



Commission on the Status of Women

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 9, 2026

Location: Serra-Mesa/Keary Mesa Branch Library
Sudbury Room
9005 Aero Dr,
San Diego, CA 92123

Chair: Gail Friedt

Commissioners/Board Members/Committee Members: Wendy Urushima-Conn, Lakeya Cherry, Marlyn Carrillo, Natasha Wong, Susan Davis, Sorayda Santos, Carla Nesbitt-Stokes, Brandee Joyner

Staff Liaison: Lucero Maganda

Item 1: The meeting was called to order by Chair Friedt @ 12:01 PM

Item 2: Roll Call

- **Present:** Friedt, Davis, Urushima-Conn, Nesbitt-Stokes, Carrillo, Joyner
- **Absent:** Wong, Cherry
- **Attending remotely (not counting towards quorum):** Santos

Item 3: Approval of Agenda

- **A motion to approve the agenda was made and seconded.**
- **Outcome: The agenda was approved unanimously.**

Item 4: Approval of May 8, 2026, Meeting Minutes

- **A motion to approve the May 8, 2026, minutes was made and seconded.**
- **Outcome: The minutes were approved unanimously**

Item 5: Informational Items(s):

Item 5.1: Review of Commissioner activities since last meeting

- **Chair Friedt announced the resignation of Commissioner Tarazi. Commissioners expressed appreciation for her service on the Commission and wished her well.**

Item 5.2: Review of upcoming Commissioner activities

- **Upcoming activities were reviewed. Commissioners were reminded to wear their badges when attending events if appropriate.**

- **A commissioner shared a recent traumatic incident involving a racist verbal attack and attempted vehicle assault in Kearny Mesa. Police responded, and the commissioner plans to follow up with law enforcement.**
 - **Discussion included concern about rising hate incidents and the need for continued community safety work in San Diego.**
 - **A few commissioners attended the Chicano Federation Unity Luncheon at the Gaylord in Chula Vista, where Rachel Ortiz was honored. The event was noted as well-attended and meaningful, especially during challenging times for many communities.**

Item 5.3: Report (oral) on the County Commission on the Status of Women & Girls (CWSG) – June Meeting

- **Commissioner Nesbitt-Stokes attended the meeting virtually. Feedback included that the meeting was informative and active, but expectations for attending partner commission meetings should be clarified.**
- **Commissioners discussed that attendance is primarily for relationship-building, awareness, and future collaboration opportunities.**
- **July County Commission meeting is canceled.**
 - **Upcoming attendance assignments were reviewed.**

Item 5.4: Update (oral) on Children First Collective San Diego partnership

- **The commission continues to receive updates and recordings from Children First Collective meetings. Updates will continue to be shared by email. Recent focus has included youth-related budget advocacy.**

Item 5.5: Continued discussion on workforce issues disproportionately impacting Black women – Commissioner Joyner

- **Commissioner Joyner presented concern about layoffs and employment challenges affecting Black women and women of color in San Diego.**
- **The commissioners discussed the importance of addressing root causes, including access, relationships, networking, mentorship, and employer connections.**
- **Commissioners agreed the event should not be a traditional job fair or CEO keynote format.**
- **Preferred approach:**
 - **Resource-based event**
 - **Networking and relationship-building**
 - **Resume and career navigation support**
 - **Employers present and engaged**
 - **Panelists or facilitators with lived experience**
 - **Focus on access, mentorship, sponsorship, and practical tools**

- **Potential partners mentioned: San Diego Workforce Partnership, American Job Centers, San Diego Regional Chamber, EDC, Major San Diego employers, New Level nonprofit, Black women business/resource ecosystem partners**
- **Next step: Commissioner Joyner will revise the proposal and bring it back for a future action item.**

Item 6: Action Item(s)

Item 6.1: Review of letter to the City Council/Mayor's office regarding budget priorities affecting women and girls City of San Diego. Vote to approve and send letter.

- **Commissioners reviewed a draft letter regarding budget priorities. Additional language related to homelessness was added based on commissioner feedback.**
- **The commission discussed sending the letter even if City Council budget conversations were already underway.**
- **A motion to approve the letter was made and seconded.**
- **Outcome: The letter was approved unanimously. Chair Friedt will send the letter after conclusion of today's meeting.**

Item 7: Events & Programming Subcommittee Update

- **Financial Literacy Workshop is scheduled for August 8, 2026 from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM @ Southeastern Live Well Center, 5101 Market St., San Diego.**
- **Commissioners discussed the importance of culturally relevant financial literacy, especially for Black and Latina communities.**
- **Key message suggested: "Make your money go further."**
- **Discussion emphasized that financial literacy should acknowledge historical and cultural relationships with money, survival mindsets, and distrust of financial institutions.**
- **Outreach ideas: Malcolm X Library, Southeastern Live Well Center, Jacob Center, Skyline Recreation Center, local laundromats, local businesses, community coffee shops and gathering spaces, council district newsletters, community-based organizations, Somali women's organizations and immigrant/refugee networks.**
- **Commissioners emphasized that outreach should be relationship-based, not just flyer distribution. Commissioners should watch for emails with updates, toolkits, blurbs, and event information.**

Item 8: Policy & Advocacy Subcommittee Update

- **No update**

Item 9: Community Outreach Subcommittee Report

- **Committee continues to coordinate on event planning and outreach efforts. Discussion focused on identifying community partners and making sure upcoming events are meaningful and useful for attendees.**

Item 10: Board Member/Commissioner Discussion

- **Jessica Grounds was suggested as a potential facilitator for a future strategic planning workshop with the intents of helping the commission develop a one-year strategic plan.**
- **Commissioners were asked to send future agenda items to the chair.**

Item 11: Non-Agenda Public Comment

- **Angela Bowl, a San Diego Police Department sergeant, introduced herself. She shared her background in public policy, Father Joe's Villages, law enforcement, and interest in broader civic engagement.**
- **Commissioners encouraged her to apply for a commission vacancy.**

Item 12: The next meeting will a Special Meeting on August 8, 2026 prior to the Financial Literacy Workshop. Next Regular Meeting: August 11, 2026.

Adjournment @ 1:02