AGENDA COUNTY OF SONOMA COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Meeting Held Through Publicly Available Link Via Zoom as well as in person at 575 Administration Drive, Ste 117C, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Thursday March 14, 2024 6:00PM

First District: Joanne M. Brown (OAL), Nancy Padian

Second District: Katie Gordon (On Leave of Absence), Julie Shulman, Rebecca

Kaykas-Wolff

Third District: Ofra Isler, Ana Diaz-Garcia, Melanie Jones-Carter (Vice-Chair)

Fourth District: Gina Fortino Dickson (Chair)

Fifth District: Jessica Wood, Angie Dillon-Shore, Zobida McCorquodale

The March 14, 2024, Commission on the Status of Women Meeting will be facilitated in person. Members of the public can watch, listen, or join the meeting using one of the three following methods:

1. JOIN IN PERSON:

Human Resources Large Training Room 575 Administration Drive, Suite 117C, Santa Rosa, CA 95403 Limited seating is available for public participants.

2. JOIN VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM:

Participate by computer, table, or smartphone application. Go to: https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/94202019002?pwd=V3JCazd0MFcvR2Q3c0FYK2x3Zj RpQT09

Webinar ID: 942 0201 9002

Passcode: 252743

3. JOIN IN ZOOM BY TELEPHONE:

Dial +1 (669) 900 9128 Webinar ID: 942 0201 9002

Passcode: 252743

Instructions for the Public:

In accordance with AB 361, Governor Newsom's March 4, 2020 State of Emergency due to COVID-19 pandemic, Sonoma County Public Health Officer's Recommendation for Teleconference Meetings, and the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors Resolution 21-0399, the Commission on the Status of Women meetings will be facilitated using a dual

format with listening and participation available through Zoom and in person.

Agendas and Materials:

Agendas and most supporting materials are available on the Commission's website at https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Commission-on-Status-of-Women/Calendar/

Due to legal, copyright, privacy or policy considerations, not all materials are posted online. **NOTE:** Due to the ongoing Covid-19 situation, materials that are not posted will be available directly from the Commission at sococsw@sonoma-county.org.

Disabled Accommodation:

If you have a disability which requires an accommodation, an alternative format, or requires another person to assist you while attending this meeting, please contact the Deputy Clerk at (707) 565-1851, as soon as possible to ensure arrangements for accommodation.

Approval of the Consent Calendar:

The Consent Calendar includes routine financial and administrative actions that are usually approved by a single majority vote. There will be no discussion on these items prior to voting on the motion unless Commission Members request specific items be discussed and/or removed from the Consent Calendar.

Public Comment:

Any member of the audience desiring to address the Commission on a matter on the agenda: Members of the public are invited to join this meeting in person or via Zoom teleconferencing. In order that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak, please be brief and limit your comments to the subject under discussion. Speakers will be limited to three minutes to speak; time limitations are at the discretion of the Chair. While members of the public are welcome to address the Commission, under the Brown Act, Commission members may not deliberate or take action on items not on the agenda, and generally may only listen.

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Commission on the Status of Women of Sonoma County recognizes that we are on the ancestral lands of the Pomo, Wappo, and Coast Miwok, who are the original stewards of this land. We further acknowledge that the office of the Commission on the Status of Women resides on Southern Pomo land in Santa Rosa. We respect and honor the past, present, and future generations, and are grateful for the opportunity to give our respect to the first inhabitants.

3. OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

At the beginning of each Commission meeting, any member of the public may address the Commission concerning any item not on the Commission's agenda. Speakers will be limited to three (3) minutes unless otherwise specified by the Chair or the Presiding Officer. The public will be given an opportunity to speak on each business item at the time

it is called. The Commission may discuss and/or take action regarding any or all of the items listed below.

4. DR. KAREN MORANSKI PRESENTATION

Presenting on remarks on the Future of SSU.

5. DR. VENUS OPAL REESE PRESENTATION

Presenting on Entrepreneurship — Being Brave: the secret sauce to financial independence.

6. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 11, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

7. OFFICER REPORTS AND ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

Officers and Staff to discuss administrative-related matters including, but not limited to, field trip ideas and speaker coordination.

- a. San Francisco Women's Policy Summit on Thursday, April 18, 2024 at 9am
- b. RISE 2024 Women's Leadership Conference: Surviving to Thriving to Driving Change on Thursday, March 28. 2024 8am 2pm PDT
- c. Human Trafficking Task Force Updates

8. COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioners to provide any commission-related announcements, report on communications with supervisors, and announce any tabling opportunities.

9. OPENINGS AND APPOINTMENTS

Chair Fortino Dickson will report out on current openings.

- a. Commissioner Gordon is on leave of absence.
- b. District 4 appoints Letitia Hanke to the Commission
- c. We currently have one opening in the 1st district and one opening in the 4th district.

10.AD HOC AND PROJECT UPDATES

Limited to 3 minutes per ad hoc and project

- a. Women's Recovery Response Ad Hoc
- b. Women and Girls Reproductive Health Ad Hoc
- c. Junior Commission Educational Project
- d. Legislative Advisory Group
- e. Community Engagement Working Group
 - i. Sonoma County Pride sponsorship
- f. Bylaws Review Committee

11. BUSINESS ITEMS

- a. Review and Approve the National Farmworker Awareness Week
 - Approve Commissioner Diaz-Garcia to speak on the behalf of the Commission during the Board of Supervisors meeting on March 26, 2024

12. AGENDA ITEMS FOR APRIL 11, 2024 COMMISSION MEETING

Proposal, discussion, and possible action items for next Commission meeting. (No action required by commissioners for this section).

13.ADJOURNMENT

DRAFT-MINUTES COUNTY OF SONOMA COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Thursday, January 11, 2024 6:00 PM Hybrid Meeting

Commissioners Present:

First District: Jan Blalock, Joanne M. Brown (OAL), Nancy Padian*

Third District: Ofra Isler, Ana Diaz-Garcia, Melanie Jones-Carter (Vice-Chair)

Fourth District: Gina Fortino Dickson (Chair)

Fifth District: Angie Dillon-Shore, Jessica Wood, Zobida McCorquodale

Commissioners Absent:

Second District: Katie Gordon, Julie Shulman, Rebecca Kaykas-Wolff

*Commissioner Padian attended via Zoom (AB 2449 Excuse)

Meeting held through publicly available link via Zoom Meeting, and in-person.

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order at approximately 6:06 p.m. Roll call was conducted by the Chair.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Commissioner Wood read the Land acknowledgement.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS

No Public Comment.

4. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 9, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

Motion to approve the November 9, 2023 meeting minutes.

No Public Comment.

Motion: Commissioner Blalock Ayes: 7 Noes: 0
Second: Commissioner Brown Absent: 3 Abstained: 3

Commissioners Gordon, Shulman, and Kaykas-Wolff were absent. Commissioner Wood and McCorquodale abstained due to their absences. Chair Fortino Dickson abstained as Chair. Motion passed.

5. OFFICER REPORTS AND ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

- a. Staff invited everyone to attend the January 23, 2024 Board of Supervisors meeting to support the Human Trafficking Gold Resolution.
- b. Chair Fortino Dickson encouraged Commissioners to seek guest speakers for the Commission meetings. She invited Dr. Venus Opal Reese to speak on women in poverty in March.
- c. Commissioner Brown spoke on an invitation from Impact 100. Impact 100 is in Sonoma Valley that was started by a few women who wanted to support nonprofit organizations in the Valley. Members donate funds, (\$1250.00/annually) to annual priorities. They invited the Commission to send a speaker. Commissioner Brown will speak on the findings of the Voices report, human trafficking and reproductive health.

6. COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENT

- a. Commissioner Blalock reported on the Safety Event on Tuesday, January 9thwhich Commissioner McCorquodale, Diaz-Garcia, and Blalock attended. Many of the organizations from Human Trafficking Task Force showed up. Commissioner Blalock shared brochures that she collected at the event and mentioned that the Press Democrat interviewed her. Commissioner Diaz-Garcia shared her interaction with a Probation Officer at the event.
- b. Commissioner Blalock announced that the Poly Class Foundation will be having an event on Sunday, January 14th regarding Internet safety for kids. Finding Kids is having an event on January 20th. She posted information on CSW Facebook.

7. OPENINGS AND APPOINTMENTS

a. Chair Fortino Dickson announced two openings in the 4th district. She has been in close communication with Supervisor Gore and Jenny Chamberlain. Jenny Chamberlain has appointments to meet with two applicants.

8. AD HOC AND PROJECT UPDATES

- a. Voices Report Ad Hoc announced that they are creating one sheets per topic with data and findings relevant to Sonoma County and social media posts for their topics with graphics and data. Once they have the material ready, they will share with the Engagement Committee. They are also thinking of linking different organizations to certain topics on social media. Mount St Mary's Center is still working on the Spanish translation of the report.
- b. Reproductive Rights Ad Hoc announced that the report has been shared with the Sonoma Valley Board of Education in Sonoma Valley. They are finalizing the pharmacy access component of the report. They ask that each Commissioner reach out to one high school in their district, to see if issues are the same. They might work with the Junior Commission Menstrual Project. The gap between menstruation, education and reproductive education is enormous.

- c. Junior Commission Educational Project announced that they will start recruitment soon for 2024-2025. Recommendations were provided to increase participation from District 5. Perhaps doing in-person presentations in District 5 or producing a video for recruitment that can be posted on their Instagram. They are getting ready for the annual career panel. Junior Commissioners would like information for STEM or educational internships. The Boys and Girls Club in Roseland has a STEM lab. The Junior Commission will be meeting Saturday, January 13th for a team building exercise.
- d. Legislative Advisory Group reported that the State Women's Legislative Women's Committee has introduced and was able to obtain passage of many bills related to women's reproductive health, e.g., protection from prosecution for the support that it provides to women as well as medical practitioners coming into the State to get some health care or training. The legislative group might meet via zoom by the end of the month. They also announced that Sonoma County Childcare and Children's Health initiative is being supported by the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors. The committee was authorized to send a letter of support to the Board of Supervisors.
- e. Community Engagement Working Group met and are meeting on January 27th to calendar events. They will be hosting a Spirt Award in May but would like to have add a similar award on behalf of the Junior Commission. It would be a combined event. They want to do something for Women's History Month. Chair Fortino Dickson reminded that we have the Women's History Month Gold Resolution being presented to the BOS in March. She also would like to have the Resolution approved from each city council. The committee would like to do something that involves "Get Out to Vote" in March. This excludes candidate endorsement. After they meet on the 27th, they will have more.
- f. Bylaws Review Committee didn't have anything to report but was giving the assignment of defining the calendar year for the purpose of CSW activities and attendance. Currently, calendar year is not clearly or consistently defined.

9. BUSINESS ITEMS

a. Chair Fortino Dickson led the Women History Month Gold Resolution discussion and review. Commissioners Blalock, Isler and Dillon-Shore made suggested edits to add an "s" and to add the word "National" in front of all Women History Month phases. The resolution with be presented on March 12, 2024 around 1:30pm. Motion to pass the Women History Month Gold Resolution with suggested edits. No Public Comment.

Motion: Commissioner Blalock Ayes: 9 Noes: 0
Second: Commissioner Wood Absent: 3 Abstained: 1

Commissioners Gordon, Shulman, and Kaykas-Wolff were absent. Chair Fortino Dickson abstained as Chair. Motion passed.

- 10. Commissioner Blalock led the discussion on continuing the Commission's partnership and participation with Sonoma County Human Trafficking Task Force. Commissioner Blalock explained the scope of the liaison's commitment, which includes meeting monthly from 2 to 3PM on the last Thursday of the month in person or via zoom at the Family Justice Center. Commissioner Blalock recommends that she remain as a volunteer, and she can represent the Commission. Commissioner Brown and Chair Fortino-Dickson agreed with Commissioner Blalock to wait to name a replacement to see if a commissioner really wants to be the liaison with Sonoma County Human Trafficking Task Force and have Commissioner Blalock continue to represent the Commission in the interim. No Action was Taken.
- 11. Chair Fortino Dickson led the discussion to attend Los Cien event "Behind the Lines Part IV, Experiences and Rights of Farmworker Women" on February 8, 2024 from 5pm-8pm. This event will present interviews of female farmworkers and their experiences, and they will hear about women in the farm worker industry and how this work impacts them. This is an area of the Commission's focus. Chair Fortino Dickson proposed that CSW sponsor the event (\$1,000), invite all Commissioners to attend, and the Commission's name will be displayed as a sponsor. The Commission acknowledged that the CSW submission form for sponsoring a community event used in prior years was excused in this case due to the emergency circumstances of the event. Motion was made to cancel the Commission's regular February 8th meeting to allow attending the event and to sponsor the event for a \$1,000. Commissioner Brown proposed a "friendly amendment" to the motion requiring each ad hoc and project submit an update of their activities for that month so that the ad hocs continue to make progress and support each other.

No Public Comment.

Motion: Commissioner Diaz-Garcia Ayes: 8 Noes: 0
Second: Commissioner Blalock Absent: 3 Abstained: 2

Commissioners Gordon, Shulman, and Kaykas-Wolff were absent. Commission Dillon-Shore abstained due to her position in the Los Cien Board. Chair Fortino Dickson abstained as Chair. Motion passed.

- **12.** Chair Fortino-Dickson announced that the Bylaws Committee will be reviewing the Attendance Policy and revising it because it needs to be more specific with the phrase "during twelve (12) month period". No Action was taken.
- 13. The Officers created an Inaugural award called the "Jan Blalock Award". It was presented to Commissioner Blalock for her years of dedication to women and girls of Sonoma County. Commissioners shared warm, heartfelt words to honor Commissioner Blalock. Commissioner Blalock will be honored at the Commission on Human Rights meeting on January 23, 2024 and everyone was invited to attend.

14. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FEBRUARY 8, 2024 COMMISSION MEETING

Meeting is cancelled. Commissioners may attend educational program on February 8 at Los Cien "Behind the Lines Part IV, Experiences and Rights of Farmworker Women" from 5pm-8pm.

15. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Dr. Karen Moranski



Dr. Karen Moranski is the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs at Sonoma State University. With a career spanning over two decades at the University of Illinois Springfield (UIS), she played a pivotal role in transforming the institution into a vibrant part of the University of Illinois system. During her time at UIS, Dr. Moranski championed diversity, equity, and inclusion, bringing a diverse population of first-year students to the campus and developing the Capital Scholars Honors Program. At SSU, she has continued her advocacy for underrepresented populations, leading efforts to increase graduation rates and reduce equity gaps. Beyond her administrative role, Dr. Moranski, a scholar in both medieval studies and higher education, holds an M.A. and Ph.D. in Medieval English Literature from UNC Chapel Hill. Her interdisciplinary approach, shaped during her college years at Tulane University and the University of Kent at Canterbury, has facilitated collaboration between various campus communities. Serving as President of the Association for Interdisciplinary Studies from 2009-2011, she contributed to the development of tenure criteria for interdisciplinary faculty. Dr. Moranski's research spans medieval political prophecy, Rosemary Sutcliff's works, and contemporary issues of gender, race, and unconscious racial bias. Raised in Texas and Louisiana, she remains committed to the power of access to higher education and the California State University's mission, taking pride in her role as Provost at Sonoma State. As an advocate for inclusivity and mindful community engagement, she navigates the university through its challenges, always embracing diverse experiences and perspectives that define SSU as a vibrant, thriving academic community.

Dr. Venus Opal Reese







Acclaimed Inspirational Keynote Speaker, Best-Selling Author, Thought Leader, Influencer, Producer, Marketing AlchemistTM, and Business Mentor, Dr. Venus Opal Reese has been featured in Forbes, Essence, Ebony, Black Enterprise, Madame Noire, The Huffington Post, Glamour, Diversity Inc., The Network Journal, and Modern Salon.

She has also been featured in national radio and television including The Donnie Simpson Show, Good Day DC, ABC 7's Let's Talk Live, Rolling Out, and Heart and Soul Magazine/TV, the Mo' Kelly Show, Black Hollywood Online, and The Griot, and many others.

Dr. Venus went from living on the streets and eating out of trash cans to obtaining two master's degrees and a PhD from Stanford University. Dr. Venus's show "Hot Mess Millionaire" on Amazon Prime has had over 15+ million views. Her business, Defy Impossible, Inc., has grossed over \$6 million by the grace of God and her willingness to transformed survival-driven success to spirit-led affluence. Her clients have grossed millions since implementing her strategies, programs, and systems.

Dr. Venus lives on the East Coast with her Bichon Frisé, Happy. He is her joy. #puppyloveisreal



[FEBRUARY] • [27TH] • [2024]

San Francisco Department on the Status of Women

SAVE THE DATE: SHIFT HAPPENS 2024



Register: sfwomenspolicysummit.com

Hello Friend:

The Department on the Status of Women is excited to announce that **registration is now open** for the San Francisco Women's Policy Summit, taking place on Thursday, April 18, 2024.

- Date: Thursday, April 18, 2024
- Location: Moscone Center, San Francisco
- Registration: Open now! Secure your spot early for special early-bird pricing only \$15 until March 18th

Shift Happens 2024 is bringing together influential movers, shakers, and changemakers to harness our civic, political and electoral strength to forge a gender equitable future.

With the 2024 Elections fast approaching, this is the moment to flex our power to demand the future we want and deserve. Gender equity, marriage equality, the health of our planet, democracy and so much more are on the ballot.

This year we've teamed up with <u>IGNITE</u> to bring you a day filled with great company, collaboration and action. Founded in San Francisco, IGNITE is a non-partisan organization that empowers ambitious young women to become the next generation of political leaders.

Whether you're a returning participant or new to the Summit, prepare to be inspired and ignited for change!

Stay tuned for more details about the schedule, speakers, and program. We're counting down the days until we can welcome you in person.

Ready. Set. Register — and VOTE!

Director Kimberly Ellis



COUNTY OF SONOMA COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN AGENDA ITEM REPORT

REPORT DATE: March 14, 2024 **MEETING DATE**: March 14, 2024

TO: Fellow Commissioners of the Commission of the Status of Women

FROM: Gina Fortino Dickson

SUBJECT: RISE 2024 Women's Leadership Conference

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

I recommend the Commission to attend the RISE 2024 Women's Leadership Conference

BACKGROUND:

The biennial RISE Women's Leadership Conference (WLC) brings together *women and girls for a day focused on cultivating under-represented leaders in San Mateo County and beyond. Located at the epicenter of progress and innovation, our conference aims to promote inclusive leadership and community building by supporting current and future female changemakers. Each biennial event focuses on a theme that addresses areas of success or need for women and girls and engages participants to be part of gender equity for women in San Mateo County.

DISCUSSION:

Commissioners can attend the conference on Thursday, March 28 · 8am - 2pm PDT at College of San Mateo, Bayview Room (College Center, Building 10), 1700 West Hillsdale Boulevard San Mateo, CA 94402. Each ticket is \$55.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Depending on how many tickets are purchased

OPTIONS:

ATTACHMENTS:

See attachement

Update for the Human Trafficking Task Force:

Community member Kurtis Bennett organized a meeting to address the growing number of illicit massage parlors opening in the Montgomery Hospital neighborhood in Santa Rosa. Santa Rosa City Council members were invited (Vice Mayor Mark Stapp attended) as well as the police chief, D.A.'s office (Assistant D.A. Andy Lucas represented) and many organizations including task force member organizations and the public. Also present was Ahmos Netanel. Ahmos leads the State mandated. California Massage Therapy Council's mission of protecting the public, and its Board's commitment to elevate the massage therapy profession. He informed us that they have identified at least 30-40 illicit massage parlors in Santa Rosa alone. He also explained that this is a very complex situation - these are not mom and pop shops that can simply be shut down- they are part of a network that may be controlled locally, statewide or even internationally. It is very difficult to prove and prosecute them for trafficking humans because the women working there are usually non English speaking and fear talking to law enforcement or even Verity outreach workers. He said we have to find ways to hit the businesses financially so it doesn't make sense for them to continue to operate, otherwise it becomes a game of whack a mole where some close and then reopen nearby. Verity Human Trafficking case workers were there to educate the community from the perspective of the victim. It was very enlightening for the community, who really just want these places to be shut down and out of their neighborhoods, and have very little understanding of what human trafficking is. They simply see it as prostitution, bringing in unwanted individuals as customers and want it out of their neighborhoods.

The goal of this meeting was to let officials know that this is a serious issue and for them to start coming up with a plan on how to address it. Attendees have been invited to the Santa Rosa city public safety subcommittee meeting in April to come up with some ideas about how to address this. In our human trafficking task force meeting last week, we decided to invite code enforcement officers to our next meeting to help us understand what codes could be looked for in these businesses that might be being violated. Some of our task force members are law-enforcement, and they and possibly Verity staff could ride along with code enforcement officers and visit these businesses. We also want to come up with other ways to inform an educate the public regarding human trafficking, and make sure that they know who to contact if they have questions or concerns.



Proclaiming March 25-March 31, 2024 as National Farmworker Awareness Week in Sonoma County

Whereas, National Farmworker Awareness Week (NFAW) is a week of action for communities and individuals to bring attention to farmworkers and honor them for the contributions they make to our daily lives; and

Whereas, the Board of Supervisors will acknowledge the week of March 25-March 31, 2024 in honor of farmworkers for the first time since it was enacted in 1999; and

Whereas, farmworkers are essential workers and valued members of the community across the country and contribute significantly to the wealth of the wine industry in Sonoma County; and

Whereas, farmworkers are at an increased risk of experiencing unsafe working conditions, including exposure to pesticides and extreme weather conditions, especially high heat, floods, and fires; and

Whereas, despite the above challenges, farmworkers have ensured a reliable food supply for the country, including during the COVID–19 pandemic; and

Whereas, a week of appreciation will help all generations learn where their food comes from; and

Be It Further Resolved the County of Sonoma Board of Supervisors proclaim March 25-March 31, 2024 as National Farmworker Awareness Week in Sonoma County.

Women's History Proclamation Calendar

Date	City	Time	Commissioner Name
March 4th	Healdsburg	6:00 PM	Gina Fortino Dickson
March 5th	Santa Rosa	4:00 PM	Melanie Jones-Carter
March 5th	Sebastopol	6:00 PM	Zobida and Jessica
March 6th	Sonoma	Unknown	Nancy
March 6th	Windsor	6:00 PM	Gina Fortino Dickson
March 12th	County	1:30 PM	Ana Diaz, Rebecca, Gina
March 12th	Cotati	6:00 PM	Joanne Brown and Ana Diaz
March 11th	Petaluma	Unknown	Rebecca Kaykas-Wolff and Ana Diaz ?
March 13th	Cloverdale	6:00 PM	Gina Fortino Dickson