

**THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**  
**and for Special Districts, Agencies and Authorities Governed by the Board**

Adopted this Resolution on 05/21/2019 by the following vote:

**AYE:**   
**NO:**   
**ABSENT:**   
**ABSTAIN:**   
**RECUSE:**



**Resolution No. 2019/165**

**IN THE MATTER OF NAMING THE FRIENDS OF THE EL SOBRANTE LIBRARY BUILDING THE “NANCY FAHDEN HOUSE”**

WHEREAS, Nancy Cardinali Fahden was a daughter of Contra Costa County and raised in the City of Martinez in a family home built in 1913; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Fahden made her mark on County history when, in 1976 at the age of 52, she won a seat on the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, becoming the first woman elected to the Board of Supervisors in the County’s history; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure on the Board, Nancy Fahden advocated successfully for a new County Hospital complex, worked tirelessly to rejuvenate the Martinez Shoreline Park, and initiated the process that brought bocce ball back to Martinez, and made the county seat known nationally and internationally as one of the largest and most active bocce communities in the world; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Fahden fought fearlessly to preserve the beauty and sustainability of Contra Costa County, and took bold actions in causes she believed to be right; and when a vigorous fight erupted over competing garbage dump proposals, Nancy Fahden supported rural residents and environmentalists who opposed building a dump in Marsh Canyon east of Mount Diablo; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Fahden fought to control refinery pollution and, in 1990, sought stiffer fines for polluters and a noise ordinance to control the noise from overnight refinery operations; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Fahden served on the Board of Supervisors from 1977 to her retirement in 1992, and during some of those years her local District Office was located in the Friends of the El Sobrante Library Building adjacent to the El Sobrante Library; and

WHEREAS, after her retirement from the Board of Supervisors in 1992, Nancy Fahden continued to oversee the family winery in Calistoga and passed away in August 2015 at the age of 92; and

WHEREAS, 30 boxes of Nancy Fahden’s records and documents were donated to the Contra Costa Historical Society where they are publicly available for research purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Friends of the El Sobrante Library Building is being remodeled and will house both the Friends of the Library and the El Sobrante Historical Society; and it is fitting to recognize Nancy Fahden’s pioneering contributions by naming the Friends of the El Sobrante Library Building at 4300 Garden Road, El Sobrante, in her honor;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the building adjacent to the El Sobrante Library (the Friends of the El Sobrante Library Building) which once served as the site of Nancy Fahden’s district office be named the “Nancy Fahden House”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a memorial plaque and/or other appropriate sign shall be affixed to the facility bearing the title “Nancy Fahden House”.

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

**ATTESTED: May 21, 2019**

David J. Twa, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

**Contact: John Gioia (510) 231-8686**

By: , Deputy

**cc:** Public Works Director, County Librarian, CAO-Muni Svcs