

Commission on the Status of Women  
Minutes for Regular Meeting on November 24, 2020

In attendance: Commissioner Borjón, Commissioner Domínguez, Commissioner Hernández, Commissioner Gonzales, Commissioner Greenwood, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Levine, Commissioner Safinya-Davies, Commissioner Scott, Commissioner Tangren, Commissioner Walker, Commissioner Welch, and Kim Fogel.

Absent: Commissioner Coleman, Commissioner Gary, Commissioner Gilmore, Commissioner Kreeger.

6:33 pm – meeting began.

1. Welcome and Introductions Commissioners Information

Roll call taken.

2. Approval of Minutes from the 3/11/2020 Meeting and the October 14 Special meeting

Levine moves for the 3/11/20 minutes, Gonzales seconds. Tangren and Walker abstain. All ayes. Motion passes.

Domínguez moves for the 10/14/20 minutes, Levine seconds. Hernández and Tangren abstain. All ayes. Motion passes.

Introductions for the benefit of our new commissioners.

3. Pending COSW Elections

Hernández is stepping down as chair because of the extra work she needs to do as a result of the pandemic and will continue as a commissioner. Scott thanked Hernández for her work as chair.

Possible election process modeled on the Human Relations Commission process: accept nominations during the meeting and afterward, and then a ballot is released; members have three weeks to respond; and results are announced at the next meeting.

Open positions: chair, vice chair, treasurer, secretary.

Domínguez nominated herself as chair.

Levine thanked Hernández for her work as chair and seconded the nomination of Domínguez as chair.

Borjón nominated herself as treasurer.

Determined that we need a nominating committee per the bylaws, comprised of three commissioners. Committee will include Johnson, Walker, and Tangren, with Johnson as chair. COSW will vote on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Fogel will provide staff support to the nominating committee to get the information out to COSW members before the December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Hernández moves that we have a December meeting on December 9th, Scott seconds. All ayes.

#### 4. 2020 Women's Hall of Fame review

Hernández shared that she watched all of the videos and thinks it was well put together. Levine found it misleading re: whether it was a live event or pre-recorded. Domínguez agreed and thinks more people would participate if they knew they could watch it at other times. Borjón also set aside the time because she thought it would be live.

Domínguez shared that nominations are open for the 2021 Women's Hall of Fame. She will share the email with COSW members.

#### 5. Treasurer's Report and Budget Update

Borjón reported on COSW's spending to date. The miscellaneous line item we use for business cards, etc. is in the red so Borjón recommended that we transfer \$1,000 to that line item to cover the overage and any future expenses.

Borjón moved to transfer \$1,000 from women's leadership annual meeting to miscellaneous in the FY 2019-2020 budget. Tangren seconded. The purpose of the action was to complete the record for the 2019-2020 budget. Borjón modified the motion to \$562 from women's leadership annual meeting to miscellaneous in the FY 2019-2020 budget. Tangren seconded. All ayes. Motion passed.

Scott stated she had been informed that other boards and commissions continued to meet during the pandemic while the COSW was on hiatus, and she would like to know the reason. Fogel replied that the County and SSA reallocated resources during the emergency, but she could not address the status of all County commissions and suggested possibly Sylvia Soublet could help obtain more clarification in the future. Johnson noted that the Human Relations Commission (HRC) also had been on hiatus; the HRC has resumed meeting via Zoom. Domínguez reminded the Commission that COSW leadership was in contact with SSA about resuming meetings and that the Commission was kept informed of the process via email.

#### 6. COVID-19 Impacts on Girls, Women, and Non-Binary residents in Alameda County and Recovery Planning

- a. Health impacts
- b. Housing insecurity
- c. Food insecurity
- d. Wage insecurity
- e. Domestic/intimate partner violence

Levine added this item and wonders what power we have to raise these issues with the county and get data. Safinya-Davies agreed, as did Johnson.

Domínguez shared that the county is collecting health data and health inequities are being discussed by the Board of Supervisors. We can ask for disaggregated data to see what is happening with women, girls, and non-binary people. Suggested that we work with the public health commission, which has raised racism as a health crisis.

Safinya-Davies reminded COSW members that we raised issues we as a commission want to focus on, so we should align our data requests with that list of issues.

Scott mentioned asking the county for what data they have and then supplementing as needed, by asking non-profits, etc. Also, insuring that racial equity lens includes gender equity so that

Hernández shared the COVID data available from public health. Safinya-Davies remarked that everything that's happening as a result of shelter-in-place in addition to direct COVID impact would be good to look at, but is that what we want to do? Fogel shared that there have been county events about elder abuse.

Johnson remarked that we should prioritize which of the many issues we would address. We could ask, for example, for the Board of Supervisors to allocate resources based on what we find. Domínguez talked about amplifying intersectionality. Scott shared the new metoo/FreeFrom report about the impact of COVID-19 on survivors of color.

Levine suggested that everyone review this information before our next meeting so we can begin to prioritize.

5 Minute Break – decided to skip the break

7. Supporting Black Lives Matter Movement in Alameda County

- a. Impact of racism on Black girls, women, and non-binary residents
- b. Reimagining public safety

Levine shared that she added these issues to the agenda because they are relevant to what's happening now...

Domínguez shared that the Board of Supervisors resolved to explore reparations for Black residents of Alameda County. Scott shared that she knows a lot about Oakland's reimagine public safety work, if everyone is interested, and shared that San Leandro also is reallocating police dollars though is focusing on budget details.

Johnson suggested that this work be placed into the subcommittee space for a deeper conversation. Moved to the policy and advocacy committee and Scott will present information about Oakland's process at our next meeting. Safinya-Davies encouraged all of the subcommittees consider the relevance of Black Lives Matter in their work so we can be genuine about our engagement. Johnson agreed.

8. Donate Period Campaign

Hernández shared that the campaign is on hold due to the pandemic. Fogel will check to see whether the boxes are being filled in county buildings.

9. Human Relations Commission Report

Johnson shared that the commission met in October for the first time since the pandemic, but no quorum so unable to take action on officer nominations. Discussing a possible name change to human rights commission.

10. Open Public Comment

No public comment.

## 11. Committees Planning

Hernández suggested that we wait to plan until after we complete officer elections. Domínguez asked new commissioners to think about which committee they would like to join. Maximum number of people per committee is eight. Safinya-Davies reminded people to think about whether they want to switch committees. Hernández will share description of the committees at the next meeting and each chair will discuss work done.

## 12. Agenda Building for Next Meeting

- a. Retreat planning
- b. Strategic planning
- c. Budget planning
- d. Other items?

Agenda items for December 9, 2020 meeting:

- Election of COSW officers
- COVID-19 data review
- Update on Oakland's Reimaging Public Safety Task Force - Scott
- Committee planning

Reserve retreat, strategic, and budget planning for a later agenda. Hernández noted that we need budget information for a retreat. Fogel repeated that we can make specific budget asks without a full approved budget. Hernández shared that we did gather information about facilitators before shelter-in-place.

Tangren remarked that the county starts their budget process in December, for a July start. Concern that we might submit our request late. Safinya-Davies shared that we haven't been late but sometimes have trouble getting information about our approved budget. Fogel shared that our budget comes from SSA. Also, budget processes are changing so information right now will be delayed. Tangren had other questions about the county procurement process.

## 13. Announcements

- a. Census 2020
- b. Election 2020
- c. Other announcements

Domínguez shared that Alameda County participation in the census was approximately 80%, and thanked everyone for acting as ambassadors. Fogel shared SSA's participation in the census.

No other announcements.

Domínguez shared that it is Native American heritage month and she is happy to see reframing around Thanksgiving.

Meeting adjourned at 8:41 pm.