**Solano Commission for Women and Girls**

**Minutes**

**Virtual Meeting**

**February 18, 2021**

**6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

*Chair Laura Petty called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m*.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present**

Oliva Ruiz Solano County, District 1

Ana Petero Solano County, District 2

Sabine Goerke-Shrode Solano County, District 3

Jennifer Hamilton Solano County, District 4

Laura Petty Solano County, District 5

Gayle Vaughan City of Benicia

Pat Nicodemus City of Dixon

Dr. Rechelle Nettles City of Fairfield

Kay Kelley City of Rio Vista

Tiffani Thomas City of Suisun

Edith Thomas City of Vacaville

Andrea Lemos Solano County Office of Education

Doriss Panduro Member at Large

Akon Walker Member at Large

Sakina Ali Youth Member at Large

**Members Absent**

Elease Cheek City of Vallejo

**Visitors**

Carla Gregory

Mary Henderson

Tamuri Richardson

Rozalind Sinnamon-Johnson

Jennifer Artz

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC/BOARD MEMBER**

Chair Petty made special note of thanking Carla Gregory for all her hard work in planning for the Women in Leadership Program in March.

1. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda
2. There were no additions or deletions to the Agenda.

Moved: EdieThomas; Seconded: Pat Nicodemus; Vote: Approved unanimous

1. Approval of the Jan. 21, 2021, SCWG Meeting Minutes

Add Commissioner. Moved: Hamilton; Seconded: Kelley; Vote: Approved unanimous

**REGULAR CALENDAR**

1.**Update on Planning for Women in Leadership Series**

Meeting on Sat. last several months, identifying leaders in government, stem, business, and women in the Community. The program will be Thursdays in March.

Chair Petty shared the schedule of each of the presentations in the Women in Leadership Series. The committee has a longer term idea to share women leaders’ bios/headshots on our website.

Need help to get the word out. Commissioner Edith Thomas will be posting info on Facebook.

Commissioner Vaughan doing press releases, she will send Sabine a template for letter to the editor.

2. **Set 2021 Priorities: Working Groups Survey**

Commissioner Ruiz shared a brief power point showing survey results on what topics were of most importance to commissioners. Top 5 of 14: Domestic Violence; Maternal and Infant Health Disparities; Poverty, Food Insecurity and Homelessness; Human Trafficking.

Commissioner Hamilton also shared recommendations from the Executive Committee that if a group is created to study domestic violence, it focus on gathering resources that already exist and help get word out about them, perhaps creating a resource listing on SCWG website. Commissioner Kelley proposed that the formerly Human Trafficking working group expand to include domestic violence, and that it be renamed to “Violence Against Women and Girls.”

Commissioner Edith Thomas advised the 3 formerly separate working groups (Poverty, Homelessness, and Food Insecurity) are merging into one working group, referred to as “PHFI.”

Commissioners Tiffani Thomas moved, and Commissioner Petero seconded a motion to accept these working groups for 2021: 1. Maternal & Infant Health Disparities, 2. Violence Against Women & Girls, and 3. PHFI. Vote: Approved unanimously. These are SCWG priorities for 2021.

1. **Working Group Break Out Rooms & Reporting Back**

Some discussion was had regarding subject-matter speakers at future meetings.

The facilitators for each working group, who will organize the meeting times for the groups:

* Human Trafficking: volunteer Dr. Lily Ploski
* Maternity and Infant Health Disparities: Commissioner Tiffani Thomas
* PHFI: Commissioner Edie Thomas

1. **Bylaw Amendments/Updates**

Commissioner Kelley explained the changes to the bylaws which are proposed by the ad hoc bylaws committee, which has sought input from county counsel. They include: increasing the Commission to 21 members: 8 at large, 5 Adult and 3 Youth.

-This will help with diversity, get more work done, to bring people on the Commission that have certain skill sets that the Commission needs

-Those appointed by the Supervisors will stay the same, but the body will be a recommendation by the Commission as a whole for each city rather than the Mayors of each city.

-Allows Commission to decide who Commission needs and allows more timely onboarding

-Currently 4 at Large, but the recommendation for 8 total🡪opens up more possibilities for us to get more support in certain areas and gives us more time to get things done and move things along

-Change the Youth age group to 16 -22 from 14-24. Trying to target more junior & senior high schoolers and college students, we will bring in 3 each year

-The recommended 8 at large members will bring in more diversity and support

-Changed wording to make it say “Members are present at the meeting”

-Cleaned out some extra verbiage about the Brown Act information on the bylaws

-Clarified January will be the “first” meeting of the Commission, this is when we will do our elections

-Add - by a quorum by the majority of members presented

-October of each year the nominating committee will meet & propose officers

Commissioner Edie Thomas: Motion to approve amendments to bylaws; Pat Nicodemous: Seconds

Discussion:

Commissioner Walker: Who will be our check and balance as to who will be joining?

Kelley: The executive committee and the commission as a whole would be the check and balance because the recommendation comes to the whole commission.

Maybe we can have Mayor or city staff sit on the interview, we can send out a letter to the mayor to let them know who represents their city.

Vote: Approved unanimous.

1. **Reflections on Equity Training**

Commissioners: Ali, Goerke-Shrode, Lemos, and Panduro shared what they thought

1. **Reflections on Commission Retreat**

Commissioners Petty, Walker, Kelly, Nicodemus, and Petero shared what they thought

1. **Approval of Contractor for Website**

* Kourtney to be contracted to work on the website to update all the needed things done

She has the technical know-how to get it done

willing to train a few Commissioners to work on the Website after she is done

* Can use some funds to hire Kourtney to help with the Website

A set of hours for a set amount: about 15-20 hours and $20 hours

Have one set of voice who is giving information to Kourtney

Commissioner Kelley: Motion to contract with Kourtney as independent contractor for up to 25 hours at $20 an hour and to not exceed $500 total; Second: Commissioner Goerke-Shrode; Vote: Approved unanimously

1. **Treasures Report**

Ali will receive a report from MFOC at the end of the Month

We had donations that don’t show in the treasures report, so have more money, which will

show in next Report-about $2000 in the bank

1. **Committee Reports**

Committees have nothing urgent to report

1. Agenda Items for March 2021 Meeting-None proposed

**8:00 p.m. ADJOURN**