



BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SACRAMENTO COUNTY WOMEN'S COMMISSION



BRC MEETING March 15, 2021 Minutes

Upcoming BRC Meeting Dates - TBD

In Attendance Commissioners

Erin Saberi
Dr. Bernice Bass de Martinez
Lee Battershell
Caroline Cabias
Shayne Corriea-Fernandez
Crystal Harding
Dr. Ali Tucker Lichtenstein
Dr. Tonya D. Lindsey
PJ Missman
Jaclyn Moreno
Alana Ramsay
Emily Bender Zelaya
Haley Ausserer-Zelaya

Special Assistant to the Commission: Molly Nugent

Interns to the Commission: Luana Yadao from Sacramento State and Michael Hsieh from UC Davis

Meeting Notes

- I. **WELCOME:** Ms. Saberi welcomed everyone and introduced Michael Hsieh, the new BRC intern. Mr. Hsieh is in his undergraduate program at UC Davis and is completing his community service outreach through a program with Stanford University.

- II. **COMMISSION BUSINESS/UPDATES:** Two new *ad hoc* committees have been formed, 1) advisory committee for the application process 2) Friends of the Commission. Ms. Saberi thanked Dr. Blount and Dr. Lindsey for creating the



BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SACRAMENTO COUNTY WOMEN'S COMMISSION

survey sent to the BRC members. It allowed for the building of the *ad hoc* committees. Ms. Nugent will be sending out email notifications with meeting details and agenda for the Friends *ad hoc* committee soon.

Ms. Saberi thanked Mr. Hsieh, Dr. Lindsey, and Ms. Goehring for updating Facebook with women's organizations and highlighting Sacramento's women. Ms. Saberi also asked everyone to look for the monthly MailChimp that has announcements about Sacramento organizations. Ms. Harding announced that Liberty Towers needs diapers, pull-ups, wipes, gift cards, and baby food. Donations can be dropped off or scheduled to be picked up.

III. Ms. Saberi asked if anyone has any announcements for support/needs in the community.

IV. Ms. Saberi announced the meeting will be recorded.

V. REPORT FROM THE APPLICATIONS ADVISORY AD HOC

COMMITTEE: Ms. Saberi introduced Ms. Corriea-Fernandez from the *ad hoc* Applications Advisory Committee to provide a status report of the committee's work to date. Ms. Corriea-Fernandez said that the *ad hoc* committee has met numerous times and has developed an application that they sent to the county for review and acceptance. She explained the application process and shared her screen for everyone to view the application.

Ms. Correia-Fernandez described how the *ad hoc* committee separated the commission seats and terms. She also reviewed the personal statement prompt for the application. Ms. Harding asked if the link provided on the application will be the official link for the commission. Ms. Saberi explained the link is for the Blue Ribbon Commission, and the application will be sent to a separate link to the county.

Ms. Correia-Fernandez said that the advisory committee spent a long time deliberating how to describe each experience area for ideal applicants. She then asked Dr. Bass de Martinez to explain the matrix she and Dr. Lindsey created. Dr. Bass de Martinez said that the goal of the matrix is to ensure there is balanced representation of each experience area to form a functioning body for the commission. Ms. Zelaya and Ms. Ausserer-Zelaya asked if we could add diverse living experiences to the application. Ms. Corriea-Fernandez said applicants' answers to application questions would allow them to demonstrate the diversity of life experiences that the commission is looking for. Ms. Saberi asked Ms. Zelaya and Ms. Ausserer-Zelaya if they would like to add lived experiences into the application, and if the county returns the application for edits, we may be able to



BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SACRAMENTO COUNTY WOMEN'S COMMISSION



add it. They decided to add a question about life experience to interview questions rather than on the application.

Ms. Corriea-Fernandez announced the *ad hoc* advisory committee needs to receive applications by April 16th, 2021, to review them April 19th-22nd, 2021. She said all applications not chosen will be set aside in a pool for later consideration once a commission seat opens. The *ad hoc* committee felt it would be best to have live interviews to understand better who each applicant is. All live interviews are scheduled to be completed **by April 30th, 2021.**

III. **DISCUSSION AND AGREEMENT ON APPLICATION PROCESS AND PROCEDURES:** Ms. Saberi said she would need to speak to the county to learn if the application will be fillable online. Ms. Harding asked if applications can be emailed.

Ms. Saberi said the BRC would continue to stick to the application timeline deadlines. She announced that the board of supervisors might take additional time to appoint commissioners.

Ms. Corriea-Fernandez shared the youth application. Ms. Zelaya and Ms. Ausserer-Zelaya said "lived experience" should be added to the application. Ms. Corriea-Fernandez said she would bring the request to the committee and incorporate the "lived experience" question for the applicant in the live interviews.

Ms. Missman asked, "as a teacher, how do we select youth?" Ms. Corriea-Fernandez asked everyone in attendance for suggestions for application outreach. Ms. Missman said another organization would go to schools and speak to the principal and teachers to ask for their recommendations for youth positions.

Ms. Corriea-Fernandez mentioned SWAG, Liberty Towers, and the City of Refuge have connections with schools, and they can ask schools for help with outreach.

Ms. Cabias suggested writing a letter to the superintendent of all schools that explains what the commission is trying to accomplish so students from each school have an equal opportunity to apply for the youth seats.

Dr. Bass de Martinez said a letter to the Sacramento County Education Office might be beneficial as well.

Ms. Cabias suggested sending a letter to local colleges.



BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SACRAMENTO COUNTY WOMEN'S COMMISSION

- Ms. Saberi thanked Ms. Corriea-Fernandez and the *ad hoc* advisory committee for all they have done.
- IV. Ms. Harding asked if the agenda and meeting information is posted on Facebook. Dr. Lindsey said once the website gets updated, Facebook posts will have meeting updates more frequently.
- V. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** There were no public comments.
- VI. **CREATING A “FRIENDS OF THE COMMISSION” 501(c)3:** Ms. Saberi announced there would be an *ad hoc* Friends Committee meeting **on March 24th, 2021, from 6–7 pm** for everyone who wants to join and develop a list of people for outreach and fundraisers. The BRC will also ask someone from the San Francisco’s Friends of the Commission to speak at the next meeting. Ms. Saberi asked for any comments or questions, and no one in attendance commented.
- VII. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** There were no public comments.
- VIII. Dr. Lindsey, Dr. Blount, and Mr. Hsieh with input from Ms. Saberi are beginning to build the foundation for the Sacramento County women and girls database called for in the BRC report. They are beginning by researching women and girls’ health and the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on women in general. They asked everyone if they have information specifically about Sacramento County health organizations, including phone numbers, and to please share it with them. Ms. Cabias suggested going to the county to get specific data and requesting access to more county data. Ms. Saberi thanked Dr. Lindsey, Dr. Blount, and Mr. Hsieh for their hard work.
- IX. Ms. Saberi asked if there were any announcements. Ms. Lichtenstein announced her organization, Women’s Wisdom Art, is looking for a new location. She asked everyone if they have a room or know of a place that is easily accessible for women to please let her know. She shared that her organization recently began an exciting cross-cultural exchange project with US/Sacramento women and women in Uganda. The storytelling project exchanges 10 writers and storytellers from the US with 10 from Uganda. The stories will be published in a book by Femrite in Kampala, Uganda.
- X. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** There were no public comments. Ms. Saberi asked if there were any more announcements. There were no additional announcements.
- IX. **ADJOURN:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.



BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SACRAMENTO COUNTY WOMEN'S COMMISSION



Submitted by: Luana Yadao

ZOOM CHAT FROM THE MEETING

ALFA BATTERSHELL to Everyone (6:50 PM)

I agree letter to superintendents is great idea

Crystal Harding to Everyone (6:50 PM)

Great suggestion Luana

Alana Ramsay to Everyone (6:50 PM)

Los Rios Community College District

Crystal Harding to Everyone (6:51 PM)

Yes Alana! Sooo can we include the college and universities.

Molly Phillips-Nugent (she/her) to Everyone (6:51 PM)

Maybe they can pass the letter on to after school program directors, too!

Molly Phillips-Nugent (she/her) to Everyone (6:51 PM)

Mentorship programs, etc.

Emily & Haley to Everyone (6:52 PM)

We should make sure that we mention the stipend available to youth (if there is one.)

Molly Phillips-Nugent (she/her) to Everyone (6:52 PM)

Through Friends of the Commission, too! We can pull them in and get them connected all over the place!

Alana Ramsay to Everyone (6:52 PM)

Love your thinking Crystal! Don't let people interested in making a difference slip through the cracks

Crystal Harding to Everyone (6:52 PM)

Yes! Stipends and incentives are very important!

Through friends of the commission, too! We can pull them in and get them connected all over the place!

Tonya D Lindsey to Everyone (6:53 PM)

I love how the connection between the Friends and the Commission is developing already here. :-)

Thanks Shayne!! <3