

RESOLUTION NO.

RESOLUTION FINDING THAT, AS A RESULT OF THE CONTINUING COVID-19 PANDEMIC STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARED BY GOVERNOR NEWSOM, MEETING IN PERSON FOR MEETINGS OF THE LGBTQ COMMISSION WOULD PRESENT IMMINENT RISKS TO THE HEALTH OR SAFETY OF ATTENDEES

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor proclaimed pursuant to his authority under the California Emergency Services Act, California Government Code section 8625, that a state of emergency exists with regard to a novel coronavirus (a disease now known as COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, on June 4, 2021, the Governor clarified that the “reopening” of California on June 15, 2021 did not include any change to the proclaimed state of emergency or the powers exercised thereunder, and as of the date of this Resolution, neither the Governor nor the Legislature have exercised their respective powers pursuant to California Government Code section 8629 to lift the state of emergency either by proclamation or by concurrent resolution in the state Legislature; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 that suspended the teleconferencing rules set forth in the California Open Meeting law, Government Code section 54950 et seq. (the “Brown Act”), provided certain requirements were met and followed; and

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed AB 361 that provides that a legislative body subject to the Brown Act may continue to meet without fully complying with the teleconferencing rules in the Brown Act provided the legislative body determines that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or

safety of attendees, and further requires that certain findings be made by the legislative body every thirty (30) days; and,

WHEREAS, California Department of Public Health (“CDPH”) and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) caution that the Delta variant of COVID-19, currently the dominant strain of COVID-19 in the country, is more transmissible than prior variants of the virus, may cause more severe illness, and that even fully vaccinated individuals can spread the virus to others resulting in rapid and alarming rates of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/variants/delta-variant.html>); and,

WHEREAS, the CDC has established a “Community Transmission” metric with 4 tiers designed to reflect a community’s COVID-19 case rate and percent positivity; and,

WHEREAS, the County of San Mateo currently has a Community Transmission metric of “substantial” which is the second most serious of the tiers; and,

WHEREAS, the LGBTQ Commission has an important governmental interest in protecting the health, safety and welfare of those who participate in its meetings; and,

WHEREAS, in the interest of public health and safety, as affected by the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, the LGBTQ Commission deems it necessary to find that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees, and thus intends to invoke the provisions of AB 361 related to teleconferencing;

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors strongly encourages all legislative bodies of the County of San Mateo that are subject to the Brown Act, including but not limited to, the Planning Commission, the Assessment Appeals Board, the Civil Service Commission, and all other oversight and advisory boards, committees and commissions established by the Board of Supervisors and subject to the Brown Act, to make a similar finding and avail themselves of teleconferencing until the risk of community transmission has further declined;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED that

1. The recitals set forth above are true and correct.
2. The LGBTQ Commission finds that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.
3. Staff is directed to return no later than thirty (30) days after the adoption of this resolution with an item for the LGBTQ Commission to consider making the findings required by AB 361 in order to continue meeting under its provisions.
4. Staff is directed to take such other necessary or appropriate actions to implement the intent and purposes of this resolution.

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Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Commission

Saturday, November 13, 2021

8:45 AM – 1:30 PM

RETREAT MINUTES

Call to Order & Land Acknowledgement

Attendance: Krystle Cansino, Rebecca Carabez, Steve Disselhorst, Terri Echelbarger, Rudy Espinoza Murray, Giuliana Garcia, Lalo Gonzalez, Dana Johnson, Bismay Mishra, Christopher Sturken, Craig Wiesner; Non-commissioners: Linda Wolin, Tanya Beat, Debbie Schechter

Public Comment

Approval & Adoption of Agenda

Dana Johnson motioned to approve. Chris Sturken seconded. All approved.

Retreat Goals, Agenda Review, Group Agreements

Framing Activity/Introductions – pair and share

CliftonStrengths Team Strengths Observations

- Few influencers in the group
- We have strategic thinkers
- Fewer in Executing
- Strong in relationship building—this can help with influencing
- Role is to recommend/advise Board of Supervisors
- Have people bring individual strength definitions to the group
- How to move forward as a Commission based on these strengths?
- Another level of diversity to consider when looking at candidates for future positions on the Commissions—can uncover this through the interview process

Review 2020/2021 Accomplishments

What Was Accomplished:

- High functioning group
- Get things done through collaboration
- 8 years!
- Focus on equity and intersectionality
- This is the best Commission!

Still to Do:

- Reach out to elder community
- Catholic Church response to Commission
- Another survey to gather more data to do our work

Learnings from COVID

Pro:

- Visibility work: could mobilize people and get work done without having to get somewhere
- Being remote improved accessibility, getting things done and being able to meet
- Subcommittees could meet more often
- Built relationships with partners and each other
- Flag raising and other events could be remote
- People being at home raised awareness of social inequities: intersectionality, equity, privilege
- People became more conscious of their biases, etc.
- Pandemic is a portal to a new way of seeing things
- COVID is a reckoning

Con:

- COVID limited participation in in-person events
- COVID in general, especially in combination with other societal events (George Floyd killing, etc.)
- Mental health, violence, people not getting help, victimization
- COVID highlighted disparities and how they were created
- COVID impacts on youth

Moving Forward/Improvements:

- Figure out good balance of in-person and remote: what would work best
- Make recommendations to Board of Supervisors and legislature that laws change to reflect best approach to in-person and remote
- Data collection: address data gaps in health information (SOGI, race) to identify gaps in services
- Continue in-person events with live stream, especially outdoors
- Collect SOGI data always—make this a requirement and provide guidance/training on how to collect data
- How to dismantle institutions that create disparities
- Promote good that government is doing
- Connect LGBTQ teens disproportionately affected by COVID to resources
- Provide services for transgender and nonbinary: all gender restrooms, SOGI
- Consider meeting outside
- Leverage Commission reputation to address high priorities

Goals for 2022-2024 - Brainstorm of Top Issues

Data

- SOGIE Data – where/how to collect; what needs to be done to support
- New Survey – bigger broader sample (two post its for this one)
- Mandate SOGIE data be collected at county level and in each city
- Updated data for use in policy proposals
- Data collection & action planning on issues that affect the LGBTQ community in SMC
- Building capacity for SOGIE trainings
- Normalize SOGIE, pronoun usage, and gender diverse community members through advocacy
- SOGIE training for parents of elementary students in 2 cities in SMC
- BOS & city councils be training in SOGIE

Inclusion / Intersectionality

- Broader/gender inclusion policy
- Create inclusive & equitable policies to better serve LGBTQ Community
- Change Commission title to LGBTQIA+ Commission
- Require LGBTQ+ seat on all boards & commission outside of LGBTQ Commission
- Immigrant experience – understanding intersection of immigrant X LGBTQ; Awareness & support
- Advise Board through intersectional lens. LGBTQ issues are also in housing, transportation, living wages
- Participation in County equity efforts
- Build power with LGBTQ community in SMC that centers social justice and equity

Community Building

- LGBTQ Senior events; ie shuttle to casino, vacations, cruises
- Clear and intentional community input to receive feedback on goals & commission as a whole
- Partner with LGBTQIA clergy group
- Start a LGBTQ professionals network

Visibility

- Billboard campaign
- LGBTQIA+ mural; LGBTQIA+ SMC History Archive; LGBTQ Museum
- Transgender & Nonbinary services, resources, visibility
- Transgender representation on the Commission
- Create awareness around inclusion, acceptance and celebration of LGBTQ+ people in different cultures, practices
- Simplified flag raising project – how to revise the flag raising project for simplicity
- Get Woodside to issue Proclamation during meeting and raise the flag all month
- Office of LGBTQ Affairs in San Mateo County of San Mateo
- Commission website as a resource for data & community groups

- Ongoing visibility efforts outside of Pride month
- Person/Ally/Org of the Year Award

Other issues that were not groups

Resources

- Create a LGBTQ leadership program across corporate, gov't & nonprofit sectors
- LGBTQ+ specific affordable housing
- LGBTQ homeless shelter

Youth

- Dedicated efforts for LGBTQ youth
- More advocacy, services & outreach for youth, older adults, disabled & immigrant groups
- Keep working on safety for transgender youth – including gender neutral restroom access in gov't & public venues.
- Grants for LGBTQ youth in education, art, leadership
- LGBTQ teen mental health & suicide
- Training for LGBTQ Commission on current language
- Hire intern to help execute commission goals & learn about our work

Small Groups, Summary & Share Out Breakout Group Reports

Visibility:

- Flag raising: make it easier, empower cities, go beyond cities to school districts, billboards
- Develop a plan to collect historic LGBTQ+ materials in partnership with San Mateo County History Museum
- Celebrate LGBTQ+ Person of the Year

Data:

- Focus on best practices for SOGIE data collection: conduct a new wellness survey in partnership with the Pride Center or County Health
- Conduct SOGIE training
 - For elected officials and communities
 - Conduct training on SOGIE data collection

Community-Building:

- Address gaps:
 - South San Francisco/North County Pride Month
 - South County—hard to address

Inclusion:

- Use intersectional lens, uplift and center marginalized LGBTQ+ community members

- Expand the name of the Commission
- Define key terms
- Need to define whether the Commission's focus is outside or inside the LGBTQ+ community

Next Steps/Action Items

- Compile individual strength definitions to share with the whole group
- Identify ways to assess strengths/fill gaps for future Commission vacancies

Meeting Evaluation & Closing Activity

Adjournment



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO LGBTQ COMMISSION

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Commission

Tuesday, November 2, 2021

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

MEETING MINUTES

<p>1. Call to Order, Land Acknowledgement, Group Agreements</p>		<p><u>Our Group Agreements</u> include Share the air; step up, step back; Listen for understanding; Lift as you climb; Be present & engaged; Let the facilitator guide the process; Technology on silent.</p>
<p>2. Roll Call</p>		<p>Present: Krystle Cansino, Rebecca Carabez, Steve Disselhorst, Rev Terri Echelbarger, Giuliana Garcia, Dana Johnson, Bismay Mishra, Christopher Sturken, Craig Wiesner, Lalo Gonzalez <u>Non-Commissioners:</u> Sophie Mateja, Tanya Beat, Linda Wolin, Frankie Sapp, Debbie Schechter Absent: Rudy Espinoza Murray</p>
<p>3. Introduction of new Youth Commissioner Liaison</p>		<p>Sophie Mateja (she/her/hers), junior at Pacific Collegiate School, Santa Cruz. Lives in Pescadero and has been on the Youth Commission for three years. Interested in educational equity and human rights.</p>
<p>4. Adopt a resolution finding that, as a result of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic state of emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees</p>		<p>Dana Johnson motions. Craig Wiesner seconds the motion. Approved.</p>
<p>5. Public Comment</p>		<p>Heather Hopkins, Menlo Park</p>
<p>6. Approval & Adoption of Agenda</p>	<p><i>Action</i></p>	<p>Terri Echelbarger motions. Rebecca Carabez seconds the motion. All approved.</p>
<p>7. Approval of October Meeting Minutes</p>	<p><i>Action</i></p>	<p>Rebecca Carabez motions. Chris Sturken seconds the motion. All approved.</p>
<p>8. Retreat Overview</p>		<p>Debbie Schechter, Facilitation Consultant <u>Retreat Goals:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about ourselves via Strengths Finder • Reflect on accomplishments and how you worked through COVID • Create goals for the next two years <p>Retreat Agenda overview</p>

		Please screen shot graph of your strengths and send to Tanya
9. Reports: 1. Pride Center 2. Pride Initiative	<i>Update</i>	Pride Center: - Year in Review now available - November Programming overview - Sweetsgiving event that Frankie is leading Pride Initiative: November 10, 4:30-6:00pm next meeting
10. Wellness Break		
11. Director's Report	<i>Update & presentation</i>	- Safety Agreements for Retreat Overview: - Chris Sturken motions. Rebecca Carabez seconds. All approved. - Transgender Day of Remembrance, Nov 19, 5:00-6:30pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Dana Johnson is the emcee and will be moderating the panel o Blossom Brown, Anjali Rimi, Sera Fernando o TDOR Proclamation, Nov 9 BOS meeting o Transgender Flag raising, Nov 15, 9am - Advocacy for LGBTQ Commission (send to group) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Advisory Group and must focus on advocacy not legislation. Find the topic you are passionate on and study it, join an organization to learn more and take part in events or projects. Promote that issue on social media and/or write about it.
12. Sub-Committee Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data Committee – Chris & Bismay • Safety Committee – Dana & Rev Terri • Visibility Committee – Krystle Cansino 	<i>Update</i>	Data Committee: Bismay & Chris. Looking at a possible SOGIE resolution with action items and will bring this to the Retreat. Also working on purpose of the resolution. This idea started from the Pride Center COVID-19 survey last year. Safety Committee: Gender Neutral Restroom promotion campaign (new webpage on the Commission site). New possible project to request cities to come into compliance. Asking all new leased buildings to comply. New building will have 2 gender neutral restrooms per floor. Visibility Committee: Brainstorming ideas at the last meeting. Tanya will start the 2022 Visibility project with emails to all cities about proclamations & flag raisings. This should free up commissioners to focus on other visibility. There's need for intersectionality support (race & trans focus), lifting up Juneteenth.
13. Adjournment		



San Mateo County Pride Center

December 2021 Updates

Administrative Updates:

- Meet the New Pride Center Players!
 - **Bianca Sandoval (she/her) our new Administrative Coordinator.** Bianca joins the Pride Center team as a San Mateo County Native and is fluent in Spanglish! She has a background in behavioral health, substance use, and considers her admin skills as a superpower. Personally, she has a passion for photography, boundaries, and dogs!
 - **Devon Dye (he/him) will be our new Peer Group and Volunteer Coordinator** soon! He will be joining us on Monday, December 6. Devon is currently studying psychology and hopes to one day offer gender affirming support to future clients. Supporting and coordinating the peer groups will be a great bridge to his current schooling and he is also bringing a wealth of volunteer experience as well.
- **Holiday schedule with the Pride Center:** During the weeks of Monday, December 20 – Friday, December 31, many staff will be offline and there may be delays in communications.
 - For general inquiries, you can reach Bianca Sandoval, Administrative Coordinator, at bianca.sandoval@star-vista.org.

Special Events and Programs:

- **Community Advisory Board presents: Holiday Crafternoon on December 11th from 1-3pm**
 - Calling all crafters!! Save the Date! The San Mateo County Pride Center's Community Advisory Board is proud to host a very special **virtual family-friendly event** for the winter season. Keep your holiday spirits high at our virtual Holiday Crafternoon on December 11th from 1:00-3:00 pm. Bring crafts you're currently working on or watch and make these quick DIY crafts [here](https://youtu.be/7GhE4Pvoiqc) (<https://youtu.be/7GhE4Pvoiqc>) that use common household items. After the crafting hour, we will then have an art and craft showcase where all participants are encouraged to show their work and receive a participatory certificate via email. Get your hot chocolate, glue, and knitting needles ready as we craft the holidays away! This event is free, virtual, and open to all ages. To register for the December 11th Holiday Crafternoon, click [here](https://tinyurl.com/HolidayCrafternoon) (<https://tinyurl.com/HolidayCrafternoon>).
- **Candy Cane Lane 2021 Holiday Events**
 - The 1200 block of Dewey Street has been Candy Cane Lane since the 1960s. While the decorations are a combination of lights, LED figures, inflatables, and wooden cutouts that vary from house to house, the unifying themes are the candy canes made of stove

pipe at each house, and the banners over each garage door wishing visitors Merry Christmas in languages from around the world. Some houses have themes within their decorations (such as characters from Winnie the Pooh, Peanuts, or Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer). **For 2021, the street will have a holiday dance routine by the Studio S Broadway Dancers at 7 pm on December 10, and a saxophone ensemble from the San Francisco Wind Symphony at 6:30 pm on December 23.** The street will be closed to traffic both evenings.

- **Trans Talks on December 9th from 6:30-7:30; The Ins and Outs of Gender Affirming Surgery with Norma Jimenez Ramirez (she/her)**
 - Trans Talks this month will be hosted by Norma Jimenez Ramirez (she/her) Norma will discuss gender-affirming surgery options with a focus on FTM bottom surgery. She will include questions to ask providers, things to consider before surgery, insurance issues and where to find more resources. Content Warning: Images of surgical procedures which may be graphic in nature may be utilized in the presentation. This is a free workshop open to all community members. Registration is required, please use this link to register: <https://tinyurl.com/TransTalk12-9> To access recordings of previous Trans Talks, please use this link: <https://tinyurl.com/transtalks-recordings>
- **December [Name and Gender Marker workshop](#) date: Wednesday, December 15, 2021**
 - **Financial assistance is now available** for Name and Gender Clinic clients to help cover costs for court fees and/or additional certified copies for their updated identity documents. If you need financial help, please fill out our very short application form: <https://bit.ly/ngc-aid-request>. All are welcome to apply, but please note San Mateo County residents will be prioritized. We are also able to provide **FREE chest binders or gaffs** upon request. Please contact Alex at alex.golding@sanmateopride.org if you have any questions. You may also call or text 650-465-6795.
- **Pride Theme 2022 callout**
 - Help us select San Mateo County (SMC) Pride Celebration 2022 THEME!! Fill out the Goggle form and submit your theme selection at this link tinyurl.com/SMCPride2022Theme . **The deadline to submit your theme selection is Friday, December 3, 2021.** Join us at the next PRIDE Initiative meeting on *Wednesday, December 8, 2021, from 4:30-6pm* as we vote on the themes and select SMC Pride Celebration 2022 theme. Please view the hyperlinks for more details.
- **[Pride Center article in the Daily Journal](#)**
 - Read about the amazing work the Pride Center is doing as we prepare for re-opening.
- **Peer support groups**
 - Stay updated about our peer support groups and changes in group dates as we shift into the holiday season: <https://sanmateopride.org/programs/peer-groups/>



SMC PRIDE Initiative Report

Dana Johnson (they/ them)- PRIDE Initiative co-chair

LGBTQ Commission Meeting- Tuesday, December 7, 2021

About the PRIDE Initiative: The PRIDE Initiative is committed to creating welcoming and inclusive environments grounded in equality and parity for LGBTQ+ community members living and working in San Mateo County. By adopting an interdisciplinary and inclusive approach to collaborating, the PRIDE Initiative looks to partner with individuals, organizations, and providers that work to ensure that services are sensitive and respectful of LGBTQ+ issues.

- ❖ Join the PRIDE Initiative and SMC Pride Celebration Subcommittee and help us select the **San Mateo County Pride Celebration 2022 Theme!** - Visit the following Google link to submit your selection tinyurl.com/SMCPride2022Theme
- ❖ Join us at the next Pride Initiative meeting and give your input about SMC Pride Celebration 2022 during our planning meeting. It would be great to have LGBTQ Commission representation and visibility during SMC Pride celebration 2022 planning
 - The next Pride Initiative Meeting is Wednesday, December 8, 2021, from 4:30-6pm. **SMC Pride Celebration 2022** Planning meeting will be from 5:15-6pm.
 - **To join the Virtual Pride Initiative Meeting here's the Zoom Conference Information:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/284596014?pwd=a0FCcUgrWVNCekkwNTB+VC8wWjRFdz09>

Meeting ID: 284 596 014

Passcode: PRIDEBHRS **(PLEASE NOTE: Password is now required to join)**

- ❖ Transgender Day of Remembrance- November 19, 2021- Debrief/ Feedback