

Marin Women’s Commission — Special Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 7, 2025 – 6:00pm to 8:00pm
3501 Civic Center Dr., Room 410B, San Rafael, CA 94903

Minutes

- I. Call to Order/Establish Quorum 6:14pm
Present: Sonia Saltzman, Caroline Vance Bruister, Leslie Belingheri, Fran Calle La Bou, Carole Simon Mills, Heather McPhail Sridharan. Absent: Cris Corillo (work obligation), Katie Koyfman (illness), Liz Max (work obligation).

- II. Approval of Minutes for August 26, 2025 CSM/CVB/p

- III. Approval of Agenda for October 7, 2025 CSM/LB/p

- IV. Open Time for Members of the Public to Speak on Items not on the Agenda
No members of the public present.

- V. Report: CRT Feedback on MTGC 2026 – Liz Max
SS: Liz was unable to make the meeting. Sonia has nothing new to report.

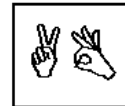
- VI. Discussion & Vote: Pause MTGC 2026
SS: We discussed pausing MTGC at the last meeting, but we need an official vote.
CSM: We discussed this at the last meeting, and we all agreed it was a good idea.

Motion to Approve Pause of MTGC in 2026 SS/CSM/p

- VII. Discussion: MTGC Communication Plan
LB shared the draft of the first MWC quarterly newsletter that she put together with Sonia and Shelley Vasquez. The newsletter will be titled the “Commission Connection.” The newsletter will inform readers that MTGC has been intentionally paused and that MWC will be embarking on a Needs Assessment to better understand the most pressing issues facing women and girls in Marin County. The last assessment was done in 2008 and published in 2009.

LB: If commissioners attend functions, they should take a selfie and submit the picture to Leslie or Sonia to be included in the newsletter. The newsletters should be going out quarterly. The next two will be in January and April 2026.

CVB: Looking for new commissioners should be in the newsletter.



In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance (i.e. auxiliary aids or services) in order to participate in this public meeting, For disability accommodations please phone [\(415\) 473-2095](tel:4154732095) (Voice), CA Relay [711](tel:711), or email [Roger Crawford](mailto:Roger.Crawford) at least five business days in advance of the event. The County will do its best to fulfill requests received with less than five business days' notice.

VIII. Discussion & Vote: Teen Ambassador Program

FCL shared her written proposal (Attachment A) for the Marin teen Girl Leadership Program. FCL's vision includes meetings on Sundays and collaboration with schools, nonprofits, and community organizations. They will have speakers, volunteering in the community, and will be based on the girls' interests

LB: Suggests commissioners should volunteer to support and that FCL should let commissioners know when they need volunteers at meetings. Commissioners can also be given tasks.

FCL also would like to end the year with a showcase where the girls present their projects and celebrate their success.

LB: Suggests Fran puts together a budget.

Motion to Approve Teen Ambassador Program

CSM/HMS/p

IX. Report: Marin County Needs Assessment 25/26 w/Sonoma WC & CAM

CVB: We had a conversation internally with HHS. We were encouraged because the County needs this, not just the Women's Commission. We connected with a Sonoma County Commissioner to discuss with they had done for their survey. She was responsible for the Sonoma County report and could potentially become a consultant on our report because we will need guidance. Leslie connected us with Marty Rule, who was a big part of the MWC report in 2009.

HMS: We will need at least \$50,000 and will be asking for \$65,000. The Commission on Aging received \$65,000 for their report. Our report will begin with outreach including focus groups and surveys. Our goal is to make informed decisions on behalf of all women and girls from every community in Marin County. The timeline will be at least a year to eighteen months. All commissioners should speak to their supervisors.

SS: We should also do public comment at a BOS meeting.

LB: We should partner with Marin Community Foundation.

X. Discussion & Vote: CA Convening of Commissions, LA Nov 10

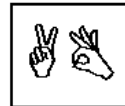
SS: The CA Convening of Commissioners will have representatives from every Women's Commission in CA. MWC can send two commissioners. CC and CVB have volunteered to go.

Motion to Approve up to \$1500 for Cris Criollo and Caroline Vance Bruister to Attend the CA Convening of Commissioners in LA on November 10

CSM/HMS/p

XI. Discussion & Vote: Reschedule Nov and Dec 2025 Meeting Dates

SS: We will be keeping our regular meeting October 28, 2025 on calendar. November and December regular meetings fall during holiday weeks. We will meet November 18 and December 16, a week before the regularly scheduled meeting.



In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance (i.e. auxiliary aids or services) in order to participate in this public meeting, For disability accommodations please phone [\(415\) 473-2095](tel:4154732095) (Voice), CA Relay [711](tel:711), or email [Roger Crawford](mailto:Roger.Crawford@marincounty.gov) at least five business days in advance of the event. The County will do its best to fulfill requests received with less than five business days' notice.

Motion to Approve Moving the November Meeting to November 18 and the December Meeting to December 16.
LB/CSM/p

XII. Discussion & Vote: Nomination/Vote re: MWC Chair position

Liz Max has stepped down from the Chair position but will be continuing as a commissioner.

LB: Nominates Sonia Saltzman to Chair of MWC.

SS: Excited to fill the position.

Motion to Approve Sonia Saltzman as Chair of the Marin Women's Commission.

LB/CSM/p

XIII. Open time for Commissioners + Q & A

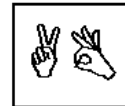
FCL: Fran will be stepping down as Secretary/Treasurer to focus on Teen Ambassador Program.

SS: We will vote at our next meeting for Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

XIV. Adjournment

7:10

KEY DATES: Regular Meeting: October 28, 2025; Special Meetings: November 18, 2025 and December 16, 2025.



In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance (i.e. auxiliary aids or services) in order to participate in this public meeting, For disability accommodations please phone [\(415\) 473-2095](tel:415-473-2095) (Voice), CA Relay [711](tel:711), or [email Roger Crawford](mailto:Roger.Crawford@marincounty.gov) at least five business days in advance of the event. The County will do its best to fulfill requests received with less than five business days' notice.

Attachment A

Proposal for Marin Teen Girl Leadership Program

October 7th, 2025

Executive Summary

The Marin Women’s Commission (MWC) has a long-standing commitment to empowering women and girls across Marin County. Without the Marin Teen Girl Conference this year, there’s a gap in programming that connects and uplifts young women in Marin. The Marin Teen Girls Leadership Program ensures that we don’t lose momentum in fostering connection, confidence, and civic engagement among local teens. That’s why I’m proposing the creation of the Marin Teen Girls Leadership Program. A year-round initiative that will run from November to June and help young women in grades 9–12 build confidence, leadership skills, and community connections.

Purpose and Vision

I’d like to collaborate with schools, nonprofits, and community organizations to create a supportive and inclusive environment where teen girls from diverse backgrounds can gain real leadership experience, engage in meaningful service, and strengthen their voices in our community.

By launching this initiative, we’ll continue to align with the Commission’s broader goals of equity, empowerment, and civic participation, while helping the next generation of Marin women step into leadership roles.

Program Overview

Timeline: November 2025 – June 2026

Application Period: October 2025

Target Participants: High school students in Marin County (grades 9–12) who identify as female and are interested in leadership, community engagement, or advocacy.

Program Structure

I propose that the Marin Women’s Commission establish the Marin Teen Girls Leadership Program with the following framework:

The MTGLP will meet bi-weekly for interactive workshops, service projects, and guest speaker sessions. The curriculum will be guided by both core leadership competencies and participant input, ensuring the program reflects what matters most to the girls themselves.

Each participant will engage in:

- **Leadership workshops** that build communication, teamwork, and confidence.
- **Hands-on community service** through partnerships with local nonprofits.
- **Financial literacy training** to strengthen real-world decision-making.
- **Mentorship** from local women leaders who provide personal and professional guidance.
- **Guest speaker events** that inspire and connect participants with women making a difference in Marin.

The program will culminate in a Teen Leadership Showcase in June 2026, where participants present their projects, reflect on their growth, and celebrate their achievements with family, mentors, and community partners.

Next Steps

1. Create a draft work plan.
2. Finalize program structure and partner collaborations.
3. Develop and launch the participant application in October.
4. Begin weekly meetings in November 2025.
5. Continue building partnerships and recruiting mentors, speakers, and volunteers to support the program.
6. By establishing this program, the Marin Women's Commission can continue its legacy of empowering young women and investing in Marin's future leaders.