



**Commission for Women
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
March 3, 2010**

The Commission for Women convened in a regular meeting on March 3, 2010 at City Hall, 301 W. 2nd Street, Room #1101 in Austin, Texas.

Chair- Molly Barker called the Board Meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Molly Barker, Angela Howard-Frederick, Veronica Garcia, and Kim Skotak

Staff in Attendance: Carla Johnson and Donna Burki

Guest in Attendance: Council Member Morrison, Leslie Guthrie Executive Director of Governor's Commission for Women, Kathy Hardin (AWU), Angela Baez (AWU), Debbie Echeverria (AWU), and Ms. Padillo (AWU).

- 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES- Vice Chair Howard-Frederick moved to accept the minutes from the regular meeting of February 3, 2010, the motion was seconded by Committee Member Skotak.**
- 2. OLD Business**
 - a. None**

3. NEW BUSINESS

1. Mammogram Screening – Council Member Morrison

Council Member Morrison stated that the City of Austin along with Human Resources is launching an initiative to increase breast cancer awareness. Specifically to encourage women 40 years of age and older to complete a breast cancer screening (mammogram) between April and October 2010. Only 30% of women within the COA of 40 and older have received a mammogram. Goal of the campaign are to increase that percentage significantly by the end of the year and educate employees about the current mammography benefits available. There are several mixers they will be hosting: April 29th proclamation at City Hall Breast Cancer Awareness Team and survivors, May through September, Seton's Mobile Mammogram at Palmer, St. David's Mammogram Mixer, and pink bag lunches at various worksite locations.

2. Executive Director of Governor's Commission for Women – Leslie Guthrie

This commission was established in 1967. This commission complements the Governor and the First Lady's initiatives. This commission objective is to help women with the following: help women 50 and over with job search, public awareness of different campaigns, domestic violence, breast cancer awareness, how to start a business, those released from prison how to

receive a fresh start, how to collect child support and host the Texas Women Hall of Fame. Connect with non-profits such as Safe Place and offer scholarships.

3. March Event – Vice Chair Angela Howard-Frederick

March Event for Women's month will be held at City Hall, March 23rd 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Panel consist of Martha Gutierrez, Julie and Teen girl. Catering by Casa Chapala Mexican Grill & Catering.

4. Update Budget

The budget for the March event is \$500 which will leave the commission with \$1,190.50

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS- None

5. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:

Several women from Austin Water Utility requested permission to speak to the Commission. Kathy Hardin spoke on behalf of the women present and other women at Austin Water who were not present at the Commission meeting.

Kathy commented that she came because of a personnel issue that occurred on Monday and resulted in an email from Carol Guthrie (AFSCME) to Anthony Snipes (Chief of Staff). Kathy read the email to the Commission. The Commission informed the women that they can not deal in personnel matters and can only make recommendations or offer advice to Council on policy.

Debbie Echeverria spoke to the Commission and commented on an incident that occurred on Monday. The two women felt that the last time they came to the Commission, some follow-up was taken but it has been too long and the women are still being harassed so they felt comfortable coming to the Commission again. The Commission repeated that they could not do anything involving personnel matters but would be interested in the final result.

6. STAFF BRIEFINGS: None.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS- Review of goals and Review of Women's event.

8. ADJOURN: Chair Barker moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:33 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Skotak without objection.