

**COMMISSION FOR WOMEN
MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, August 9th, 2017



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**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, August 9th, 2017**

The Commission for Women convened for a regular meeting on Wednesday, August 9th, 2017 at Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe Street, Reception Room, in Austin, Texas.

Chair Tober called the Board Meeting to order at 12:07 p.m.

Commissioners in Attendance:

Ana DeFrates
Amanda Lewis
Sarah Tober
Julia Cuba Lewis
Flannery Bope
Rebecca Austen
Tanya Athar-Jogee

Commissioners Absent:

Rossana Barrios, Chair
Barbara Fountain, Vice-Chair
Kasha Gamble
LaKisha Thigpen, Secretary

Staff in Attendance:

Sheila Balog, Human Resources Department
Mary Aversa, Human Resources Department

Guests Present:

Kristin Lenau
Erika Kelly

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes for the June 14th, 2017 meeting of the Commission were not available. They will be approved at the beginning of the September meeting of the Commission for Women.

2. CITIZEN'S COMMUNICATION: General

Erika Kelly made comments to the Commission for Women on the Austin Locker Room Project, which has been advocating for the retrofitting of older fire stations with women's locker rooms. Currently 6 stations have only one locker room/restroom. Ms. Kelly asked for the Austin Commission for Women's support in presenting a resolution to fund the final phase of the Austin Locker Room Project, which would provide every AFD station with a women's locker room.

2. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discussion and possible action regarding the Women's Equity Resolution.

Chair Tober introduced a formal request for extension to allow the Commission for Women and Human Rights Commission until October 31, 2017 to draft a recommendation on the Women's Equity Resolution to allow time for Commissioners to review the report from HRD on current and past equity practices. Sheila Balog conveyed that HRD has just received the report and is committed to finalizing the report and delivering it to the Commission for Women as quickly as possible.

Commissioner DeFrates moved and Commissioner Bope seconded that the Commission approve the request for extension as written and submit it. Commissioners voted 7-0 to approve.

b. Discussion and possible action regarding updates from the Commission for Women working groups.

a. The Sexual Assault Survivors Working Group

Commissioner Lewis, Commissioner Jogee, and Commissioner DeFrates introduced recommendations to increase survivor services to accommodate the tremendous number of survivors who are not currently being served. Currently APD is unable to provide these services.

The recommendation includes:

- Recommendation for additional APD Victims Services counselors from the community who would be willing to counsel sexual assault survivors.
- Request \$50,000 from the APD budget to train therapists through a program such as EMDR in counseling trauma victims.

Commissioner Bope made a motion and Commissioner Cuba seconded the motion to move forward in making the recommendations of the Sexual Assault Survivors working group after Commissioner DeFrates makes the Commission's suggested changes.

4. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Discussion and possible action regarding the Austin Locker Room Project.**
- b. Discussion and possible action regarding updates on the Commission for Women's working groups.**

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Tober adjourned the meeting at 1:13 pm on Commissioner Lewis's motion, the motion passing on a 7-0 vote.