



# COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

## COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

### Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 28, 2019  
San Mateo County Office Building  
455 County Center, Redwood City – Room 101  
6:30 PM

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Roll Call**

**Commissioners Present:** Becky Abens, Dana Linda, Marguerite Machen, Rebecca Oyama, Anisha Weber, Manufou Liaiga-Anoa'i, Nirmala Bandrapalli, Maya Tussing, Monique Ray, Anya Drabkin

**Staff Present:** Tanya Beat, Juda Tolmasoff

**Absent:** Christine Padilla

**3. Public Comment**

Three members of public in attendance.

**4. Approval and Adoption of Agenda (Action)**

Motion to approve Nirmala Bandrapalli, seconded Manufou Liaiga-Anoa'i. Unanimously approved.

**5. Approval of April Meeting Minutes (Action)**

Motion to approve Maya Tussing; seconded Becky Abens. Unanimously approved.

**6. Living the Mission & Vision (Discussion)**

The Commission on the Status of Women, an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors, seeks to improve the quality of life for women of all ages in San Mateo County. Through strategic partnerships and collaboration, the commission identifies women's needs, advises the board of supervisors, and educates the community on matters concerning women.

*How did the mission show up in your life this week?* Commissioner informal comments from Maya Tussing, Juda Tolmasoff, Manufou Liaiga-Anoa'i, Marguerite Machen.

**7. County of Santa Clara Commission on the Status of Women (Presentation)**

- Santa Clara County CSW Structure & Process
- Accomplishments: Equal pay for all women in the county; Pro-choice County in 2015; facilitate regular visits in the Elmwood Correctional Center; facilitate Mini-Grant process

- Commissioners advise the BOS; there is no harm in advising but it is important to influence.
- Chair appointments and assigns duties and groups for commissioners
- We come up with an initiative, and the staff person helps us with the “how” and she also reports back to her office (Office of Women’s Policy).
- Work Groups meet regularly and focus on 5 areas; commissioners spend about 20 hours per month on Commission work. 3 Commissioners on each Committee and they are appointed by Chair.
- Workplan updated once per year. And is approved by BOS. They hope to get \$50,000 from BOS to fund their projects.

**8. Report from Commission President**

- Present Google Sheet Timeline: still blank and will be posted on CSW website for transparency.

**9. Report from Commission Director**

- Vacancy Update: 23 total applications. Timeline should move forward as planned.
- Community Collaboration for Children’s Success Initiative – Shireen Malekafzali, Public Health request to present:
  - i. Suggest to present in July, September, or October
  - ii. Another option is to sponsor a presentation by her for a bigger audience.
  - iii. Decide a date at June CSW meeting.

**10. CSW Workplan**

- Have all **3 Work Plan notes due Monday, June 3**: email to Tanya to compile.
- Goal 1: Increase Community Engagement: Dana, Fou, Maya & Marguerite
- Goal 2: Advising the Board of Supervisors: Christine & Rebecca
- Goal 3: Strengthen Processes for Commission: Nirmala & Becky
- Provides an opportunity for Monique & Anya to choose their groups.

**11. Ad Hoc Work Group / Project Updates**

- Community Conversations Analysis Presentation:
  1. Each Conversation created different issues and solutions. Work group identified main themes, created word clouds and then have a “combine” analysis.
  2. Will post this on our website and share with all three meeting participants.
- Women’s Leadership Conference & Women’s Hall of Fame

**12. Announcements**

- Youth Commission updates (see supplemental report attached to these notes)
- CHOICES support letter written by Christine Padilla. Send to Supervisor Groom.

**13. Adjournment**

The **Commission on the Status of Women Group** agree to arrive on time/start on time; take turns speaking; speak loud 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 at 8:15 PM.

Public records that relate to any item on the open session agenda for a regular or special meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women are available for public inspection. Those records that are distributed less than 72 hours prior to the meeting are available for public inspection at the same time they are distributed to all members, or a majority of the members of the Commission. Those public records are available for public inspection at the Human Resources office located at 455 County Center, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, Redwood City, CA 94063 by appointment. The documents are also available to be sent electronically by emailing [tbeat@smcgov.org](mailto:tbeat@smcgov.org) or calling 650-363-4467.

**IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE AND THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT:** The meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women are accessible to individuals with disabilities. Contact Tanya Beat at (650) 363-4467, or at [tbeat@smcgov.org](mailto:tbeat@smcgov.org) as soon as possible prior to the meeting, if (1) you need special assistance or a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in this meeting; or (2) you have a disability and wish to receive the meeting notice, agenda packet or other writings that may be distributed at the meeting in an alternative format. Notification in advance of the meeting will enable the Commission on the Status of Women to make reasonable arrangements to ensure full accessibility to this meeting and the materials related to it.

**To: Members of the San Mateo County Commission on the Status of Women**

**From: Monique Ray, Human Rights Committee Chair Youth Commission**

**Date: May 2019**

**Subject: Youth Commission Report**

Updates:

- Youth commissioners invited to join the Census 2020 team meeting a few times this summer to provide youth input on current issues.
  - YC was informed that historically immigrants, non-English speaking households, and low-income households tended not to fill out the census.
  - The YC expressed concern over the citizen question. The Immigrant Youth Committee may create an online campaign to encourage all people to fill out the census and to ensure their safety in answering that question to better gain resources for their geographical location. This funding includes funds for education, affordable transportation, and child care.
    - $\frac{3}{4}$  residents of CA belong to one or more minority groups that are underrepresented.
- Indigenous People's Day Recommendation: YC voted on IDP as the second Monday of October and October 12th as Italian-American Heritage Day.
- Environmental Justice Committee voted to support the Office of Sustainability's letter to the Board of Supervisors on prioritizing environmental concerns within our county.
- Human Rights Committee is using our research on youth interests to plan social media campaigns for next year.
- Health and Wellness Committee is working on using the information

gathered from their town hall meetings to prioritize mental health in their upcoming projects and are deciding the most effective method of outreach.

Action Items:

- LGBTQ+ Free Event! 7th Annual San Mateo County LGBTQ+ and Pride “Rooted in Resilience” event.
- June 4, 2019 is the SMCYC final presentation of the Board of Supervisors.



# COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

## COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

455 County Center, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063  
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www.smcgov.org/csw

May 29, 2019

The Honorable Carole Groom  
County of San Mateo Board of Supervisors  
Redwood City, California 94063

Dear Supervisor Groom,

On behalf of the Commission on the Status of Women for County of San Mateo (CSW), we are sharing with you our deep-rooted support of the Choices Program, a therapeutic community recovery program for jail inmates incarcerated in the San Mateo County Jail supervised by Correctional Health Services.

As you know, the goal of Choices is to reduce recidivism by providing services which address the common problems for incarcerated individuals: substance abuse, poverty, low self-esteem and poor health. Participants learn how to provide for their families and how to achieve success in life. Further, participants discover how they can return to the community and play an integral role by helping others who are struggling, alone and unable to see positive options.

The County has indicated a strong desire to create an environment for women inmates that is conducive to preserving the family unit and as much as possible, nurture the children of incarcerated women. These goals are particularly laudable when you consider that the children of women inmates are five times more likely than their peers to become incarcerated themselves. CSW has wholeheartedly supported the Choices Program for decades, as well as the opening of the Maple Street Correctional Center and view the program as a valuable tool for incarcerated women to return to the community and their families.

CSW respectfully asks for your ongoing support of the Choices Program and the below classes they offer:

- Interpersonal Issue Groups
- Unlock Your Thinking
- GED Preparation
- Chemical Dependency Education
- Early Recovery Groups
- Exercise Classes
- Domestic Violence Education
- Job Search Workshops
- Speech Communication
- Health Issues
- AIDS Education
- Twelve Step Meetings
- Parenting Classes
- Relapse Prevention
- Community Referrals
- Meditation Techniques
- Community Restitution Projects
- Breaking Barriers
- Seeking Safety
- Anger Management
- Critical Thinking

We thank you for your invaluable support and guidance as our CSW Liaison and we are at your service for any issues important to women and girls in the County of San Mateo.

Sincerely,

Commission on the Status of Women

cc: San Mateo County Board of Supervisors

**COMMISSIONERS:**

**Anisha Weber**  
*President*

**Manufou Liaiga-Anoa'i**  
*Vice President*

**Becky Abens**  
**Nirmala Bandrapalli**  
**Anya Drabkin**  
**Dana Linda**  
**Marguerite Machen**  
**Rebecca Oyama**

**Christine Padilla**  
**Maya Tussing**

**YOUTH:**  
**Monique Ray**

**DIRECTOR**  
**Tanya Beat**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**LIAISON**  
**Hon. Carole Groom**