll Call**

Commissioners Present: Linda Koelling, Anisha Weber, Janet Dulsky, Stacie Furia, Tanisha Hughes, Vivian Lino, Becky Abens, and Manufou Liaiga-Anoa'i.

Staff Present: Honora Miller, Dory Memarzia, and Juda Tolmasoff.

#### **3. Public Comment**

No public comment

#### **4. Approval and Adoption of Agenda**

A motion was made by Anisha Weber and seconded by Manufou Liaiga-Anoa'i to approve and adopt the February 2016 meeting agenda. Motion was approved unanimously.

#### **5. Group Agreements**

Linda Koelling reviewed the group agreements- commissioners should arrive on time/ start on time, take turns speaking, speak loudly enough for everyone to hear, be courteous of other opinions, listen to hear a different perspective than your own, mute phones, allow the chair to guide the process, chair will check in about remaining time 8:00 pm.

#### **6. Report from Commission President**

Linda appreciated everyone who attended the CSW retreat on Friday. She stated that the commission will be able to tackle a variety of activities this year, and she is looking forward to working with all the commissioners. Linda also noted that, as the retreat facilitator had mentioned on Friday, when we are approaching a topic, it should be specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-based.

On March 14, Linda will go to the Board of Supervisors to receive a Women's History Month proclamation and will provide a report. Linda encouraged all commissioners to attend.

## 7. Report from Commission Director

- Honora Miller indicated that the Women's Hall of Fame iPad driven exhibit, which for the last year has been on display at San Mateo County History Museum, includes the 280 honorees all listed with their bios, areas of impact, and the year that they were honored.
- It was noted that one of the important issues discussed at Friday's retreat was Home for All. Lisa Williams and Shweta Bhatnagar expressed interest in potentially becoming commission liaisons to this workgroup and providing monthly updates to the commission.
- There was interest expressed in learning about what other commissions are working on. Honora asked whether the commissioners want to have presenters from a number of different commissions attend the commission meetings or if they want the commissioners to attend some of their meetings and report back. Linda stated that it would be helpful to have presenters from other commissions present at commission meetings to explore whether they have some parallel programs. Honora shared that some of the commissions such as aging, disability, veterans, and youth tend to have similar areas of focus.
- Juda Tolmasoff mentioned that this Thursday the Women's View Show (County Women's Art Show) will be brought in to the Hall of Justice and Community Gallery. The Women's View Show has been going on for a number of years. The show is a collaboration between San Mateo County Arts Commission and the Commission on the Status of Women. It is a call for women artist every year to participate. It stays up for two months (March 3-April 28, 2017). Three winners will be chosen.
- Janet Dulsky added that on the immigration issue, Supervisor Groom indicated that there are a number of committees that the Board is working with. Hence it would be interesting to have representatives from them share information to the commission.
- Honora indicated that during the retreat the group brainstormed a list of areas of interest. The commission will continue with three existing committees:
  - The Women's Conference
  - Women's Hall of Fame
  - Criminal Justice

There was interest in having a Legislative Subcommittee that can be handled on ad hoc basis.

- In addition, the commissioners provided a list of priorities. It was noted that given that we cannot form a workgroup for each of these topics. If there is a legislation or other opportunities to get involved these will be held aside. In this sense, Honora asked the commissioners to identify those areas. Below is the list of priorities:
  - Housing
  - Immigration
  - Healthcare
  - Gender income gap
  - Human trafficking

## **8. Follow Up from Commission Retreat**

Linda stated that in order to drive our subject matter this year, we are going to propose having a variety of speakers during commission meetings. Linda requested that the commissioners think about the projects they are considering and if possible identify speakers to attend the meetings.

As she added, there were a couple of issues that came up on Friday; although we will not tackle them directly, as the commission on the status of women it is important to be added on our agenda item and each month we will get some information on these issues, including immigration, healthcare, violent crimes and human trafficking.

## **9. Approval of 2017 Work Groups & Priority Areas**

A motion, to approve three subcommittees (Assessing the Status of Women, Women's Hall of Fame, Women's Criminal Justice, and Women's Leadership Conference) for 2017 fiscal year, was made by Stacie and seconded by Janet. Motion was approved unanimously. The next motion to approve the priority areas (housing, immigration, healthcare, gender income gap, human trafficking, and criminal justice) was made by Tanisha Hughes and seconded by Janet. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **10. Meeting of Work Groups**

### **• Promoting Women in the Workforce and Status of Women**

The two newly identified workgroups from our Friday retreat were merged into one workgroup which will focus on gathering key topic areas on the status of women from various groups and sources. This new workgroup, Focus on Women Discussions (FWD), will conduct facilitated discussion sessions to elicit learnings which will be reported back to the Commission and then on to the Board of Supervisors. The members of the workgroup are Linda Koelling, Becky Abens, Kristy Koberna, and Anisha Weber. For the coming year, one session will convene non-profit groups with specifically targeted

questions for that sector (Kristy). Another session will convene women in tech groups, again with targeted questions (Anisha). The draft timeline is as follows:

- ✓ March/April – define the framework, scope, topics, questions, target groups, locations, and solicitation communications
- ✓ May/June – contact the identified groups to solicit interest, participation, availability
- ✓ July/August – coordinate/finalize logistics
- ✓ September/October – conduct sessions
- ✓ November/December – document learnings into report and summarize into Top10 one-pager
- ✓ January – share reports and one-pagers with Commission
- ✓ February – submit reports and one-pagers to Board of Supervisors

- **Criminal Justice**

- ✓ This group discussed retreat outcomes and draft work plan and finalized the overarching goal of the plan, prioritized follow up on gender responsive programming and listed it as objective B, and moved restitution issues to objective C understanding that this may be more of an exploratory project for informational purposes since it does not fall under the purview of the BOS. Objective C will require leadership and Marguerite Machen has been listed as lead since she raised the issue and proposed it as an area for us to examine. Her work experience in this area also aligns with the objective.
- ✓ The group also discussed the potential for working with youth/juvenile population. Given the logistics of the county/distinct systems, and no direct connection with the county jail, this item has been tabled to explore as a potential future project. Agreed we do not have the bandwidth to support both the adult population and youth this year.

- **The Women’s Conference**

- ✓ The conference workgroup focused on refining the titles of the conference sessions in anticipation of presenting the session schedule to the Commission at the end of March.

## **11. Work Group Report Outs and Consultations with Full Commission**

Anisha reported that they came up with a new idea called focused dialogue for women in the workforce. The main plan is an umbrella and could go down to many various paths.

- The first step would be to identify what are the key topics for the different sessions.
- The second step would be to contact different groups.

- The third step would be to define what the logistics are, how we want to communicate with group, what is the input and output.
- The fourth step would be to conduct sessions. Eventually, we want to integrate the findings into the March report to the Board of Supervisors.

Manufou reported that the group will be contacting Melissa Wagner. They also want to start conducting an info session. We are looking at first time offenders, repeat offenders and suggesting prevention and intervention tools.

## **12. Opportunities for Collaboration/Event Announcements**

Linda reported that the Women's Community Leadership Network has an event at the Coastal Arts League Gallery, on Wednesday, March 1.

## **13. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 pm by Linda Koelling.