



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 27, 2021, 6:30-8:30pm

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call & Introductions**
 - a. **Commissioners Present:** Becky Abens, Nirmala Bandrapalli, Anya Drabkin, Cheryl Fama, Stella Kaval, Kelly Keele, Susan Kokores, Melissa Lukin, Marguerite Machen, Christine Padilla, Karen Pyles, Ellen Tafeen, Maya Tussing, Anisha Weber, Candra Williams
Staff: Tanya Beat, Juda Tolmasoff
 - b. **Absent:** Sue Datta, Aeneas Bufiy, Ann Girard, Dana Linda
3. **Basic Introductions:** All Commissioners and new Commissioners Candra Williams and Kelly Keele
4. **Public Comment/Guests**

Nancy Bremeau, Santa Clara County CSW
Claudia Saggese, SMC BHRS
5. **Approval and Adoption of Agenda (Action)**

Motion to approve Becky Abens, seconded Susan Kokores. Approved by majority.
6. **Approval of March Meeting Minutes (Action)**

Request to correct under Care Solace: "only services for schools who are contracted with Care Solace." Motion to approve amended minutes Anisha Weber, seconded Cheryl Fama. Approved by majority.
7. **Understanding the Complexities of Child Care in San Mateo County (presentation)**

Sarah Kinahan, Child Care Partnership Council, SMC Office of Education

 - a. Mission: CCPC takes the lead in planning and advocating for quality care and early education for all children, from birth to age thirteen, in San Mateo County.
 - b. Child Care keeps economy moving; 75% of women changed jobs as a result of breakdowns in child care BEFORE COVID-19.
 - c. 5,000 people work in early learning in SMC – most are women of color
 - d. How you can help CCPC:
 - i. Attend a CCPC meeting: May 17 and June 21, 10:30am – 12:00pm
 - ii. Be a Child Care Champion – learn more about challenges & solutions to ensure access to child care & early learning
 - iii. Contact Sarah to learn more: skinahan@smcoe.org or (650) 802-5647

8. Financial Wellness & Discussion (Economic Empowerment, Susan Kokores and volunteer Bharathi Chinnakotla)

- a. AMENDED 5/26/21: The pandemic had more negative financial consequences on women than men.
- b. What is Financial Wellness? The ability to save, borrow and plan in a way that enables you to be resilient and pursue opportunities over time – Financial Health Network
- c. 62% of women feel more financially stressed than 53% of men
- d. How can you Help? Review what helps you and what more tools you would need; please report this back to Financial Wellness Team.
- e. Data regarding income for cities in SMC and correlations with disparities in health.

9. Mental Health – May is Mental Health Month (Mental Health, Cheryl Fama and Nirmala Bandrapalli)

- a. San Mateo County Behavioral Health & Recovery Services, Scott Gilman connected Cheryl to Sylvia Tang, Head of the Mental Health Month Planning Committee
- b. Call to Action to promote Mental Health Month programming – free to the public for the entire month of May.
- c. Commissioners make public comment at city council meetings for awareness building
- d. Nirmala shares Public Comment Spreadsheet Tracker for commissioners to comment at all 20 cities.

10. Announcements (updates)

- a. **Women’s Leadership report** – Summary of Leadership and sub-committees and their topics; WCLN Boards and Commissions training is this Saturday, May 1
- b. **Director report** – Tanya Beat
 - i. Overview of RISE 2022 sub-committee meeting
 - ii. In-person women’s networking event in August? Perhaps for Women’s Equality Day? Nirmala Bandrapalli is volunteering.
- c. **Youth Commission report** – Stella Kaval
 - i. Overview of report – dates of youth conference in May
- d. **Human Trafficking report** – Becky Abens
 - i. Poster Compliance Training - getting posters out to motels. All virtual this year due to COVID. Training is available on Youtube.
- e. **Domestic Violence Council report** – Becky Abens
 - i. Meet once quarterly (January, April, July, October); you are welcome to join

11. 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 members of the Commission. Those public records are available online and for public inspection at the Human Resources Department located at 455 County Center, 5th floor, Redwood City, CA 94063 by appointment. The public records may also be transmitted electronically by emailing tbeat@smcgov.org or calling 650-363-4467. **IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE AND THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT**, auxiliary aids and services for this meeting will be provided upon request when given three days’ notice. Please call 650-363-4467 (voice) or email tbeat@smcgov.org to make such a request.