



Fairfax County Commission for Women

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Call to Order

The Commission for Women met in-person at the Government Center, Room 8, on March 9, 2026. Chair Alyssa Batchelor-Causey called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

Attendees: **Alyssa** Batchelor-Causey– At-Large; **Helen** Cole – Hunter Mill; **Alesia** Taylor-Boyd – Franconia; **Amber** Beichler – At-Large; **Valerie** Francisco – At-Large; **Kim** Pollard – At-Large; **Maria Lisa** Rose Magno – Sully; **Shira** Zemel, Providence District; **Phylicia** Woods, Ex Officio

Absent: **Enjoli** Ramsey – Braddock; **Aishani** Srivastava – Dranesville; **Ayla** Zhang – Student; Commissioner; **Nicole** Wright Patrick-Mason; **Jordan** Tautges – Springfield;

Staff: **Michael** Beckettes, DFS; **Keesha** Coke, DSVS; **Alexandra** Hernandez

Administrative Items

- Helen made motion to approve February minutes with changes, the; Kim & Lisa seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Amber made motion to approve the February Financial Report; Kim & Alesia Second. Motion passed unanimously.

Chair's report

- Women's History Month. Alyssa liaising with partners. Waiting to hear from Loudoun Executive Director
- Announcement of Nicole's baby: Eliza Claire
- Alyssa welcomed Newly appointed Commissioner from the Providence District, Shira Zemel.

Reports of Officers

- Shira introduced herself and reported interest in track policy and advocacy related to reproductive access and abortion rights.
- Amber - Focus on protecting trans youth, including exploring an LGBTQ+ sanctuary bill and strengthening One Fairfax protections, especially around Pride 2026.
- Alesia – April's One Fairfax meeting focus on affordability and health care aligned with Commission's strategic plan. Interested in rotating "safe spaces" (likely recurring community conversations or gatherings).
- Phylcia - Participated in a Leadership Fairfax. Highlighted stark health and infrastructure disparities across districts in the County and recommended commissioner district tours to see conditions firsthand and better understand why disparities exist.
- Kim - Focus on economic mobility (especially for women and veterans), exploring business support models, and meeting with Supervisor Sizemore Heizer
- Lisa - Engaging community organizations on financial literacy and housing; clarified the County currently lacks rent stabilization authority, pending state action.
- Helen - Attended Healthier Fairfax (Health Department event) and noted their multiple strategies to promote health and transit initiatives of the Health Department Strategic Plan. Recommends commissioners participate in Leadership Fairfax for systems-level understanding.

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

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- Valerie – Continued focus on improving awareness of health and human services, including better outreach via QR-code materials, social media, and community leaders. Attended meetings with HSRG team and Health Department.

Guest: Michael Becketts, DFS Directors, Budget FY2027

- Fairfax County faces a \$33M budget gap with no tax rate increase, driven by higher assessments and weaker commercial real estate revenues.
- About 750 positions will be eliminated Countywide; departments are reducing 5% while protecting core/mandated services.
- DFS cuts include reduced CSA funding, small reductions to non-mandated/private insured services, a few CYF positions and a family support contract, ending print Golden Gazette, and seeking efficiencies in Adult & Aging services.
- Public and commissions can provide input on the budget from mid-February through April via presentations or video testimony to the Board of Supervisors.

Reports of Committees

Executive Committee

- February meeting was cancelled due to weather.
- Committee is considering a one-day retreat or team-building/visioning session to strengthen cohesion, improve communication and trust, and support more effective, structured commission work.

WHM Subcommittee

- A SignUpGenius has been created to assign roles to Commissioners for the Women’s History Month event. An MC is still needed as backup for Jordan. Someone needs to take Ayla’s role and give the closing remarks.
- 150 Registrations, 4 people on the waitlist, Among confirmed attendees: Supervisors Bierman and Lusk, 2 representatives from Mason and Braddock District representative

Strategic Oversight Committee

- The committee met last week for its initial meeting to gain a clearer understanding of direction and priorities.
- Asking workgroups to develop a concrete action plan for May–September by May 15, including specific actions and expected impact.

Health Care Services Workgroup

- Alesia visited the new Franconia-Springfield Health Department center. The site offers vital records and other services.
- The HSRG tool overlaps with both health care and economic mobility. It’s been suggested to add a “Women’s Health” button.
- The Health Department has a podcast: There is an opportunity for CFW to be featured on the podcast.

Economic Mobility Workgroup

- The Economic Mobility will resume its work the last week in March after their last meeting in December.

Old Business

- Operations Subcommittee will review the Student Commissioner flyer that Ayla updated and discuss recruitment.

New Business –

- County’s Inclement Weather policy – Fairfax County non-emergency personnel cannot work when County is closed, not even telework. No BAC can meet.

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- FY2027 County Budget – The Commission will draft a general letter to the BOS to advocate for women & girls programs and present during budget public hearings. Operations & Executive Committees will support.

Announcements

- Fairfax City CFW's WHM event Sunday, March 15th 1-3PM Stacy Sherwood Community Center. Sustainability Market

Adjourn Alyssa adjourned the meeting at 9:33 PM.

Next Meeting: April 13, 2026 – In Person

Public Notice: - [Teams Link](#) Meeting ID: 223 578 715 246 9 | Passcode: Bh98kB28

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