



# COUNTY OF SAN MATEO LGBTQIA+ COMMISSION

## Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual plus (LGBTQIA+) Commission

**Tuesday, October 15, 2024**

**6:30 PM – 8:30 PM**

### MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order, Land Acknowledgement, Group Agreements		<u>Our Group Agreements</u> include Share the air; step up, step back; Listen for understanding; Lift as you climb; Be present & engaged; Let the facilitator guide the process; Technology on silent.
2. Roll Call		<b>Present:</b> Aaron Adriano, Kevin Babeaux, Krystle Cansino, Dana Johnson, Marilyn Hollinger, Bismay Mishra, Christopher Sturken, Vanessa Lemus-Tapia, Craig Wiesner <u>Non-Commissioners:</u> Linda Wolin <u>Members of the Public:</u> Fabricio Perez <b>Absent:</b> Jana Rickerson, Tanya Beat (staff)
3. Public Comment		Fabricio Perez
4. Action to Set Agenda & approve Consent Agenda	<i>Action</i>	Chris Sturken motions to approve the agenda and consent agenda. Marilyn Hollinger seconds. Approved.
CONSENT AGENDA		
5. Approval of September Meeting Minutes		
REGULAR AGENDA		
6. Pride Center Report - Center flag update		See meeting materials for more program & event details. Move the Center flag update to November.
7. Inclusion Community Campaign	<i>Update</i>	Small Group Updates <u>Volunteers:</u> Aaron, Vanessa (Krystle) Aaron creating flyers for recruitment. <u>Educate:</u> Craig, Chris, and Dana Public comment template & email provided. Webpage created. <u>Mobilize:</u> Marilyn, Kevin and Bismay no update. Please see ICC materials to refer to what the “ask” is and how to answer any questions. Point to basic info of LGBTQ organizations in SMC and/or website.
8. Remote Participation of Commissioners	<i>Discussion</i>	Context: this is for Commission’s own internal procedure for remote participation.

		<p>Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Remove first come, first serve</li> <li>- Commitment of all members to attend in person</li> <li>- Should we look at removing commissioners who have missed more than 2 meetings? When was the last time we had full attendance?</li> <li>- If a commissioner knows they cannot attend all meetings, especially for emergency reasons, should reconsider being on the commission.</li> <li>- Some members may not understand the Brown Act requirements.</li> <li>- Fair to attend as a Member of the Public (no vote) if less than 72 hours.</li> <li>- Questioning in-person attendance &amp; commitment of everyone.</li> <li>- Not fair and need time to propose new language.</li> </ul> <p>Motion to Postpone vote to November to allow commissioners to provide options/suggestions by Aaron Adriano, second by Craig Wiesner. Approved.</p>
<p><b>9. REPORTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pride Initiative &amp; CoastPride</li> <li>• Director’s Report</li> <li>• Co-chair Update</li> </ul>		<p>Pride Initiative &amp; CoastPride: see written reports. Update by Dana Johnson.</p> <p>Director’s Report: see written report. Update by Linda Wolin.</p> <p>CoChair Update: Update by Aaron Adriano &amp; Bismay Mishra</p>
<p><b>10. Announcements</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Krystle Cansino is resigning</li> <li>• Our Home San Mateo (contact Chris Sturken for more info)</li> </ul>
<p><b>11. Adjournment</b></p>		



## [San Mateo County Pride Center \(click for website\)](#)

### **November 2024 Updates**

- November 2024 Pride Center newsletter - <https://tinyurl.com/november2024newsletter>

### **Pride Center Hours of Operation:**

Come visit us! In addition to information, services, and events, we have a **public computer lab, an LGBTQ+ lending library, a food pantry, and a selection of clothes and gender affirming garments.** We are here for YOU.

- **Onsite Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 11:30am - 6:30pm**
  - Virtually, our programs/services are available **Monday - Friday 10:00am 7:00pm** or as scheduled with your clinician.
- Anyone who needs to drop by the center outside of these hours, please connect with us directly as we strive our best to remain accessible.
- We are located at 1021 S. El Camino Real San Mateo, 94402 (corner of 11<sup>th</sup> and El Camino). Accessibility information: <https://sanmateopride.org/accessibility>

### **Openings for Mental Health Services at the Pride Center:**

We currently have openings for therapy! (No waitlist at the moment)

The Pride Center provides both **therapy and case management services.** For therapy services we accept Medi-Cal/HPSM and also offer a sliding scale for any self-pay clients. We currently have openings for individual, couples/relationship, and family therapy. If you or someone you know is looking for LGBTQ+ or gender-affirming and inclusive mental health support, please share our information with them and encourage them to connect with us. We are here to help!

Case management services (navigating housing, employment, gender-affirming care, connection to resources, etc.) are provided at no cost. Services are available to clients located in California. Priority is given to LGBTQ+ community members based in San Mateo County. If you are interested in receiving mental health services, please fill out our online Clinical Services Request Form at <https://sanmateopride.org/mental-health-services-2-2/>

Outlet, our youth program partner agency, also has clinical openings. For more information, please contact Mimi Castro (he/him) at [mimi@acs-teens.org](mailto:mimi@acs-teens.org).

## **Can You Support the Pride Center by Volunteering?**

**Virtual and onsite** volunteer roles with the Pride Center include, but are not limited to:

- Assisting with fundraising/development goals
- Youth or Older Adult specific programming
- Become a peer group facilitator (We are currently seeking volunteer co-facilitators for our monthly **Gay Men's Group and LGBTQ+ Book Club!**)
- Social media support
- Join our [Community Advisory Board](#) (CAB)

To learn more, or if you have other ideas of how you can support by volunteering, please **contact Low (she/they) at [Lowellyn.Sunga@sanmateopride.org](mailto:Lowellyn.Sunga@sanmateopride.org)** (preferred) or 650-591-0133 who can help you figure out the best match for a mutually rewarding experience.

You can also **complete our Volunteer Interest Form:** <https://sanmateopride.org/get-involved/volunteer/>

## **Name and Gender Change Workshop**

If you are looking for support in changing your name on your legal documents, join our free monthly name and gender marker workshops. Part 1 will be on the 2nd Wednesday and Part 2 will be on the 4th Wednesday. Part 1 will cover court order forms, filing instructions, and fee waivers. Part 2 will cover updating social security documents, DMV documents, passports, birth certificates, and other documents.

**Upcoming dates: Part 2 will take place a WEEK EARLIER on 11/20**

RSVP: <https://tinyurl.com/name-and-gender-change-rsvp>

Please reach out to [info@sanmateopride.org](mailto:info@sanmateopride.org) or call 650-591-0133 if you have questions

## **Upcoming Programming:**

### **FriGay Flicks: Aggressives (2005)**

#### **About the Film:**

This underrated documentary is an intimate look into the experiences of trans men and masculine-presenting Black lesbians, also known as AGs or aggressives, in New York City in the late '90s and early '00s. Directed by Eric Daniel Peddle, the documentary was filmed over the course of five years.

This event is free and open to the public. Light snacks will be provided. Doors open at 5:30 and the movie will start at 6 pm. To watch a trailer, follow this [link](#). This film is Rated PG-13 and not suitable for audience attendees under 12.

**The Pride Center will be holding this at The Grove Room in Sports Basement Redwood City located at 202 Walnut Street, Redwood City, CA 94063.**

Registration required: <https://tinyurl.com/2024NovemberFriGayFlicks>

### **FUSE Theatre Campfire Singalong**

Location: Out of the Barrel in San Carlos, 555 El Camino Real, Suite 150

Time: 7:00pm-8:30pm

We could all use some cozy campfire vibes right about now... Fuse is SO excited to announce our upcoming event with San Mateo County Pride Center at Out of the Barrel in San Carlos!

**Join us on Saturday, November 16th starting at 6pm on the patio at Out of the Barrel where Fuse artist Alex Valdivia will lead us through a casual and community-oriented sing-along.**

This is a completely free event, and we encourage you to donate to the San Mateo County Pride Center here: <https://sanmateopride.org/donations/>

Reserve your seat here: <https://fuse.na.ticketsearch.com/sales/salesevent/18032> (linked in Fuse Theater's bio) While this is not required, folks who reserve their seats get a free campfire goodie!!!

### **Birds of a Feather- Birdwatching at Pillar Point Bluff**

Wake up to see the early bird catch the worm and join us to go Birdwatching at Pillar Point Bluff on **Sunday, November 17th from 9am-11:30am in Moss Beach!** This early excursion should allow us to see more birds and avoid some of the heavier traffic on the coast. Join the [San Mateo County Parks](#), [San Mateo County Parks Foundation](#), [CORA](#) and [San Mateo County Pride Center](#) as we learn about the birds along our beautiful coast. Hot drinks and breakfast snacks will be provided. We encourage all attendees to wear closed-toed shoes that can get muddy and extra clothing layers for the breeze. For more information about the trail we will take, visit: [www.smcgov.org/parks/trail/jean-lauer-trail](http://www.smcgov.org/parks/trail/jean-lauer-trail).

**COVID Safety Information:** Because this will be an outdoor tour, masks are not required, but strongly recommended. Extra masks and hand sanitizer will be available for all.

For more information about Pillar Point Bluff and its history, visit:  
[www.smcgov.org/parks/pillar-point-bluff](http://www.smcgov.org/parks/pillar-point-bluff)

## **Trainings**

### **Rainbow Kids: A FREE Community Training – December 3rd at 6pm**

This training is intended for community members who work with, or are the parent/guardian of under 10 year-olds.

In this training participants will learn age-appropriate techniques for holding discussions about attraction and gender.

The goal of this training is to increase awareness about topics related to sexual orientation and gender identity/expression (SOGIE) in early childhood and work toward a more expansive world for all children.

**RSVP here:** <https://tinyurl.com/RainbowKidsDec2024>

### **Queering the Holidays - Mental Health Tools for Holiday Peace**

In partnership with CORA, join us for our upcoming holiday coping tool workshop to learn more about taking care of our internal and external being!

**When:** Tuesday, December 3rd from 6 - 7:30pm

**Where:** CORA Office - 2205 Palm Avenue, San Mateo, CA 94403 - in the Carelle Room

**\*We will provide all the materials needed but you are welcome to bring any special materials you would like to use for the event**

Are you concerned about preparing for and navigating the stress of the upcoming holidays? Are you hoping to generate a list of personalized coping tools for yourself to utilize during the holiday season and beyond?

We will take the time to create a list of our own coping tools and comforts and make bracelets or keychains to take with us as a token to remember. This is a free event and all ages are welcome.

**RSVP here:** [www.bit.ly/coraqts24](http://www.bit.ly/coraqts24)

## **Peer Support Groups**

We are currently **seeking volunteer co-facilitators for our Gay Men's and LGBTQ+ Book Club**. These are all virtual opportunities for community members 18+. For more information, contact Ishani Dugar (xe/them) or 650-554-1234 (text ok)

**Please note: Most groups are meeting on Zoom, stay tuned for updates.**

Peer Support Groups- Upcoming meeting dates

- LGBTQ Parent Group- Monthly on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday from 7:30-8:30pm PST
  - Parent Group has shifted days for the rest of 2024!
    - Wednesday 11/20, Wednesday 12/18
  - Registration is required: <https://tinyurl.com/smcpc-parentsgroup>
- LGBTQ Book Club (18+) - Monthly on the 1st Wednesday from 4:30-6pm PST
  - This group is hybrid- community members will meet onsite at the Pride Center or on Zoom.
  - Upcoming book
    - December 4: The House of Hidden Meanings by Ru Paul
    - January 8: All This Could Be Different by Sarah Thankam Mathews
  - Registration is required: [tinyurl.com/smcpc-bookclub](https://tinyurl.com/smcpc-bookclub)
- Polyamory Peer Power (18+)- Monthly on the 1st Wednesday from 7- 8:30pm PST
  - Upcoming dates: December 4, January 1
  - Registration is required: [tinyurl.com/smcpc-polyampower](https://tinyurl.com/smcpc-polyampower)
- Trans\* Group (18+)- Monthly on the 1st Thursday from 6-7:30pm PST
  - Registration is required: [tinyurl.com/smcpc-transgroup1](https://tinyurl.com/smcpc-transgroup1)
  - Upcoming meeting dates: December 5, January 2
- Gay Men's Group (18+)- Monthly on the 4th Tuesday from 6-7pm PST
  - Upcoming dates: November 26, December 17
  - Registration is required: [tinyurl.com/smcpc-gaymensgroup](https://tinyurl.com/smcpc-gaymensgroup)
- Queer Women's Social Group (18+)- Monthly on the 4th Friday from 6-7:30pm PST
  - Upcoming dates: November 22, December 20
  - Registration is required: [tinyurl.com/smcpc-queerwomensgroup](https://tinyurl.com/smcpc-queerwomensgroup)

## Reminders & Resources:

**Upcoming Pride Center hours for November and December changing for construction. More details coming soon!**

**SMC Pride Center FY 23-24 Annual Report**

We could not be more proud to share with you our most recent **Pride Center FY23-24 Annual Report!**

This year marked the first full fiscal year that Pride Center has returned to in-person (now hybrid) services. We've reached an even greater number of people than ever before, now that we're back on-site and out in the community, in addition to offering our full range of online and virtual programs and services.

Throughout each of our programs and services for FY23-24 (Clinical, Peer Groups, Trainings, Outreach, Events, etc.) we reached a staggering **12,287 individuals!** This is almost 30% more than we reached last year!

**General Pride Center information:**

- Resources: <https://sanmateopride.org/resources/>
- Events: <https://sanmateopride.org/events/>
- Peer Support groups: <https://sanmateopride.org/programs/peer-groups/>
- Youth Resources: <https://www.acs-teens.org/what-we-do/outlet/>



**To: LGBTQIA+ Commission**

**From: Co-chairs Bismay Mishra and Aaron Adriano**

**Re: Allowing for Remote Participation and Adhering to the Brown Act**

**Updated with Feedback 11.19.24**

**Proposal:** A agreed upon procedure for remote participation of commissioners when they are unable to attend in person due to reasons other than qualifying emergencies or other just cause, such as exposure to a contagious illness.

**Procedural Criteria for Remote Participation:**

1. Commissioners will inform the co-chairs and Tanya at the earliest possible time of their request and include the location address of their remote location.
2. Commissioner requests will be considered if in-person quorum is still anticipated to be met. Quorum is a majority of the Commission that meets in-person. If a request to participate remotely is received under 72 hours of the meeting, it violates the Brown Act. It is fair that the commissioner participates remotely as a member of the public in such cases.
3. Commissioners need to abide by the requirements of the Brown Act which includes providing a location address that is open to the public, is ADA compliant, and the agenda is posted outside of the building.
4. The Brown Act requires that the meeting Agenda is made public within 72 hours (3 days) of the actual meeting. Because this falls on a Saturday evening for the LGBTQIA+ Commission, a non-workday for staff, posting of the agenda is done within the work week and upon the availability of staff.
5. Remote participation will be limited to two meetings per year irrespective of the reasons for the remote participation, including sickness, exposure (or other reason) and will not count towards the unexcused absences (2 unexcused absences during a 6-month period shall be grounds for removal). Please see "Section 4.4 Attendance and Participation" in the LGBTQIA+ Commission Procedural Rules.
6. A request from staff is to have commissioners who participate remotely have their video on. This is optional if a commissioner joins remotely as a member of the public.



## **San Mateo County PRIDE Initiative Report**

**From: Dana Johnson (they/ them/ theirs)- PRIDE Initiative co-chair  
LGBTQIA+ Commission Meeting- Tuesday, November 19, 2024**

- ❖ **About the PRIDE Initiative:** The PRIDE Initiative is committed to creating welcoming and inclusive environments grounded in equality and parity for LGBTQ+ community members living and working in San Mateo County. By adopting an interdisciplinary and inclusive approach to collaborating, the PRIDE Initiative looks to partner with individuals, organizations, and providers that work to ensure that services are sensitive and respectful of LGBTQ+ issues.
  - **Join us at the next Pride Initiative meetings (via virtually) on**  
**\*\*\*Wednesday, December 11, 2024 from 4:30-6pm**
    - PRIDE Initiative and local LGBTQIA+ updates
    - During the meeting we will say our thank you and goodbyes to Scott Gruendl who is transitioning from the role of PRIDE Initiative co-chair
    - Join us for Theme selection and Save the Date “SMC Pride Celebration 2025”
- ❖ **Join us for SMC Pride 2025 Planning Meetings**
  - **We are in need for LGBTQIA+ Commissioners support and advocacy for SMC Pride 2025**
  - **Next Planning Meetings:**
    - Friday November 15th from 12 noon-1pm
    - Friday December 6th from 12pm-1pm

➤ **Join the PRIDE Initiative Zoom Meeting on 12-11-24 at 4:30pm. Join using the link below**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81510844451>

**Meeting ID:** 815 1084 4451

**Passcode:** PRIDEBHRS **(PLEASE NOTE: Password is now required to join)**



## **CoastPride Report**

**LGBTQIA+ Commission Meeting-** Tuesday, November 19, 2024

**From CoastPride Board Member:** Dana “TherActivist” Johnson (they/ them/ he), MSW

### ❖ **Our Vision**

A welcoming and safe Coastsides where all LGBTQ and gender-expansive individuals, their families, and allies thrive.

### ❖ **Our Mission**

Creating a Coastsides that supports and celebrates people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

- CoastPride Events/ Trainings:
- *For events and to learn about what’s going on at CoastPride see the CoastPride newsletter.*
- Center Hours:
  - Drop-in—all are welcome
  - Mondays, 10am–2pm (ring the black doorbell when you arrive. (\*\*Closed on federal holidays)
  - Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2–6 pm
  - 1st Saturdays, 12 noon–2pm
- CoastPride Groups
  - More details regarding the groups please reach out to CoastPride Interim Executive Director, Cameron Zeller [cameron@coastpride.org](mailto:cameron@coastpride.org)
- **CoastPride is HIRING for an Executive Director “SEE THE LINK BELOW”**
  - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cMYyj9sXLRwBhfbMrE1RZyDi6xTXw3fx3A0WW-LKYM/edit?usp=sharing>

### ❖ **Upcoming Events/ Announcements**

- **Alcove** Half Moon Bay planning is currently underway and HIRING
- For more details regarding LGBTQIA+ events on the Coast, please reach out to CoastPride board member Dana “TherActivist” Johnson (they/ he) [dana@coastpride.org](mailto:dana@coastpride.org) or CoastPride Interim Executive Director, Cameron Zeller (they/ them) [cameron@coastpride.org](mailto:cameron@coastpride.org)



## COUNTY OF SAN MATEO LGBTQIA+ COMMISSION

### 2025 Meeting Schedule

1. Meetings of the LGBTQ Commission are held on the third Tuesday of each month.
2. Meeting time 6:30-8:30 PM
3. County Center Redwood City & SMC Pride Center in San Mateo

January 21

February 18

March 18

April 15

May 20

*June 17*

July 15

August 19

September 16

October 21

November 18

*No December meeting*

**To: LGBTQIA+ Commission of San Mateo County**  
**From: Tanya Beat**  
**Date: November 19, 2024**  
**Subject: Director's Report**

***Appointment Process***

- Two vacancies are filled and both new commissioners will start in January 2025

***Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR)***

- Nationally recognized on November 20
- Proclamation was Tuesday, November 12, 9am
- TDOR Flag-raising was Wednesday, November 13 at 9am at County Center.
- Venus Itzuri Perez Hernandez & Natalie Krug spoke

***Projects, Activities, Presentations***

- Transgender Day of Visibility - March
- Pride 2025 – June
- SMC Health, SOGIE & EPIC
- LGBTQIA+ Foster Youth
- Retreat