



**Commission for Women
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
February 6, 2013**

The Commission for Women convened in a regular meeting on February 6, 2013 at City Hall, 301 W. 2nd Street, Room #1101 in Austin, Texas.

Chair Flannery Bope called the Board Meeting to order at 1:40 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Flannery Bope, Amy Welborn, Katie Naranjo, Julia Aguilar, Julia Cuba, Marilyn Bostick

Staff in Attendance: Dolores Gonzalez, Judy Wallace, Sandra Adame

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

- Scott Daigle, Chief of Staff from State Representative Donna Howard's office spoke about budget cuts in women's health care. According to Daigle, 2/3 of the family planning funding was cut, which amounted to \$72 million.
- Daigle also said new rules were set up for Women's Health programs in Texas. If this rule is implemented, he said, Texas women could possibly be ineligible to participate in Medicaid or other federal women's health care. He said a new Texas Women's Health program would cost Texas \$40 million, while Medicaid cost the state \$3.5 million. Since new rules have been implemented on Jan. 1, 2013, there have been complaints about providers. In particular, most said they are not accepting new patients.
- Daigle said the majority of legislation is for restoring Planned Parenthood and encouraged ACW to take those and other changes in women's health care into consideration and how it impacts women in the Austin community.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Chair Flannery Bope asked commission members to review minutes from the meeting on January 9, 2013. Commissioner Welborn moved to approve the Jan. 9 minutes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Aguilar. Motion passed with no objection.

STAFF BRIEFING

- Staff Liaison Sandra Adame mentioned that both commissioner training modules and commission E-mail modules must be completed by March 31. In addition, commissioners will have to use their new, city-assigned, e-mail for any communications after this point.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Annual Internal Review – Accomplishments and Goals**
 - Accomplishments of the past year. One accomplishment was to recognize women of achievement in the Austin community. The commission achieved this through the Women's Hall of Fame event. The second goal was to explore accessibility of affordable and quality childcare in Austin. In March 2012, several designated childcare experts, including Dr. Chiquita Eugene (City of Austin), Ron Hubbard (City Health &

Human Services) and Anna Lisa Fahrenthold (Travis County), addressed the commission. The commission also voted to support a proposal created by the City of Austin Early Childhood Commission that supported initiatives to help develop early childhood programs and education.

- Goals for next year were: to support women's access to healthcare resources in Austin, to recognize women of achievement in the Austin community and to explore accessibility of affordable and quality childcare.
- Welborn motioned for aforementioned accomplishments and goals to be in the Annual Internal Review. Commissioner Naranjo seconded. Motion passed with no objection.

2. Federal, state, and city budget cuts to women's health facilities were discussed.

- Questions were raised on whether or not commission can send letter to government representatives or government health agencies.
- Commissioners would like to create a draft resolution to eventually send to City Council.
- A working group was formed to create a resolution to present to City council. Working group consisting of Commissioners Bope, Welborn, and Naranjo

3. Women's History Month

- Commissioner Aguilar suggested a call for nominations for Hall of Fame event in March

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. Resolution for ACW working group regarding budget cuts in women's healthcare**

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

ADJOURN: Commissioner Aguilar moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:55pm, seconded by Commissioner Naranjo. Motion was approved without objection. Chair Bope adjourned the meeting.

