

Santa Cruz County Commission on Justice and Gender
Meeting Date: Thursday, November 17, 2022
Location: Fairfield Inn and Suites, 1255 41st Avenue, Capitola, CA 95010

Meeting Notes

The meeting was opened at 12:08 with a welcome from the co-chairs. Slides were shown to remind attendees why gender matters and the purpose of the Commission. A number of quotes about today's subject matter were displayed in posters on the walls. A variety of sandwiches from Eric's Deli Café were offered to all attendees.

The meeting was officially called to order at 12:10

1. Roll Call – the roll was not called in lieu of introductions, which followed. Attendees were asked to introduce themselves with their preferred pronoun, name of their organization, if any, and who/what each attendee turns to when things get tough.
2. Agenda Review – there were no changes or additions to the agenda
3. Announcements – announcements of upcoming events were made, including beginning the process of choosing new co-chairs, with nominations made during the first meeting of 2023. Interested parties were encouraged to reach out to Cheryl or Dr. Green.
4. Public Comment – an invitation was issued for comments from the public
5. Approval of Minutes – Approval of the minutes was moved by Julie Macecevic, seconded by Robin Lockett, and the motion passed unanimously.
6. The proposed meeting dates for 2023 were presented as February 23, May 18, August 24, and November 16. Tara George moved that the meeting dates for 2023 be approved, Evyn Simpson seconded the motion, and the dates were unanimously approved.
7. Presentation and Discussion – Preventing and Responding to Gender-based Violence and Sexual Misconduct in Custody. Monarch Services' Program Director started the presentation with a review of the barriers to seeking assistance experienced by those who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and trafficking. Santa Cruz County statistics mirror the National averages. Dr. Susan Greene continued the report by the Justice and Gender Committee on Preventing Violence, which included statistics from the Bureau of Justice that measured incidents of women who had experienced sexual assault while incarcerated in prisons and jails, and local incidents of such. The presentation also provided information on the Serious Incident Review Board convened by Sheriff Hart. Dr. Greene announced that an Independent Auditor will be engaged, and all present were encouraged to report any instances of sexual assault of women while incarcerated.
8. Committee Updates – It was announced that any subcommittee updates would be distributed by email.
9. Adjournment – the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.