



Commission for Women
REGULAR CALLED MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, October 5, 2022

The Commission for Women convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, October 5, 2022, at Austin City Hall – Boards and Commission Room 1101 301 W 2nd Street, Austin, Texas 78701

Chair Rebecca Austen called the Commission for Women Meeting to order at 12:08 p.m.

Board Members/Commissioners in Attendance:

Rebecca Austen, Chair
Diana Melendez
Priscilla Cortez

Board Members/Commissioners in Attendance Remotely:

Flannery Bope, Vice Chair (Call -in)
Jocelyn Tau
Pam Rattan
Vanessa Bissereth

Board Members/Commissioners Absent:

Desiree Bermea
Juliana Gonzales
Josephine Serrata
Neva Fernandez

Staff in Attendance:

Kiarrah Carlisle, Office of Civil Rights

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the Commission for Women regular meeting on September 7, 2022. **The minutes from the meeting of (09/07/2022) were approved on Chair Austen's motion, Commissioner Rattan's second on a (6-0) vote. (Vice Chair Bope was absent at the time of the motion. Commissioners Gonzales, Serrata, Fernandez, and Bermea were absent.)**

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

2. Discussion and possible action on the 2023 Commission for Women draft schedule.
The motion to approve the 2023 commission meeting schedule with January 4th changed to the 11th and July 5th changed to the 12th was approved on Chair Austen's motion, Commissioner Cortez's second on a (6-0) vote. (Vice Chair Bope was present on call. Commissioners Gonzales, Serrata, Fernandez, and Bermea were absent.)
3. Discussion and possible action to approve Commission for Women working group members the ability to collaborate with members of other Commissions about the Quality of Life Study, and to take next steps in preparation of the study.
The motion to authorize the Commission for Women working group members the ability to collaborate with members of other Commissions about the Quality of Life Study, and to take next steps in preparation of the study, and to bring any decisions requiring financial approval to the full commission for a vote at a next meeting and to operate until the Quality of Life Study is complete was approved on Chair Austen's motion, Commissioner Cortez's second on a 6-0 vote. (Vice Chair Bope was absent at the time of the motion. Commissioners Gonzales, Serrata, Fernandez, and Bermea were absent.)
4. Discussion and possible action on re-authorizing/ re-establishing a budget work group to work on the FY23-24 Budget Recommendation Cycle until budget September/October 2023.
The motion to establish a budget working group for the FY 23-24 budget cycle with authorization to speak with other commissions about the budget process was approved on Chair Austen's motion, Commissioner Bissere's second on a 6-0 vote. (Vice Chair Bope was present on call. Commissioners Gonzales, Serrata, Fernandez, and Bermea were absent.)
5. Discussion and approval regarding Commissioners Cortez and Melendez's web content and nomination form for the Women's Hall of Fame Event.
The motion to approve the Hall of Fame program as discussed with the language as outlined with recommended changes for the nomination form, the webpage request, and social media was approved on Chair Austen's motion, Commissioner Rattan's second on a (6-0) vote. (Vice Chair Bope was present on call. Commissioners Gonzales, Serrata, Fernandez, and Bermea were absent.)
6. Discussion and possible action regarding the City of Austin's annual budget process.
Discussion was held. No action was taken.

WORKING GROUP/COMMITTEE UPDATES

7. Member update from Working Group on Homelessness.
 - a. Rebecca Austen

- b. Flannery Bope
- c. Pam Rattan

Discussion was held. No action was taken.

- 8. Member update from Working Group on Safety
 - a. Desiree Bermea
 - b. Neva Fernandez
 - c. Julianna Gonzales
 - d. Josie Serrata
 - e. Amanda Lewis*

Discussion was held. No action was taken.

- 9. Member update from Working Group on Health
 - a. Flannery Bope
 - b. Juliana Gonzales
 - c. Diana Melendez
 - d. Josie Serrata
 - e. Jocelyn Tau

Discussion was held. No action was taken.

- 10. Member update from Working Group on Recognition of Equity for Women and Girls
 - a. Vanessa Bissereth
 - b. Priscilla Cortez
 - c. Diana Melendez

Discussion was held. No action was taken.

- 11. Member update from Working Group on Quality of Life Study
 - a. Rebecca Austen
 - b. Vanessa Bissereth
 - c. Diana Melendez
 - d. Pam Rattan
 - e. Josie Serrata

Discussion was held. No action was taken.

***Community participants**

Chair Rebecca Austen adjourned the meeting at 1:27 p.m. without objection.

The minutes from the meeting were approved on November 2, 2022 on Chair Austen's motion, Vice Chair Bope's second on a (9-0) vote. (Commissioners Bermea and Gonzales were absent).