

**Blue Ribbon Commission on the Establishment of A Sacramento County
Women's Commission**

September 22, 2020

Meeting Notes

Upcoming Meeting Date:

October 6, 2020 6 pm -8pm

IN ATTENDANCE

Commissioners

Haley Ausserer

Dr. Bernice Bass de Martinez

Emily Bender

Dr. Alexis Blount

Vicki Boyd

Caroline Cabias

Nolice Edwards

Carol Enns

Charmen Goehring

Crystal Harding

Dina Howard

Marian Johnston

Eulonda Lea

Bina Lefkowitz

Leslie Levitas

Ali Lichtenstein

Dr. Tonya Lindsey

Marty McKnew

Danielle Metzinger

Jaclyn Moreno

Boatamo Mosupyoe

Erin Saberi

Susan Stone

Members of the Public

Jasmine Partida- Special Assistant to the Commission

Alana Ramsay - BRC Youth Ad Hoc Advisory Committee Co-Chair

Nolice Edwards

Lina Malova

Nicole Manker

Roberta Peck

Debra Waltman

Anya Jael Woods

Naomi Woods

MEETING NOTES

I. WELCOME/OVERVIEW: Erin Saberi welcomed all to the meeting. Susan Stone shared a verse with the group acknowledging today's start of Autumn. Erin reviewed the timeline and upcoming events. The next BRC meeting on October 6, 2020 will focus on the report for the Board of Supervisors. That presentation is tentatively scheduled for October 20. On October 10, the BRC will be hosting a community forum which will include a program from 10 am -12 pm and be followed with a virtual expo and networking. From 12 pm – 1 pm. Any organizations that would like to co-host the forum will be able to have a virtual booth. Shayne Correia-Fernandez is spearheading the forum planning group. Nolice Edwards shared some information about the

Sacramento Women and Girls Advancement Coalition and their work focused on advancing women and girls policy in the city of Sacramento. All agreed that it would be good for a permanent women's commission to work closely with the cities and the Advancement Coalition. It was also announced that there is interest in our work to establish a commission in the city of Elk Grove. The Blue Ribbon Commission has been asked to present to the Elk Grove City Council on October 28, 2020.

II. BRC BUSINESS:

Public comment was asked for on the September meeting notes and none was received. Carol Enns made a motion to accept the minutes which was seconded by Susan Stone. The motion passed with a vote of 16 yes, 4 abstentions.

III. GUEST SPEAKERS: The guest speaker was Esther Peralez-Dieckmann, Executive Director of NextDoor Solutions to Domestic Violence in San Jose and former Director, Office of Women's Policy for Santa Clara County. Esther has 25 years of experience working in government, including 12 years directing the Office of Women's Policy in Santa Clara (2005-2017) and working closely with the Santa Clara County Commission on the Status of Women. Esther spoke about the value of a women's commission and an office of women's policy at the county level. She offered specific examples of ways in which the work of the Commission in Santa Clara has helped women and girls in their county since it was founded in 1973. She also offered valuable suggestions to the group for establishing the Sacramento County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls. Esther highly recommended having a direct line of communications to the Board of Supervisors, perhaps even trying to get an office inside the County Executive's suite. She noted that having an advisory committee or forming a task force on specific issues is a helpful way to gain people with specific expertise to advise the Commission. Esther explained that our task is to be the place where issues of concerns and problems for women can be seen, heard and addressed. But in order to do that, the Commission will need resources and staff. Esther offered to continue to be available as a resource to the Blue Ribbon Commission as we move forward.

IV. AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATE

Data: Drs. Alexis Blount and Dr. Tonya Lindsey gave an overview of their committee's mandate and then went over key themes that they found in the data from the community meetings of Sacramento For Women and Girls, the Community Survey, listening circles and the 1:1 interviews being conducted with leaders of local woman serving organizations. They shared some statistics which show women faring worse in Sacramento County than in CA overall, in areas such as familial poverty, maternal health and poverty amongst the elderly.

Commission Models Report Discussion & Decision-Making: The whole group broke up into two breakout rooms to discuss the commission model report from that committee. Each group took a few sections to review and to make recommendations back to the Commission. After everyone returned to the whole group, the following recommendations were given:

- Remove the word "adequate" regarding funding and ask for a specific amount

- Keep 2 consecutive terms
- The youth recommended having 3 youth members.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS-none

VI. SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

1. General BRC Business
 - a. Anyone interested in assisting with the forum should contact Shayne Corriea-Fernandez
2. Ad Hoc Advisories
 - a. Report committee will take suggestions today and all the other data and include it in the report. They will circulate the draft to the Commissioners.
 - b. Questions and comments on the draft should be submitted to Erin for discussion on October 6.
 - c. Youth committee will discuss how long a youth commissioner term should be.

Public Comment: Anya Woods gave thanks for allowing her to participate and said that the Sacramento Women's Advancement Coalition is eager to partner with the BRC.

Meeting Adjourned.

Next Meeting: October 6, 2020 6-8pm