



Santa Cruz County Commission on Justice and Gender

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Minutes: Public Meeting and Agenda

Families, Youth & Prevention Subcommittee

Date: Thursday, June 5, 2025
Time: 12 – 1:30 p.m.
Location: Capitola Branch Library
Ow Community Room
2005 Wharf Rd, Capitola, CA 95010

Introductory items

1. Call to Order / Roll Call: Called to order at 12:05 PM
 - 1.1. Present: Emma Ledvina, Lynne Petrovic, Rebecca Garcia, Sarah Kocjan, Sarah Marschall, Savannah Hayes Desai, Susan Nilsson
 - 1.2. Absent: Celeste Gutierrez, Gloria Carroll
 - 1.3. Subcommittee members reflected on May 8 commission meeting information on solitary confinement/administrative separation (research and personal stories)
 - 1.3.1. Staff don't know who is being protected and who is in trouble
 - 1.3.2. How many women in solitary confinement
2. Public Comment

Any person may address the Subcommittee for a period not to exceed three (3) minutes on matters within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee. Subcommittee members will not take action on or discuss any topic not on today's agenda, but are permitted to ask staff to follow up and/or place the topic at a future meeting. Public comment will not exceed thirty (30) minutes. If there are additional persons still wishing to address the Subcommittee after this allotted period, public comment may be continued to the last item on the agenda.

- 2.1. Lorena Archer, social psychologist working with NAMI, was a member of the Grand Jury 2023-24. Focuses on harm reduction. Shared lived experience with son.
- 2.2. Book recommendation: The Many Lives of Mama Love by Lara Love Hardin

Regular Agenda

3. Approval of Minutes from March 10, 2025 (Action)

Motion: Rebecca Garcia

Second: Sarah Kocjan

Votes: Passed unanimously

4. Announcements by Subcommittee Members (Information Only)

4.1. Rebecca Garcia:

1. attended the Board of Supervisors meeting, thanks to the women who spoke. Question: emailed Leeann to thank her and requested JAG report on decision-making and what it will look like going forward

2. Emailed Nicole after email about motion to add Susan's contract to the agenda. Failed to ask for Emergency motion and approval. Incorrect allegations from Nicole that the commissioners were in violation of the Brown Act during the meeting. County counsel recommended that the conversation be paused. Believes this was an attempt to discredit Susan.

3. Staff to add electing a chair or co-chairs for the subcommittee to next agenda since staff is too overwhelmed. Establish bylaws; staff to bring commission bylaws and refer to bylaws.

4.2. Lynne Petrovic: Biological harm is being done. How do we continue the movement Susan has started? Commission and mission come first. *09/25/2025: minutes corrected from "Biological hard is being done" to "Biological harm has been done."*

4.3. Sarah Marschall: Hard for staff to highlight issues in systems. There is a need for professional and outside perspective.

4.4. Susan to share guidelines and commission materials with co-chairs

5. Discussion: Reducing harm to children of incarcerated parents (Information Only)

5.1. Point of Arrest

5.1.1. Santa Cruz Police Department has new policy about how to handle the situation when children are present at the time of arrest

5.1.2. Localities have adopted Children's Bill of Rights. Staff to request policies from jurisdictions and information about how it is executed: information from San Francisco and Alameda counties. Rhyme policies and practices; how can this be reported?

5.1.3. Use recommendations to develop questions

5.2. Visitation and Supporting Families

5.2.1. One visit at Blaine St. Open the door wider: how can folks include visitation in recommendations?

5.2.2. Staff to request tour of jail for commissioners.

5.2.3. Office of Inspector General reports

5.2.4. Visits are happening at Rountree but no one knows when.

6. Adjournment at 1:33 PM

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