

**COMMISSION FOR WOMEN
MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, November 8th, 2017



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MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8th, 2017**

The Commission for Women convened for a regular meeting on Wednesday, November 8th, 2017 at Terrazas Branch library, 1105 Cesar Chavez St., in Austin, Texas.

Chair Tober called the Board Meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

Commissioners in Attendance:

Rebecca Austen
Rossana Barrios
Flannery Bope
Julia Cuba Lewis
Ana DeFrates
Kasha Gamble
Sarah Tober, Chair

Commissioners Absent:

Tanya Athar-Jogee, Vice-Chair
Amanda Lewis
Linda Powers
LaKisha Thigpen

Staff in Attendance: Mary Aversa, Human Resources Dept., Debbie Maynor, Human Resources Dept.

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

None

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes: Commissioner DeFrates

Second: Commissioner Bope

Approved 7-0

3. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Margaret Moore, Mindy Montford, Beverly Matthews, and Darla Gay of the Travis County District Attorney's office presented additional information on statistics regarding prosecution of sexual assaults in Travis County. While the number of prosecutions appears at first read to be low, the published numbers do not reflect the full story, such as cases prosecuted on related charges rather than sexual assault in order to provide a clearer and swifter path to conviction.
- b. NACW website still doesn't reflect Austin Commission for Women's membership. Membership runs out in December.

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4. NEW BUSINESS

- a. "Discussion and possible action regarding recommendations for naming of public symbols" can be removed as a recurring agenda item going forward.
- b. **Discussion and possible action regarding the Women's Equity Resolution.**
A seven point recommendation was distributed to Commissioners to read, discuss, and approve.
Motion to approve recommendation with minor changes: Commissioner Barrios
Second: Commissioner Austen
Approved 7-0

Because the meeting was nearly at the scheduled time, Commissioner DeFrates made a motion to extend the meeting time by 5 minutes. Commissioner Bope seconded, and the motion passed 7-0.

- c. **Discussion and possible action regarding rape kit backlog and sexual assault survivor treatment.**
No action taken
- d. **Discussion and possible action regarding Women's Hall of Fame 2018.**
Commission would like to try to reserve the City Hall atrium for March 7th from 4 – 8 p.m. for the event. Mary Aversa was asked to schedule the event.
- e. **Discussion and possible action regarding Child/Women sex trafficking.**
No action taken
- f. **Discussion and possible action regarding hiring of City Manager and APD Chief.**
No action taken.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Commissioners wanted to make sure to revisit rape kit backlog.
- b. Set 2018 Initiatives

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Tober adjourned the meeting at 1:09 p.m.

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For more information on the Commission for Women, please contact Mary Aversa at 512-530-8204.