

Solano Commission for Women and Girls

Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2025, 6:00 PM
601 Texas Street Fairfield, CA 94533
Conference Room B



Solano Commission
For Women And Girls

Solano Commission for Women and Girls (SCWG) meetings are held in an accessible facility. If you wish to attend this meeting and require special assistance to participate, please call the Clerk of the Board of Supervisor at (707) 784-6100 at least 24 hours in advance of the event to make reasonable arrangements.

MISSION

The mission of the Solano Commission for Women and Girls is to improve the economic status, health and social welfare, and overall quality of life for women and girls in Solano County.

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER; WELCOME: 6:07 p.m.
COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

ROLL CALL:

Members Present:	Executive Committee
Jacqui Nguyen	Solano County, District 5 Co-Chair
Verneal Brumfield	Solano County, District 3 Co-Chair
Rayshawnda Madison	Adult Member-at-Large Vice Chair
Kimberlee Staking	Adult Member-at-Large Secretary
Lisa Eckhoff	Solano County Office of Education Treasurer
Jennifer Hamilton	Solano County, District 4
Audrey Galo	City of Vallejo
Mary Henderson	District 1 (Vallejo)
Edwina Perez-Santiago	City of Fairfield
Tiffani Thomas	City of Suisun
VACANT	City of Dixon
VACANT	City of Vacaville
VACANT	City of Rio Vista

Absent:



Mckenzie Mashburn	Youth-at-Large
Sriya Srinivasan	Youth-at-Large
Gethsemane Moss	City of Benicia
Pamela Williamson	Solano County, District 2

Guests:

Francis McCullough, VP, Friends

1. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda, Approval of the Agenda
Motion to approve: Commissioner Perez-Santiago
Motion to Second: Commissioner Madison
Unanimous approval of the Agenda
2. Approval of the January 2025 SCWG Minutes
Motion to approve: Commissioner Staking
Motion to Second: Commissioner Hamilton
Unanimous approval of the November 2024 SCWG Meeting Minutes

REGULAR CALENDAR

1. Debrief on Women & Money Conference (Co-Chair SCWG, Jacqui Nguyen/President Sabine Goerke-Shrode, Friends of the Commission/All)
 - a. Co-chair Nguyen led the discussion as President Georke-Shrode is on vacation; however they had spoken previously to de-brief. According to Friends VP Frances McCullough, 23 unaffiliated individuals attended; friends and commissioners, volunteers and speakers brought the total to 39.
 - b. Survey information as reviewed by Co-chair Nguyen was overall very positive and the suggestions given were quite uniform, and consistent with the feedback from Commissioners as we went around the room. The information was good, but they wished for more on entrepreneurship and on building generational wealth. They also mentioned more investment information and transition help from community or Junior College setting to University.
 - c. Several people on the commission noted that they would have liked all of the presenters to be women in the next go-round.
 - d. Helpful ideas for future Women and Money Conferences and with respect to our other events as well included
 - i. Plan further ahead and push date back further from holidays
 - ii. The need to brainstorm learning objectives and intended audience ahead of each event and to use a more focused speaker on-boarding process (Commission Madison will share the template they use for Birth Justice.)
 - iii. We need to identify point person(s) from the Commission for each event and then solicit help from other commissioners
 - iv. We need to develop a communication strategy to reach intended audiences
2. We added into the agenda a report from the Friends meeting held the night prior to our meeting. Friends VP Dr. McCullough reported the following:



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- a. Dr. McCullough stated that the Friends would like to have a retreat with all members of both boards. Date and location have been provisionally identified as Saturday April 26 2005 at the Suisun Library. A time of 9:00 was suggested for a length of 3-4 hours. (At the end of the meeting, Co-Chairs Brumfield and Nguyen indicated that the SCWG will vote on this retreat proposal in our March meeting.)
 - b. Balance as of 2/16/24 is \$40, 589.00. We are still awaiting a \$250.00 invoice and a \$1000.00 sponsor payment (expected in March); we came in under budget by \$186.76 for the Women and Money Conference.
 - c. We may perhaps need to review the MOU when dealing with finances between both organizations. Commission Hamilton said she had not been successful in finding the signed MOU so we may need to re-sign with the current board composition. A complete report of current financials was submitted by the Friends Treasurer, Patty Kohn.
 - d. The Wednesday Club of Suisun, established in 1911, has (since the Gala) become interested in supporting SCWG and will do so in various ways going forward.
3. Before moving on to the Birth Justice update, Commissioners Hamilton and Perez-Santiago updated us on the Girls on the Rise Event. In brief, it will take place on March 22nd in the morning and will be focused on 15–25-year-old females. This year it will be focused less on law enforcement and more broadly on STEM professions. Commissioners are welcome to have a presence - to volunteer and to get to know the sponsors and attendees at the event.
 4. Update on Birth Justice (Vice-Chair/Commissioner Rayshawnda Madison)
 - a. We are continuing to partner with Supervisor Wanda Williams and to establish a clear-cut understanding of what each partnering group will bring to the event. We are bringing half of the funding, which is loosely represented as \$2,500.00 from each organization. Commission Madison distributed a tentative budget proposal and after discussion, the Commission decided to approve a budget of up to \$3,000.00 for the event. Commissioner Perez-Santiago submitted the motion to approve, and Commissioner Eckhoff seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.
 - b. The event will begin at 9:30 on Saturday April 12th and will end at 1:00. Location is the Bay North Church in Fairfield. A continental breakfast will be provided along with snacks throughout the conference for attendees.
 - c. A discussion was held to discuss the possibility of having elected officials provide coloring books for the children – possibly with the official's name on the provided materials. Those with connections were going to check into the matter and Commission Madison was going to mention the idea to Supervisor Williams. Meetings are held every Monday afternoon and Commissioner Henderson is also attending those meetings. Everyone is able to attend those meetings if they wish by consulting Commission Madison for a zoom link. SCWG members are urged to be all hands on deck on the day of the Birth Justice Event, and to help with preparatory details as requested.
 5. You. Matter. Period. Project: Discussion and vote to confirm our two youth commissioners Sriya Srinivasan and Mckenzie Mashburn to chair and co-chair this event (Date TBD).

The Commission was unable to vote on this proposal due to the lateness of the hour and the unavailability of either of the youth commissioners this evening. However, there was a loose



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time frame of late summer established to complete the project and there were many ideas and offers of help for the project. Commissioner Madison and Co-Chair Brumfield offered to be adult supervisors available to the youth commissioners in planning and executing the event. Commissioner Perez-Santiago has a non-project organization that would be a possible recipient of the materials. They have served over 1000 youth so far this year in the Vallejo area by having a presence with a van on Friday and Saturday nights. They are always looking for supplies and it was suggested that we might broaden the acquisition of materials to include certain other female hygiene products such as soap, deodorant, water bottles etc. Someone will be appointed to explore the relationship previously established with Touro University female students, whose organization has been involved in the project in past years.

6. Commissioner Vacancies (Co-Chair, SCWG Verneal Brumfield)
 - a. It has been established that we have 3 current vacancies on the board commission and we would like to fill them in order to have a complete complement of members and get more of the community involved through their associations.
 - i. The suggestion was made that the form potential candidates fill out inquires specifically what their strengths are – what they can bring to the organization.
 - ii. Previously successful strategies will be deployed – advertisements, solicitation over social media, contacting mayors and city councils etc. This is key because the positions are for specific locations and must therefore be appointed or approved by the local elected bodies.
7. SCWG Marketing Materials (Commissioner Lisa Eckhoff)
 - a. So far, she has priced out pens with logos or notebooks with logos. A suggestion was made that we might purchase notebooks with logos and plain pens to accompany them.
 - b. No further action was taken.
8. Discussion on budget for SCWG website update (Co-Chair, SCWG Jacqui Nguyen)
 - a. A budget has been set up (\$3,000.00) for enhancing the website. The migration of the website has not been very successful in this regard.
 - b. Co-chair Nguyen suggested that we retain the woman who has done marketing for the Gala and materials for the Women and Money conference to be on a year retainer to refurbish and maintain the website. No action was taken in this regard, however, as Commissioner Galo volunteered that she would be happy to take a look at the website and make some enhancements as she had designed her own work website. Co-chair Nguyen was going to give her access to the website and further discussion would be held thereafter.
9. Commissioner Henderson brought up the idea of having the Commission honored by the Board of Supervisors on March 11th in connection with Women's History month. This was greeted with enthusiasm, and Co-chairs will follow up.
10. Previewing March SCWG meeting (Item not discussed due to the lateness of the hour.)
 - a. Birth Justice update (Commissioner Rayshawnda Madison)
 - b. Planning Together Effectively as a Commission (Co-Chairs/All)
 - c. Speaker: Solano Community College Superintendent-President Kellie Sims Butler

11. A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Madison and seconded by Co-Chair Brumfield. The voting was unanimous, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm.
12. The next meeting will be held on Thursday March 20, 2025 at 6:00 pm.



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