

**ALEXANDRIA COMMISSION FOR WOMEN**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, May 12, 2026 | Hybrid**  
**7:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

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**ATTENDANCE**

Yvette Jiang; Annette Maldonado; Gina Wood; Hope Nelson; Krystle Bransky; Giovanna Rogow; Kafi Joseph; T. Nicole Hutchinson, and Sharon Prince

**Virtual:** Rev. Dr. Shelley Brown; Lexi White; Dr. Vanita Datta

**Excused Absences:** Caroline Schofield; Dr. Elisabeth Palmer Johnson, and Neacola Yvonne Shaw

**Staff:** Debra Evans and LaTanya Chinagorom

**Member of the Public:** Alyssa Batchelor-Causey, Chair, Fairfax Commission for Women

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**CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME**

First Vice Chair Jiang called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed attendees. Introductions were made, including new Commissioner Sharon Prince.

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**APPROVAL OF APRIL 2026 MINUTES**

Commissioner Wood motioned to approve the April 14, 2026 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

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**PRESENTATION: ALYSSA BATCHELOR-CAUSEY, CHAIR, FAIRFAX COMMISSION FOR WOMEN**

Alyssa Batchelor-Causey, Chair of the Fairfax Commission for Women, presented on the Commission's initiatives and priorities. Topics included:

- Women in transportation
- Affordable and stable housing
- Homeownership
- Interpersonal violence

- Safety and wellness
- Childcare support

She also shared that the Fairfax Commission for Women is currently updating its Human Services Resource Guide.

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## **ELECTIONS & NOMINATIONS**

Commissioner Hutchinson officiated the elections and nominations on behalf of Commissioner Palmer Johnson. She acknowledged the Commission's commitment to collaboration, sisterhood, and relationship-building.

Executive Board Slate:

- **Chair:** Annette Maldonado
- **First Vice Chair:** Gina Wood
- **Second Vice Chair:** Giovanna Rogow

No nominations were made from the floor.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to approve the slate as presented. Commissioners Bransky and Nelson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Action Items**

- The new Executive Board will meet with Ms. Evans to determine agenda items for the June meeting and discuss plans for the summer retreat.
- The Executive Board meeting will be publicly posted on the calendar.

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## **ONBOARDING REFRESHER**

Commissioner Joseph shared that onboarding refreshers are held quarterly and include a quiz. Upcoming discussions will include Commission bylaws and volunteer hour expectations.

Commissioners are expected to complete eight volunteer hours per month. Commissioners Joseph and Hutchinson will develop a process to track volunteer hours.

### **Action Item**

- An onboarding refresher and quiz will be conducted at the next Commission meeting.
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## **ANNETTE'S MOTION**

Commissioner Maldonado proposed developing a plan to strengthen Commission outreach and community engagement. Discussion on the topic will continue at a later date.

Additional updates included:

- The Commission will meet in June but not in July 2026.
- A retreat is planned for August 2026.
- The Mayor recently hosted an open forum highlighting concerns about City communication and public awareness of available resources, including the 3-1-1 system.

The Commission discussed aligning future efforts with City priorities, including:

- Affordable housing
- Birth and maternal mortality concerns

Commissioner Maldonado also shared updates regarding the Health Coalition in the Landmark/Van Dorn area, including workgroup progress related to mental health initiatives.

### **Action Items**

- Commissioners are encouraged to attend community events and engage residents in conversations about City needs and how the Commission can assist.
- Develop a proposal with defined goals, outcomes, and timelines for outreach initiatives.
- Identify ways to support young women in the community.
- Commissioner Rogow recommended incorporating financial literacy initiatives.
- Commissioners were encouraged to complete the tracking sheet for community issues and events.
- Commissioner Wood recommended strengthening partnerships with organizations working on related issues locally and regionally.
- Ms. Evans and/or Ms. Chinagorom will distribute the Commission's SharePoint link to all members.

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## **STATUS OF WOMEN REPORT AND VOLUNTEER UPDATE**

Commissioner Joseph provided background on efforts to update the Status of Women Report. Five workgroups have contributed information to a shared document.

### **Action Items**

- Address data gaps related to employment and unemployment by zip code.
  - Obtain additional unemployment-related data for women.
  - Reach out to the Economic Opportunities Commission.
  - Consult with other commissions for additional insight and collaboration.
  - Establish a standard reporting format.
  - Commissioners Joseph and White will meet offline regarding synthesis and formatting.
  - Commissioner White recommended identifying a specific meeting date and time to continue synthesis discussions.
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### **SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE**

Commissioners discussed opportunities for community outreach through local cookouts and events.

The annual Pride event will take place on Saturday, June 27, 2026, from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Carlyle Square Park.

### **Action Items**

- Commissioner Maldonado will distribute a weekly list of community events.
  - Commissioner Maldonado will continue sharing posts and event updates.
  - Commissioners were encouraged to submit photos and positive community stories.
  - A monthly Commissioner feature will be introduced on social media.
  - New Commissioners were encouraged to follow the Commission on Facebook and Instagram.
  - The Advocacy Subcommittee will develop content related to reproductive freedom.
  - The Commission will have a table at the Pride event in June.
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### **BYLAW UPDATE**

#### **Action Item**

- Commissioner Joseph will create a digital QR code business card for the Commission.

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## **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT OUT**

- The Advocacy Subcommittee provided updates.
  - The Commission for Aging continues to meet monthly on Thursdays.
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## **LIAISON COUNCIL MEMBER / PAIRING REPORT OUT**

First Vice Chair Jiang shared that she is paired with Mayor Gaskins.

### **Action Items**

- The new Executive Board will revisit the liaison pairing roster.
  - Commissioners must formally apply to serve as liaisons to other commissions.
  - Commissioners were encouraged to congratulate and welcome Council Member Sandy Marks following her recent swearing-in.
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## **PARKING LOT ITEMS**

### **Liaison Roles**

- Commissioner Hutchinson shared her previous service on the Community Policing Review Board and the HIV Commission, both of which have dissolved. She currently serves on the Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy (ACAP).

### **Road Implementation Program**

- Commissioner Maldonado discussed concerns regarding community outreach and engagement related to the Road Implementation Program. She noted that information is not effectively reaching all residents, particularly underrepresented communities on Alexandria's West End.
- The Commission discussed the importance of inclusive communication, especially considering Alexandria's linguistic diversity and the impact of transportation and infrastructure decisions on women.

### **Additional Announcements & Recognition**

- Commissioner Hutchinson encouraged Commissioners to volunteer and engage with other City commissions.
- Commissioner Wood congratulated Ms. Evans and her team on the successful Sexual Assault Awareness Month Poetry Night event.

- Commissioner Bransky congratulated First Vice Chair Jiang on being recognized as a “40 Under 40” award recipient.
- Congratulations were extended to the newly elected Executive Board.
- Commissioner Brown recognized Commissioner Maldonado for her creativity and dedication in managing the Commission’s social media presence.
- Ms. Evans distributed City lapel pins to Commissioners.

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## **NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday, June 9, 2026 | 7:00–9:00 p.m.

Location: To Be Determined

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## **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

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## **SUBCOMMITTEES**

Subcommittees met for 20 minutes after the meeting.