

**MINUTES  
COUNTY OF SONOMA  
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS – REGULAR MEETING**

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**Tuesday, April 25, 2023**

**5:30PM**

**Virtual**

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**Commissioners Present:**

**Second District:** Elizabeth Escalante (Vice Chair), Yensi Jacobo\*

**Third District:** Katrina Phillips (Chair), Isabel Lopez\*, Liz Cruz Reyes

**Fourth District:** Trevor Merrell

**Fifth District:** Lyndsey Burcina

**Staff:** Meira Bowcut

**Commissioners Absent:**

**First District:** Howard Sapper (Officer-at-Large)

**Second District:** Iliana Madrigal

**Fifth District:** Nichole Warwick, D’Ayona Jerome

**\*Commissioner Jacobo arrived late at approximately at 6:25pm**

**\*Commissioner Lopez left early at approximately at 6:35pm**

**Meeting held virtually and in person**

**I. CALL TO ORDER – MISSION STATEMENT – ROLL CALL – PHILLIPS**

Meeting called to order by Chair Phillips at 5:41 PM. Chair Phillips read the mission statement. Roll call was taken by staff.

**II. APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 28, 2023 MINUTES – PHILLIPS**

Chair Phillips asked for a motion to approve the minutes of February 28, 2023 due to a mistake last meeting.

No Public Comment

Motion: Commissioner Burcina

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Second: Commissioner Escalante

Absent:5

Abstained: 1

Commissioner Sapper, Madrigal, Warwick, and Jerome were absent. Commissioner Jacobo arrived late. Chair Phillips abstained as Chair. Motion passed.

**III. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 28, 2023 MINUTES – PHILLIPS**

A new motion for March 28, 2023 minutes was taken due to an error last meeting.

No Public Comment

Motion: Commissioner Burcina  
Second: Commissioner Lopez

Ayes: 5      Noes: 0  
Absent: 5      Abstained: 1

Commissioner Sapper, Madrigal, Warwick, and Jerome were absent. Commissioner Jacobo arrived late. Chair Phillips abstained as Chair. Motion passed.

**IV. OPENINGS & APPOINTMENTS – PHILLIPS**

1. Chair Phillips announced two (2) openings in the First District, two (2) opening in the Second District, and two (2) in the Fourth District.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS- PHILLIPS**

Public Comment:

- Jim Duffy
- Attila Nagy

**VI. REGULAR CALENDAR**

1. Omar Gallardo from LandPaths was unable to present.
2. Nichole Warwick’s presentation got postponed to next meeting due to her absence.
3. Commissioner Lopez brought forth a letter from the Indigenous People Ad Hoc asking Congressman Thompson to support the Registry Bill. She shared a personal experience regarding a similar policy that changed her life. Commissioner Merrell suggested to reach out to Congressman Huffman. Commissioner Cruz Reyes suggested to add more of Commissioner Lopez’ personal story. Motion to approve the letter with potential edits to send to other elected officials and add personal stories on another letter.

Public Comment:

- Attila Nagy

Motion: Commissioner Burcina  
Second: Commissioner Merrell

Ayes: 5      Noes: 0  
Absent: 5      Abstained:

Commissioner Sapper, Madrigal, Warwick, and Jerome were absent. Commissioner Jacobo arrived late. Chair Phillips abstained as Chair. Motion passed.

4. Chair Phillips read the Pride Gold Resolution 2023. The resolution will be presented to the Board of Supervisors on June 6th meeting. The Commission is invited to be present to receive the resolution. No discussion. Motion to approve the Pride Gold Resolution.

No Public Comment.

Motion: Commissioner Cruz Reyes

Ayes: 5      Noes: 0

Second: Commissioner Burcina

Absent:5

Abstained: 1

Commissioner Sapper, Madrigal, Warwick, and Jerome were absent. Commissioner Jacobo arrived late. Chair Phillips abstained as Chair. Motion passed.

5. Chair Phillips led the discussion on the unused funds and transferring them to the general fund. Staff shared the fiscal year 22/23 budget. The Junior Commission Project will use about \$2,600, but \$1915.31 will go back to the general fund. Motion to transfer \$1915.31 back to the general fund.

No Public Comment

Motion: Commissioner Escalante

Ayes: 6

Noes: 0

Second: Commissioner Burcina

Absent:4

Abstained:

Commissioner Sapper, Madrigal, Warwick, and Jerome were absent. Chair Phillips abstained as Chair. Motion passed.

## **VII. OFFICER REPORTS AND ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES**

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

1. Chair Phillips asked for volunteers for Wednesday Night Market on June 21, 2023 and for Sonoma County Pride Parade on June 3, 2023. Many Commissioners volunteered, but a sign-up email will go out later.

3. Chair Phillips reminded everyone that Invoices are due on June 9, 2023.

4. Chair Phillips announced that she was invited to speak at the May 1<sup>st</sup>, the International Workers March in solidarity for Immigrant and Workers' Rights. She invited everyone to join the event. Chair Phillips also invited the Commission to attend The Youth Perspective by Los Cien on May 19<sup>th</sup>.

## **VIII. AD HOC COMMITTEE AND PROJECT COMMITTEE UPDATES**

1. Outreach & Communication Ad Hoc Committee had no updates to report.

2. Immigrants' Rights Ad Hoc, Commissioner Lopez announced a sign making event for the May 1<sup>st</sup> march. She will communicate later the date. There will be a march on August 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> 2023, from Sonoma County to San Francisco then followed by a National Boycott on August 9<sup>th</sup>. More information will be provided closer to the date.

3. Indigenous People Ad Hoc reported on The Indigenous Peoples Day Gathering Event on May 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. The Commission is required to table one day due to the sponsorship.

4. Junior Commission on Human Rights reported that they are recruiting for next cohort and will try to show more representation in all districts. They have a layout work plan for next cohort and will try to start earlier at the same time as school starts. The BOS is invited to the May 11th Jr. Commission meeting as well as the adult commission.

5. LGBTQIA+ Ad Hoc Committee is working on different projects but will announce them once they are finalized.

6. People with Disabilities Ad Hoc Committee had no updates to report.

7. Visibility Project had no updates to report.

**IX. ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT COMMISSION MEETING – PHILLIPS**

1. Elections and nominations
2. Jr. Commission Ad Hoc Presentation
3. Commissioner Warwick's presentation

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.