

**COMMISSION FOR WOMEN
MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, January 10th, 2018



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MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10TH, 2017**

The Commission for Women convened for a regular meeting on Wednesday, January 10th, 2018 at Terrazas Branch library, 1105 Cesar Chavez St., in Austin, Texas.

Chair Tober called the Board Meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

Commissioners in Attendance:

Linda Powers
Ana DeFrates
Tanya Athar-Jogee, Vice-Chair
Flannery Bope
Kasha Gamble
Sarah Tober, Chair
Rebecca Austen
Amanda Lewis

Commissioners Absent:

Julia Cuba Lewis
Rossana Barrios

Vacancy: District 5

Staff in Attendance: Mary Aversa, Human Resources Dept.

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

None

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes: Commissioner Bope

Second: Commissioner Austen

Approved 7-0

3. OLD BUSINESS

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Rachel Alvarez of Refugee Services of Texas gave a presentation on the state of human trafficking in Central Texas. Alvarez reports that a coalition of organizations focused on prevention and victims' services is strengthening and forming working groups to combine efforts and resources. Support of the Governor's Office in educating State workers is appreciated and helping build awareness.
- b. **Discussion and possible action regarding Commission's top initiatives for 2018.** Remove hiring of the City Manager from top initiatives for 2018, but keep remaining 2017 as top initiatives for 2018. Commissioners noted their disappointment in transparency in City Manager hiring process and will recommend both transparency and rape kit backlog as a priority in Police Chief hiring process.

Initiatives for 2018 are:

- Women's equity
 - Rape kit backlog and sexual assault survivor treatment
 - Women's Hall of Fame
 - Child/Women sex trafficking
 - Hiring of key City leadership
- c. **Discussion and possible action regarding Women's Equity Resolution**
Commission would like to know what the sexual harassment training is going to be for City employees. Would like three council members to champion the Commission's recommendations, particularly with regard to CEDAW.
- d. **Discussion and possible action regarding rape kit backlog and sexual assault survivor treatment**
Update: Funding for community counselors is in the right hands to begin the recommended work. Commission needs to continue to advocate for 5 additional FTE victims' services personnel. Working group will craft/reframe recommendations.
- e. **Discussion and possible action regarding Women's Hall of Fame 2018**
Date for the induction and reception will be set for Friday, March 9th from 5-7 p.m. in Council Chambers and Atrium.
- f. **Discussion and possible action regarding child/women sex trafficking**
No action
- g. **Discussion and possible action regarding hiring of City Manager and Police Chief**
Discussed earlier during item 4b. *Note Commissioner Bope's recusal from discussing hiring of City Manager due to her employer, Austin American Statesman's pending lawsuit regarding this matter.*

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Would like to schedule Kim Grabert for February regarding human trafficking

ADJOURNMENT: Chair Tober adjourned the meeting at 1:01 p.m.

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