



# ***Fairfax County Commission for Women***

**12011 Government Center Parkway, Suite 740**

**Fairfax, Virginia 22035**

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## **Call to Order**

The Commission for Women met in person at the Pennino Building, Room 505 on January 12, 2026. Chair Alyssa Batchelor-Causey called the meeting to order at 7:17 PM.

**Attendees:** **Alyssa** Batchelor-Causey– At-Large; **Helen** Cole – Hunter Mill; **Aishani** Srivastava – Dranesville; **Phylicia** Woods – Providence; **Ayla** Zhang – Student; Commissioner; **Alesia** Taylor-Boyd – Franconia; **Enjoli** Ramsey – Braddock; **Amber** Beichler – At-Large; Nicole Wright Patrick-Mason; **Jordan** Tautges – Springfield (virtual)

**Absent:** **Valerie** Francisco – At-Large; Kim Pollard – At-Large

**Staff:** Keesha Coke, DSVS; Alexandra Hernandez

**Guests :** Maria Lisa Rose Magno; Lorna Bouret

## **Administrative Items**

- Helen moved to approve Jordan's remote participation; Amber seconded. Motion passed.
- Alyssa welcomed guests and introduced Nicole Wright Patrick, the new Mason District Commissioner.
- Helen moved to approve the **December minutes** with revisions; Alesia seconded. Motion passed unanimously (Nicole abstained).
- Amber moved to approve **the December Financial Report**; Enjoli seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

## **Chair's report**

- Alyssa reminded Commissioners that they are expected to meet with their Supervisors twice a year (January and July). She encouraged Commissioners to schedule these meetings to share updates and Commission initiatives.
- The Commission will vote in April for Chair and Vice Chair positions. Alyssa will run again. Commissioners should notify the Liaison if they are interested in running.
- Alyssa continues to communicate with other local Commissions for Women in the region.
- Letters regarding vacancies and Commissioner role descriptions were sent to the Supervisors of Mount Vernon, Sully, and Mason districts.

## **Reports of Officers**

**Amber** noted that tomorrow the U.S. Supreme Court will hear cases on transgender rights related to sports and gender-segregated teams, which could affect how transgender individuals are treated nationwide. She asked what actions Fairfax County can take in response.

**Enjoli** reported that [Rachna Sizemore Heizer](#) was formally sworn after winning the [special election](#) for the seat.

**Alesia** attended a meeting for Franconia District Center, which is still in progress and scheduled to open in winter 2026. She noted that affordable housing in the new building will be limited. Participated in a One Fairfax meeting this week, focusing on government, equity, and affordable housing, aligning with the CFW Strategic Plan.

**Jordan** announced that Fairfax County is observing Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month and that the Teen Advocates Gameshow event will be held on February 5 at the James Lee Community Center.

## **Reports of Committees**

*Please forward reports/attachments to Alexandra Hernandez for dissemination to the Commission.*

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### **Executive Committee –**

- If a Commissioner misses three meetings in a row, the Staff Liaison must report it to the Office of the Clerk, and the Commissioner may be removed.
- Executive Committee will contact each Commissioner to schedule informal meetings for a pulse check-in.

**Biennial Report FY'24-FY'25** – The subcommittee made available hard copies of the Commission for Women Biennial report FY2024-FY2025 for all.

### **WHM Subcommittee**

- The WHM Proclamation draft was reviewed, minor edits were made, and it will be submitted to the Office of Public Affairs. Aishani moved to approve; Nicole seconded.
- A sustainability-themed panel is planned. Confirmed speakers include a GMU professor and a military veteran with housing-related lived experience. Aishani will moderate.
- The event program is being finalized. A March 27 calendar invite will be sent, and all Commissioners will have assigned roles that day.
- Other local Commissions for Women will have two minutes each to speak. The Commission will partner with DSVS on a denim art activity at the breakfast.
- A meeting with the NAACP is scheduled to discuss collaboration. DFS-Communication is designing a "Save the Date" for the event.

**Economic Mobility workgroup:** The workgroup hosted two guest speakers:

- **Carmen Romero (True Ground Housing, Tysons):** Spoke about affordable housing.
- **Somer Cross:** Covered ADUs, WDUs, and the County's affordable rental housing programs.
- Key actions discussed:
  - **Support affordable housing:** Testify, write letters, attend events, and work with elected officials on zoning and policy changes.
  - **Engage the community:** Host discussions, follow housing committee meetings and task force work, and support programs for seniors, immigrants, and essential workers.
- The Office to Prevent and End Homelessness discussed:
  - Homelessness challenges and the evictions dashboard.
  - Public hearings for community input on homelessness and affordable housing.
  - Activities for Homeless Awareness Week in March.

### **New Business –**

#### **Meeting cadence solution**

- Due to the Strategic Plan, the number of monthly meetings has increased. To address this, meetings will be held on Monday evenings and "stacked."
- Strategic Plan workgroup meetings will move to the first Monday of each month, starting February 2 (note: date appears to conflict with "Monday" and may need correction).

#### **Ongoing pattern (first Monday of each month):**

- Health Services: 6:30–7:30 p.m.
- Economic Mobility: 7:45–8:45 p.m.
- Workgroups will alternate as needed. If a holiday falls on the first Monday, meetings will be rescheduled.

**Operations Committee** – Beginning in February, the committee will start actively recruiting a new student commissioner for the 2026–2027 academic year, with a focus on rising juniors. Plans include meeting as a

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committee, updating the website, contacting school counselors across multiple districts, and recruiting more than one student commissioner. Keesha proposed reaching out to the Fairfax County Youth Ambassadors program to help identify a student.

### **Announcements**

- Retake of annual Photo in January

**Adjourn** Alyssa adjourned the meeting at 8:30 PM.

**Next Meeting: February 9, 2026 – All-Virtual**

**Public Notice:** - [Teams Link](#) Meeting ID: 210 314 614 341 8 | Passcode: DF7oy9V7

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