



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 April 13, 2026. Chair Alyssa Batchelor-Causey called the meeting to order at 7:18 PM.

Attendees: Alyssa Batchelor-Causey– At-Large; **Helen** Cole – Hunter Mill; **Amber** Beichler – At-Large; **Valerie** Francisco – At-Large; **Kim** Pollard – At-Large; **Shira** Zemel, Providence District; **Aishani** Srivastava – Dranesville; **Jordan** Tautges – Springfield; **Nicole** Wright Patrick-Mason (virtual/family leave); **Alesia** Taylor-Boyd – Franconia (virtual/medical reason). **Absent:** **Ayla** Zhang – Student Commissioner **Maria Lisa** Rose Magno – Sully

Staff: Keesha Coke, Alexandra Hernandez, Stacy Ziebell **Guest:** Brenda Irons-LeCeste, COA; Harlene Kaur (public)

Administrative Items

- Kim made motion to approve March minutes with changes. Shira seconded. Jordan, Nicole, and Alysa abstained. Motion passed unanimously.
- Amber made motion to approve virtual attendance of Nicole & Alesia, and Helen seconded.
- Jordan made motion to approve the March Financial report; Amber second. Motion passed unanimously.

Guest

- Stacy Ziebell is recruiting for a CFW representative to sit on the CEDV. Role serves as a bridge between CFW and CEDV, offering CFW perspective, identifying gaps, and helping problem-solve. No subject-matter expertise required.
- CEDV is working on its Strategic Framework, systems coordination, and strengthening county response with courts, policy partners, and community stakeholders. Meetings are twice monthly at 8:00 AM and 12:30 PM (1.5 hours each). One or two meetings in Fairfax; others at the courthouse. Ad-hoc committees meet as needed. Work includes Equity Committee, Victim Access, and Accountability.
- CFW will work on appointing someone. Nicole and Helen have expressed interest.

Elections Voting

- The Commission conducted elections for Executive Committee officers.
- Results: Alyssa Batchelor-Causey elected Chair; Jordan Tautges and Kim Pollard elected Vice Chairs.

Reports of Officers

- Shira is scheduling meeting with Supervisor Palchick to outline priorities.
- Kim. Informed that meeting with Supervisor Sizemore was canceled. Attended Farmers Market ribbon cutting with Valerie.
- Valerie is conducting research to increase public awareness of the Commission's work. Suggested CFW resource table for upcoming community events. Informed that Reston Pride was canceled in need of volunteers for 2027.
- Brenda: COA is planning testimony to the Board of Supervisors. Provided positive feedback on the WHM event.
- Amber mentioned that Alexandria Pride is in June. Highlighted barriers for transgender youth accessing gender-affirming care. Reported some hospitals discontinuing care due to federal actions and Medicare funding threats. Noted that gender-affirming care remains medically supported by AMA; no restrictions in VA law. Advocating for state-level protections for queer youth and healthcare providers.

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

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- Jordan: Attended RISE Summit organized by Jessica Berg, Loudoun HS. She'll be exploring how FCPS Student Rep can leverage youth resources. Attended Fairfax City WHM Sustainability Market; connected with Junior League of Northern Virginia—potential invite for Legislative Roundtable or future meeting. Shared Fairfax City ceremony with Katie Johnson. Planning to attend Arlington Commission for Women's SAMM on April 30.
- Alesia: The Franconia District Open House was on April 11th. The new multi-use new facility hosts a Regional Library, Senior Activity Center, Day Care Center and Police/Communications Sub- station. Scheduled periodic meeting with Supervisor Lusk. Engaging with High Schools in Franconia to identify student candidates. Participating in Fairfax Roundtable. One Fairfax Team has established 2 subcommittees of focus: 1) Opportunity-Rich & Inclusive Neighborhoods and 2) Responsive & Just Governance and participating in both.

Reports of Committees

Executive Committee

September retreat was discussed. Commissioners are skeptical towards anything corporate. Preference is a Field Day outdoor picnic at end of summer; teambuilding, camaraderie. Budget can cover facilitator and materials. Send ideas.

WHM Subcommittee

The committee will meet to draw lessons learned from the event at the end of the month and report in May.

Operations Committee

Committee met in March. Working on announcing Student Rep opportunity in Schoology; updating Bylaws and Operational procedures manual Also, drafting policy of use of technology.

Health Care Services

Action plan intends to spread the word on services by distributing posters and info cards in community centers and libraires that include where in each district people can find services. Held meetings with HSRG and Health Department. Jordan & Valerie will be meeting with Black Women East of the River. Jordan & Shira will be meeting with Hunter Gunn, INOVA, Community Health Specialist

Economic Mobility Workgroup

Lisa held meeting with Operation Hope on April 6th. Meeting on affordable housing will be on April 20th. *Per email communications, follow up post-Memorial day on in-depth meeting/s with Somer Cross and Housing Division.*

New Business

- Review draft of FY2027 budget testimony. Alyssa will present on Wednesday, April 15 and she's speaker #17.
- Commissioners suggested adding data on women living at or near the poverty line, including older women, with examples from areas such as Annandale, Bailey's Crossroads, Idylwood, and Falls Church.
- Concerns noted about impacts on older women, including reductions to home-delivered meals (from 11 to 5 days), elimination of the printed Gazette, removal of funding for the Kinship Care Support Group contract, and elimination of the low-income home repair program for manufactured/mobile homes.
- Jordan made motion to approve testimony letter. Motion was seconded by Aishani & Helen.

Announcements

- Northern Virginia Section of NCNW, Inc. - Annual Community Health Fair! April 25, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM ☺
James Lee Community Center
- Summers in Seven Corners Block Party 2026; Wilston Multicultural Center Falls Church, May 9, 11 AM - 2 PM

Adjourn Alyssa adjourned the meeting at 9:33 PM.

Next Meeting: May 11, 2026 – In Person

Public Notice: - [Teams Link](#) Meeting ID: 222 237 778 179 6 | Passcode: V3D8gU6o

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