



**Alameda County Commission on the Status of Women
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday April 10, 2024 @ 6:30-8:00 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, elder care, education, transportation, credit, legal rights, and community services.

Nina Senn, Chair - PRESENT	Conference of Mayors
Orly Amey, Vice Chair – PRESENT	District 1
Sheweeet Yohannes – PRESENT remotely	District 3
Guadalupe Angulo – excused absence	District 2
Khilynn Fowler – PRESENT at 7:24 remotely then left	District 3
Patricia M. Castro – PRESENT	District 3
Carlotta Brown – excused absence	District 4
Kathryn Lybarger – PRESENT remotely	District 5
Susan Burgess-Lent –Secretary PRESENT	District 5
Shannon Holbrook – Absent	District 5
Vacant	District 1
Vacant	District 1
Vacant	District 3
Vacant	District 4
Vacant	District 4
Vacant	District 4
Vacant	District 5
Vacant	Human Relations Commission

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Item No.	Topics
1.	<p>Call to Order & Welcome Community Agreements Review Transitions Chair Senn called the meeting to order at 6:41. Quorum achieved</p> <p>Welcome New Commissioners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shannon Holbrook – District 5 • Shewee Yohannes – District 3 Not sworn in yet <p>Transitions Shay Franco-Clausen – District 2. Resigned Chair Senn pointed out info in Community Agreement and importance of having conversations about disagreements; need better process to safely address concerns All voices get heard. Comm. Castro expressed appreciation about sharing the info with all</p>
2.	<p>Approval of Minutes March 13, 2024 Chair Senn motioned to approve the minutes from the March 13, 2024 Regular Meeting.</p> <p>Commissioner Lybarger seconded the motion, which passed with one abstention (Castro)</p>
3.	<p>Commissioner Announcements – Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COSW Calendar: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Board CEDAW Work Session – March 19. Last-minute work session to present to BoS; presentation attached to invite to this meeting. Well received and will begin new draft of ordinance. Policy committee resumes in May. ○ SF SHIFT Event – April 18. Dept of Women and Girls ○ WHOF 2024 – May 4. Working with County Commissioner’s staff. \$5,000 youth scholarships this year presented at the event. ACoSW will have table ○ Legislative Breakfast – TBD. Probably October ○ Nominations – May New leadership of ACCoSW; Comm. Lybarger to chair ○ Recess in August, December • Commissioner Orientation Guide and Session. Appreciation to Comm Amey for organizing
4.	<p>Brown Act Presentation. Victoria Wu, Assistant County Counsel Chair Senn expresses appreciation for Victoria’s support and responsiveness Requests more flexibility in attendance requirement. Presentation attached to agenda</p>
5.	<p>Treasurer Report and Budget Request to BOS for funding to start Alameda County office of Women’s Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant and Budget Balances/Reports. Julie Hadnot reached out to finance to get update • Use of Funds for Grant Balance? \$25,000 grant in 2023 \$11,836.90 balance to be used by June; no further extensions; need allowable uses; Co-produced video shown at luncheon in 2023; gift cards to those who shared stories

	<p>Proposed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (26) \$25 gift cards can be allocated to new 12 inductees. 2 cards each; also to women who share stories; pay for commissioners able to attend WHOF <p>Susan motioned to spend as described; seconded by Orley; unanimous approval</p>
6.	<p>Updates re: Policy and Advocacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEDAW Ordinance Update – Memo and March Board Working Session Presentation 4 counties in CA already approved CEDAW • “Marriage - Prohibition on Minors” – AB 2924 Press Release (Petrie-Norris) and SB 575 (Wahab) <p>Guests: Nancy Bremeau, National Advisory Board, Cities for CEDAW;</p> <p>Nancy: Interest in changing rule about in-person attendance at Commission meetings. CA has no minimum age for marriage. 6th highest rate of child marriage in US. Child marriage is human rights abuse.</p> <p>Sara Tasneem (child marriage survivor) Loopholes - parental consent, not girl’s. Girls face coercion and harm if they do not go along. Being asked to disclose if abused while in forced marriage; over 9,000 in CA. Huge barriers for minors getting out of forced marriage.</p> <p>Appreciation from Chair Senn for making presentation. Nancy Bremeau requests policy recommendation to Board Of Supervisors from CoSW Motion by Castro to support AB 2949 – though PAL process. Seconded by Senn Approved unanimously</p>
7.	<p>Overview of the Office of Policy, Strategy and Innovation (PSI), PAL and update on AB 2924</p> <p>Hanna Hamilton, MPH, MPP Out-Of-Class Policy Director Government & Community Relations (GCR); Alameda County Social Services Agency</p> <p>CoSW recommendation re AB 2949 to go through PAL process – Comm Castro recommends a COSW letter support on this critical gender issue. Find out deadline to submit letter of support; April 22 PAL meeting</p>
8.	<p>Agenda Building and Follow-up:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nominations Committee (May). Comm Lybarger • Housing Presentation (May) - Michelle Starratt. – Julie to follow up • Equal Pay (May or June) • Vacancies (COSW) & Recruitment. - all commissioners to promote COSW Retreat – TBD deferred possibly until more on Commission • 2024 Planning, e.g., collaboration on SSA legislative breakfast and WHOF <p>Timing of Guest speakers, e.g., AC Sheriff</p> <p>Commissioner feedback: appreciate stories that reveal needs;</p>
9.	<p>Public Comment</p> <p>No comments</p>
10.	<p>Adjournment</p>

	Appreciation to Julie and presenters for contributions to CoSW Chair Senn adjourned the meeting at 8:41
	Next Meeting Wednesday, May 8, 2024, 6:30-8:30 PM

COSW COMMITTEES (*ex officio)

Bylaws Adhoc Committee:

Committee Chair (Open)
Commissioner Senn*

Communications Committee:

Committee Chair (Open)
Commissioner Amey
Commissioner Burgess - Lent
Commissioner Senn*

Policy and Advocacy Committee:

Committee Chair (Open)
Commissioner Castro
Commissioner Senn*

Grant Implementation Committee:

Committee Chair Senn*
Commissioner Amey

Nomination Committee:

Committee Chair (Open)
Commissioner Senn*

