

To: LGBTQ Commission
From: Tanya Beat, Director
Subject: Resolution to make findings allowing continued remote meetings under Brown Act

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution finding that, as a result of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic state of emergency declared by Governor Newsom, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

BACKGROUND:

On June 11, 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-08-21, which rescinded his prior Executive Order N-29-20 and set a date of October 1, 2021 for public agencies to transition back to public meetings held in full compliance with the Brown Act. The original Executive Order provided that all provisions of the Brown Act that required the physical presence of members or other personnel as a condition of participation or as a quorum for a public meeting were waived for public health reasons. If these waivers fully sunsetted on October 1, 2021, legislative bodies subject to the Brown Act would have to contend with a sudden return to full compliance with in-person meeting requirements as they existed prior to March 2020, including the requirement for full physical public access to all teleconference locations from which board members were participating.

On September 16, 2021, the Governor signed AB 361, a bill that formalizes and modifies the teleconference procedures implemented by California public agencies in response to the Governor's Executive Orders addressing Brown Act compliance during shelter-in-place periods. AB 361 allows a local agency to continue to use teleconferencing under the same basic rules as provided in the Executive Orders when certain circumstances occur or when certain findings have been made and adopted by the local agency.

AB 361 also requires that, if the state of emergency remains active for more than 30 days, the agency must make findings by majority vote every 30 days to continue using the bill's exemption to the Brown Act teleconferencing rules. The findings are to the effect that the need for teleconferencing persists due to the nature of the ongoing public health emergency and the social distancing recommendations of local public health officials. Effectively, this means that local agencies must agendaize a Brown Act meeting once every thirty days to make findings regarding the circumstances of the emergency and to vote to continue relying upon the law's provision for teleconference procedures in lieu of in-person meetings.

AB 361 provides that Brown Act legislative bodies must return to in-person meetings on October 1, 2021, unless they choose to continue with fully teleconferenced meetings because a specific declaration of a state or local health emergency is appropriately made. AB 361 allows local governments to continue to conduct virtual meetings as long as there is a gubernatorially-proclaimed public emergency in combination with (1) local health official recommendations for social distancing or (2) adopted findings that meeting in person would present risks to health. AB 361 is effective immediately as urgency legislation and will sunset on January 1, 2024.

Further, 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

DISCUSSION:

Because local rates of transmission of COVID-19 are still in the “substantial” tier as measured by the Centers for Disease Control, we recommend that the LGBTQ Commission avail itself of the provisions of AB 361 allowing continuation of online meetings by adopting findings to the effect that conducting in-person meetings would present an imminent risk to the health and safety of attendees. A resolution to that effect, and directing staff to return each 30 days with the opportunity to renew such findings, is attached hereto.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

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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COUNTY OF SAN MATEO LGBTQ COMMISSION

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

Tuesday, January 17, 2023

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order, Land Acknowledgement, Group Agreements		Our <u>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.
2. Roll Call		Present: Aaron Adriano (late & vote only on #10), Rebecca Carabez, Marilyn Hollinger, Dana Johnson, Jana Rickerson, Christopher Sturken, Craig Wiesner Absent: Krystle Cansino, Lalo Gonzalez, Bismay Mishra <u>Non-Commissioners:</u> Tanya Beat, Linda Wolin, Chloe Chan (Youth Commissioner), Valeria Chavez (Youth Commissioner), Alex Golding <u>Members of the Public:</u> Evaine Young
3. Adopt a resolution...	<i>Action</i>	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. Craig Wiesner motions. Dana Johnson seconds the motion. Approved.
4. Public Comment		Announcing that Rudy Espinosa-Murray has resigned because he is now staff for Supervisor Corzo’s office. Introduction of Evaine Young (waitlist).
5. Action to Set Agenda & Approve Consent Agenda Items	<i>Action</i>	Amendment of December Meeting Minutes to add Craig Wiesner to attendance list. Also correct meeting time to 6:00pm. Jana Rickerson motions to approve with the amendments. Marilyn Hollinger seconds. Approved.
CONSENT AGENDA		
6. Approval of December Meeting Minutes – Amendments to the December Meeting Minutes include		
REGULAR AGENDA		
7. Reflecting, Appreciating, Growing	<i>Discussion</i>	Facilitated by Tanya Beat Guest poet Minerva Kamra did not attend Chris Sturken announced that Rudy Espinosa-Murray resigned to take a position with Supervisor Corzo as a legislative aide.
8. Reports: 1. Pride Center 2. Pride Initiative & CoastPride 3. Youth Commission 4. President Pine’s Office	<i>Updates</i>	President Pine’s Office update by Linda Wolin January 3 BOS priorities and issues of focus - With Operations, organizing more study sessions and creating standing committees. Example is Guaranteed Basic Income Model, having an ad-hoc cmtte to study and make recommendations to the BOS. Other issue examples are the Fetanyl Crisis, Measure K assessment. - Policy objectives: Environment (sea level rise and One Shoreline), reducing carbon emissions, green building, etc. - Children & Youth investment – mental health, gun violence - Redoubling commitment to equity, social justice, continuing support of LGBTQ visibility, reproductive rights, Juneteenth visibility (all these support inclusion) - As we learn more about study sessions, we can have commissions participate; the topics for study sessions are not defined yet.

		<p>Pride Center: update by Alex Golding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hiring two positions right now. - Rainbow Kids training – for parents, educators, caregivers who work with preK to elementary school age kids. Series of 4 webinars. - Unpacking Implicit Bias training – free for the community; limited to 50 people - Grand Re-opening of Center – Friday, March 24; VIP hour from 4-5:30pm and then after that will be general admission. - Will be inviting folx to be on a cmte to “name” the rooms. Dana Johnson is interested in helping. <p>Pride Initiative: update by Dana Johnson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pride Celebration is Saturday, June 10th at Central Park, San Mateo. - Join us for Pride Planning meetings (Fridays); next mtg Jan 20 11am-12pm. - Next Pride Initiative Mtg is Wed, Feb 8 from 4:30-6:00pm. <p>CoastPride Report: updated by Dana Johnson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working with ALAS and offering to provide SOGIE training for their “health bus” staff. - Providing free internet <p>Youth Commission Report: update by Chloe Chan & Valeria Chavez</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Group is leveraging social media (Tik Tok, Snapchat, IG, Twitter, etc) for communications. Invite you to follow them on IG. - Environmental Justice Cmte symposium in early April - Immigration Cmte – supporting access to college (1st generation students)
9. Retreat Purpose, Goals, & Facilitator	<i>Discussion</i>	<p>Facilitated by Chris Sturken</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fahad Qurashi (he/him/his) is facilitator and asked him to help us with the retreat. Tremendous experience and think he will resonate with everyone. Need Feedback from Commissioners (see attached document)
10. 2023 Calendar-at-a-Glance	<i>Action</i>	<p>Craig Wiesner motions to cancel June and November and to move the last meeting of 2022 to first week of December. Second by Chris Sturken. Approved.</p> <p><i>We can decide the last meeting of the year in December through a Doodle poll of availability provided by Tanya Beat. Please send Tanya contacts for venues in North County. A venue will be announced at the February mtg.</i></p>
11. Attendance & Participation	<i>Discussion</i>	<p>Facilitated by Chris Sturken (<i>What do we all agree to when it comes to participation? What does it look like?</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Request: same-day rapid tests for COVID because I don’t want to see for two hours with a mask on. - Individual’s choice to wear a mask or not. - how do you want to hold each other accountable for attending meetings and participating. The minimum goal is to make quorum and the medium goal is to create work we can actually accomplish. - 2 unexcused absences is the limit. - When we meet in person, it will become more challenging for people to get to meetings timely. - Request that we continue this agenda item for the February meeting.
12. Commissioner Announcements		
13. Adjournment		

About Service provider, **Fahad Qurashi (He/him/his)**

Fahad has over 22 years of youth development, public policy, organization leadership, fund development, strategy and program design experience. He is the son of immigrants from Pakistan and a long time Bay Area resident, and is committed to addressing forms of inequity that communities of color experience everyday. Fahad has expertise in creating policy solutions in partnership with community members, elected officials and philanthropic leaders across the region. He has led incredible collaborative efforts that span intersecting issues that include health equity, financial and economic justice, transportation justice and education reform. He has led the design and implementation of nationally recognized youth leadership programs and is also an expert trainer/facilitator building the capacity of community-led coalitions across the country.

Fahad has a longstanding relationship of over 15 years at yli (Youth Leadership Institute), spanning from his time as a program participant in tobacco prevention efforts to serving as a regional director supporting the Bay Area offices. Through this trajectory shift at yli, he has been at all levels of the staffing experience, which he leverages in his current role as Chief Program Officer.

Prior to rejoining yli in 2022, Fahad served as the Senior Director of Strategy at MyPath – the national nonprofit seeding youth economic opportunity. With MyPath, he led efforts to scale programs that integrate financial capability into emerging guaranteed income projects and other special projects, leading policy and advocacy efforts and supporting the organization’s youth development model and leadership work.

Fahad has a B.A. from San Francisco State University in political science and is a 2016 Urban Habitat Board and Commissions Leadership Institute graduate. He is deeply committed to amplifying youth voice, community power and the ability to change community conditions.

Retreat Agenda:

- (8:15 – 8:30am) Set Up and Breakfast
- (8:30 - 8:45am) Welcome and Agenda Overview
- (8:45 - 9:15am) Group Agreements and Expectations
- (9:15 – 9:45am) Team Building Activity
- (9:45 – 10:45am) Mission, Vision, and Principles
- (10:45 - 11:00) BREAK
- (11:00 - 11:15am) Commission Impact Examples
- (11:15 - 11:45am) Ideation Station
- (11:45am - 12:10pm) Break & Lunch
- (12:10 - 1:10) SMARTIE Goals
- (1:10 - 1:30) Reflection and Closing

Training Objectives:

1. Revisit and Solidify Commission Vision and Purpose
2. Develop short term and intermediate goals (2 year goals) and corresponding objectives to shape commission work plan
3. Provide group identity and team building opportunities



[San Mateo County Pride Center](#) (click for website)

February 2023 Updates

Pride Center Special News and Announcements!

- To read the Pride Center's February 2023 newsletter in its entirety, please click this link: <https://tinyurl.com/smcpcnewsletter-feb2023>
- **The Weight of Bearing Witness:**
 - The last three years have impacted us all. It can be difficult to hold so many wavering emotions for so long. On **Friday, February 17, from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm**, the Pride Center will hold a virtual processing space for anyone who wishes to join us to talk through these complicated feelings or to simply be present with others in our community. Mental Health Clinicians will also be present as needed. For more information, contact verna.barrientos@sanmateopride.org.
 - Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/smcpc-processgroup217>
- **The Pride Center is hiring!**
 - The following job opportunities are available with the Pride Center:
 - [Peer Group & Volunteer Coordinator](#)
 - [Peer Counseling Coordinator](#)
- **Pride Center Grand Re-opening - SAVE THE DATE!**
 - **Friday, March 24, from 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm** we can't wait to welcome our community back in through our *physical* doors again. We will celebrate in style (duh!) with light refreshments, music, and fun. More details to come but we hope to see YOU there!



Pride Center Special Events!

- [Palentines Hike- San Bruno Mountain History Tour](#): Sat. Feb 25th
 - **On Saturday February 25th (9:30am arrival time with a 10am hiking start)**, spread the love of community with an outdoor hike and guided history tour of the San Bruno mountains with the San Mateo County Parks Foundation, San Mateo County Pride Center, and Peninsula Family Service. Lunches will be provided! For any questions or concerns regarding the event, please contact Adriana Arriaga at adriana@supportparks.org and Azisa Todd at azisa.todd@sanmateopride.org. Register ASAP (**SPACES ARE LIMITED!!**) at <https://tinyurl.com/PalentinesParks>.
 - **Accessibility Information:** The history tour will be on the Saddle Loop trail and is approximately 1.5-2 miles on non-paved paths with 3 moderate inclines. There is only 1 main outdoor seating area at the base of the trail and approximately 4 (four) small benches along the trail. There are 2 (two) main bathrooms: one located across from the parking lot and the other by the Edward Bacciocco group area. There are no gender-neutral restrooms. The non-paved trail **does not have shaded areas**, thus participants are encouraged to bring hats, sunscreen, and/or umbrellas to avoid direct sunlight. More information about climate and weather will be provided as we get closer to the tour date.
 - **COVID Safety Information:** Because this will be an outdoor tour, masks are not required, but strongly recommended. Extra masks and hand sanitizer will be available for all.
- [Rainbow Kids Training Webinars](#)
 - Children form foundational concepts of gender, families, and love before the age of five This free webinar (in English) is returning for parents, caregivers, and anyone who wants a more expansive, welcoming world for young children. Using scenario practice and interactive games, this webinar will demonstrate how to support folks all across the rainbow. It will be facilitated by Azisa Todd (Lead Trainer for the San Mateo County Pride Center) and Nathanael Flynn (Early Childhood Educator and co-author of *Supporting Gender Diversity in Early Childhood Classrooms*). Closed captioning will be available.
 - Click below to register for one of four free webinars (each webinar contains the same content):
 - [February 15, 4:00 - 5:30 pm](#)
 - [April 19, 4:00 - 5:30 pm](#)
 - [June 21, 7:00 - 8:30 pm](#)
 - [September 7, 7:00 - 8:30 pm](#)
 - Rainbow Kids is a project of Community Equity Collaborative in partnership with the San Mateo County Pride Center and with funding from the Silicon Valley Community

Foundation. For more information, contact Jen Sheldon at jennifer@communityequitycollaborative.org.

- **Exploring Our Roots: Unpacking Bias in Order to Grow**
 - It's human nature to make assumptions about people, identities, and communities. At a glance, we categorize people and place them into boxes frequently unknowingly. Many of our beliefs are often passed on through generations and go unnamed. We move through the world with ongoing assumptions and belief systems unknowingly until space is provided to help bring awareness to our own implicit biases. Thus, the Pride Center is proud to announce a new **FREE** training, **Exploring Our Roots: Unpacking Bias in Order to Grow**.
 - Supported by the Kaiser Foundation, each training will create a carefully guided training allowing work to begin to unpack our own internalized myths we hold, ask ourselves where they come from, and examine the roots of their inheritance. By providing interactive activities, discussion time, and videos, the Pride Center will hold space for healing dialogue to help us all shift our assumptions and biases toward truth. All trainings will be capped at a 50-person maximum to foster a safe and grounding experience for all. Register [HERE \(https://tinyurl.com/SMCPCBias\)](https://tinyurl.com/SMCPCBias) for one of the two VIRTUAL trainings dates (**each training contains the same content**):
 - Wednesday, March 1st from 2-5pm
 - Thursday, March 30th from 5:30-8:30pm
 - For any questions regarding trainings/registration, please contact Azisa Todd at azisa.todd@sanmateopride.org.

- **Peer Support Groups- Upcoming meeting dates**
 - **Please note: all groups are meeting on Zoom, stay tuned for updates**
 - LGBTQ Parent Group- Monthly on the 1st Tuesday from 7:30-8:30 PM PST
 - 2/7, 3/7, 4/4, 5/2 & 6/6
 - Pre-registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/smcpc-parentsgroup>
 - LGBTQ Book Club (18+) - Monthly on the 1st Wednesday from 4:30-6pm PST
 - March book: [The Sweetness of Water](#) by Nathaniel Harris (3/1)
 - Pre-registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/smcpc-bookclub>
 - Polyamory Peer Power (18+)- Monthly on the 1st Wednesday fr. 7-8:30pm PST
 - Pre-registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/smcpc-polyampower>
 - March topic- ADHD/ Neurodiversity and Polyamory (3/1)
 - Gay Men's Group (18+)- Monthly on the 3rd Tuesday from 6-7pm PST
 - Upcoming dates are: 2/21, 3/21, 4/18 & 5/16
 - Pre-registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/SMCPC-gaymensgroup>
 - Queer Women's Social Group (18+)- Monthly on the 4th Friday from 6-7:30pm PST
 - Upcoming dates are: 2/24, 3/24, 4/28, 5/26
 - Pre-registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/smcpc-queerwomensgroup>



CoastPride Report

LGBTQ Commission Meeting- Tuesday, February 21, 2023 @6:30pm

❖ About CoastPride

☐ Our Vision

A welcoming and safe Coastsides where all LGBTQ and gender-expansive individuals, their families, and allies thrive.

☐ Our Mission

Creating a Coastsides that supports and celebrates people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

❖ CoastPride Events/ Trainings:

- ❖ **For events and to learn about what's going on at CoastPride see the CoastPride newsletter.**

Health and Wellness

Groups are going well, with new groups in Pacifica. Cam shared GSA network growing and trans youth excitement to be together and try on binders. Jenny shared transition with Aging Well groups bc Eddie Perez has given notice to PFS and facilitator wants to continue but not in lead role, so seeking facilitators.

Pride Planning

Mary and Jenny reported on Pacifica and HMB planning teamwork, which is going well.

Promotional flyers to go out in February

Follow up to solicit business donors and nonprofit participation

Flier seeking coastsides Grand Marshall to also go out to 1,000+ distribution list

Pride Prom

Jenny reported on the team's planning and did a shout out to Joshua, VP student services CSM, who has been an amazing partner on this and with HMB Pride planning. CSM is the venue, CP

provides a landing page on the website to register, the team is working on making it fun with CSM providing cosmetology students for make-up and CP reached out to Christopher to do Heels worship at Prom.

Logistics are: April 14th, 6 -10pm

Partners include: County Office of Education rep and former partner and Equity Award winner, Holly Wade, San Mateo Union High School District Director of Special Education Services; Dana just joined the group with their Pride Initiative and Commission hats.



San Mateo County PRIDE Initiative Report

- *Dana Johnson (they/ them/ theirs)- PRIDE Initiative co-chair*
- **LGBTQ Commission Meeting-** Tuesday, February 21, 2023 @ 6:30pm

- ❖ **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.

- ❖ SMC Pride 2023 has been confirmed for Saturday June 10, 2023 from 11am-5pm
- ❖ We will be having a SMC Pride Planning meeting on Friday February 24, 2023 from 12-1pm. Join us as we plan for SMC Pride 2023 (for Pride Planning zoom link reach out to Dana)
 - SMC Pride Celebration 2023 flyer will be shared to the community at the end of February.
- ❖ Join us at the next Pride Initiative meeting (via virtual) on Wednesday, March 8, 2023 from 4:30-6pm.
 - PRIDE Initiative and local LGBTQIA+ updates
 - To join the Virtual Pride Initiative Meeting please see the Zoom Conference Information below:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81510844451>

Meeting ID: 815 1084 4451

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

To: San Mateo County LGBTQ Commission

From: Valeria Chavez-Franco

Date: 2/13/23

Subject: Youth Commission Updates

Overview, Last Youth Commission Meeting: Regular Meeting, and Committee Updates

Update: Whole Commission

- The youth commission along with San Mateo County Health will be jointly working on an updated version of the Adolescent Report, creating a survey which will then be sent out to schools and teenagers throughout San Mateo County. Youth Commissioners participating in the Adolescent Report will also be analyzing the data and recommending policy. This project will most likely extend into the next YC year.
- The Youth Commission was also presented with the Music Therapy for Asian Americans project hoping to receive a letter of support from the youth commission for the project. The project would “meet the needs of the community through music”. This project is being proposed by the BHRS.
https://www.smchealth.org/sites/main/files/3_inn_project_brief_-_music_therapy_-_final_0.pdf

Update: Educational Equity Committee

- The EEC continues to work on its college access project, writing emails and brainstorming locations and methods as challenges and obstacles are faced, moving the project to more college counselors focused with the assistance of college students. We hope to have the final plan outlined by the workgroup next week.
- The EEC is also adopting a project proposed by two EEC commissioners in conjunction with the First Five San Mateo Commission on diverse children's literature.

Update: Other Committees

- As we move into February, most subcommittees are setting into stone their plans for this year and beginning the implementation of their projects, most committees have a “due date” of April or May for many of their projects, As the early stages of many youth commission projects are being accomplished. Also, every committee was asked to submit who they would like to see

as a Guest Speaker for the Regular Workgroup Meetings.

Thank you for your time!

- Valeria Chavez-Franco

To: LGBTQ Commission

Re: Request to review and approve or not approve revised Gender Inclusive Language Resolution

Please review the attached draft resolution entitled “Gender Inclusive Language Resolution.” It was first proposed by Supervisor Canepa in September 2021 and referred to the LGBTQ Commission. Since then, it has gone through multiple reviews, including by an adhoc committee, the SMC Human Resources Department, the SMC Office of Equity, and the SMC Pride Center. As there have been multiple changes and edits, the LGBTQ Commission is being asked for its opinion on whether to recommend that the Board of Supervisors approve this resolution. The LGBTQ Commission may motion to approve as is or not approve.

**RESOLUTION ~~PROMOTING~~ GENDER-INCLUSIVE AND GENDER-NEUTRAL LANGUAGE
IN COUNTY LEGISLATION AND AFFAIRS**

Commented [TB1]: Frankie Sapp suggests to replace "promoting" to "to use"

Deleted: ESTABLISHING

Deleted: A COUNTY POLICY TO CONDUCT COUNTY AFFAIRS IN A MANNER THAT USES

WHEREAS, the County of San Mateo is committed to advancing the rights, protections, dignity, and inclusion of all its residents and employees; and

WHEREAS, the State of California recognized that many transgender and nonbinary individuals are in the state and the necessity for gender inclusivity in state-issued identification documents, legislative drafting guidelines, anti-discrimination laws, and policies related to employment, healthcare, and public facilities; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, the State of California passed a resolution (ACR-260) for the use of gender-neutral pronouns and gender-inclusive language in the drafting of legislation, and for state agencies to participate in efforts to use gender-neutral pronouns and avoid the use of gendered pronouns when drafting policies, regulations, and other guidance; and

WHEREAS, on June 15, 2020, the United States Supreme Court determined that gender identity is a protected category in relation to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; and

WHEREAS, it is now a more common and increasingly suggested practice to use gender-neutral and gender-inclusive language in the drafting of legislation, ~~regulations, and resolutions where appropriate~~; and

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Deleted: , legal, academic, and media writing, and other means of communication

WHEREAS, gender identity is a person's understanding, definition or experience of their own gender, regardless of sex assigned at birth; and

WHEREAS, misgendering someone (using the wrong pronouns) can have negative impacts on their mental health, self-confidence, and sense of inclusion; and

Deleted: WHEREAS, the use of "they" as a singular pronoun is inclusive of transgender and gender-variant individuals; ¶

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED ~~that the County shall use gender-inclusive and gender neutral language in any new legislation, regulations, and resolutions where appropriate in order to advance equity and inclusion for all individuals.~~

Commented [MP2]:

Commented [MP3]: To the extent this resolution seeks to make policy changes and/or requires union input, I include Michelle Kuka and Sarah Trela for their review/ comment.

FURTHER RESOLVED ~~that the County will continue to offer inclusive trainings including those relating to LGBTQ diversity, gender identity and/or the County's Transgender Policy to promote a respectful and welcoming work environment.~~

Deleted: all new official documents and communications from County agencies, departments, boards, and commissions-including, but not limited to, administrative policies, procedures, forms, websites, press releases, and social media communications shall be drafted using gender-inclusive language to the extent permitted by law; and

Deleted: annual training will be required for all county employees committing to LGBTQ diversity

Deleted: FURTHER RESOLVED the County explore a gender inclusive policy to recognize that all employees and citizens of San Mateo County are welcomed, included and treated equitably.