

**COMMISSION FOR WOMEN  
MEETING MINUTES**

**FRIDAY, April 17, 2020**



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MINUTES**

**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING  
FRIDAY, April 17, 2020**

The Commission for Women convened for a regular meeting on Friday, April 17, 2020 via videoconference.

**Chair Austen called the Commission Meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.**

**Commissioners in Attendance:**

Rebecca Austen, Chair  
Flannery Bope, Vice Chair  
Tanya Athar-Jogee  
Neva Fernandez  
Amanda Lewis  
Julia Cuba Lewis  
Dyana Limon-Mercado  
Sarah Tober

**Commissioners Absent:**

Juliana Gonzales

**Vacant:**

District 2  
District 3

**Staff in Attendance:**

April Shaw, Human Resources Department

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Consider approval of the minutes from the Commission for Women regular meeting on February 5, 2020.**

The minutes from the regular meeting on February 5, 2020 were approved on Chair Austen's motion, Vice Chair Bope's second on a vote of 5-0-1, with Commissioner Tober abstaining and Commissioners Athar-Jogee and Limon-Mercado off the dais. Commissioner Gonzales was absent.

- b. Consider approval of the minutes from the Commission for Women special called meeting on February 5, 2020.**

The minutes from the special called meeting on February 5, 2020 were approved on Chair Austen's motion, Vice Chair Bope's second on a vote of 5-0-1, with Commissioner Tober abstaining and Commissioners Athar-Jogee and Limon-Mercado off the dais. Commissioner Gonzales was absent.

**2. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Discussion and possible action regarding the following working groups:**

**i. Economic equity**

Discussion was held. No action was taken.

**ii. Sexual assault, violence prevention, and survivor experience**

Discussion was held. No action was taken.

**iii. Access to quality and affordable healthcare**

Discussion was held. No action was taken.

**iv. Women's Hall of Fame**

Discussion was held. No action was taken.

- b. Discussion and possible action regarding updates from the Joint Inclusion Committee.**

Discussion was held. No action was taken.

- c. Discussion and possible action regarding the commission charter for 2020.**

Discussion was held.

The motion to amend the commission charter to include those who self-identify as women was made by Chair Austen, seconded by Vice Chair Bope, was approved on a 7-0 vote with Commissioner Athar-Jogee off the dais. Commissioner Gonzales was absent.

- d. Discussion and possible action regarding the recommendation for the City of Austin FY2021 budget.**

Discussion was held.

The motion to authorize Chair Austen's online budget submittal, and to make a recommendation to the City Council regarding the City of Austin FY2021 budget, was approved on Chair Austen's motion, Commissioner Tober's second, on a vote of 7-0 with Commissioner Athar-Jogee off the dais. Commissioner Gonzales was absent.

### **3. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Discussion and possible action regarding the election of a new Chair of the Commission for Women.**

Discussion was held.

The motion to retain Rebecca Austen as Chair of the Commission for Women was made on Commissioner Fernandez' motion, Commissioner Lewis' second, on a vote of 8-0. Commissioner Gonzales was absent.

**b. Discussion and possible action regarding the election of a new Vice Chair of the Commission for Women.**

Discussion was held.

The motion to retain Flannery Bope as Vice Chair of the Commission for Women was made on Commissioner Fernandez' motion, Commissioner Lewis' second, on a vote of 8-0. Commissioner Gonzales was absent.

**c. Discussion and possible action regarding the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Austin's women and girls.**

Discussion was held.

The motion to submit Recommendation No. 20200417-03c to the City Council regarding the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Austin's women and girls was made on Chair Austen's motion, Commissioner Tober's second, on a vote of 8-0. Commissioner Gonzales was absent.

### **4. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Austen adjourned the meeting at 2:07 p.m. without objection.