



## **COMMISSION FOR WOMEN MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, February 2, 2022**

The Commission for Women convened for a hybrid regular meeting on Wednesday, February 2, 2022 with Chair Austen at Austin City Hall, 301 West Second Street, Austin, Texas 78701 in Room 1101 and the remaining members participating by videoconference.

**Chair Austen called the Commission Meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.**

### **Commissioners in Attendance:**

Rebecca Austen, Chair  
Flannery Bope, Vice Chair  
Vanessa Bissereth  
Priscilla Cortez  
Neva Fernandez  
Juliana Gonzales  
Diana Melendez  
Pam Rattan  
Josie Serrata

### **Staff in Attendance:**

Jonathan Babiak, Office of Civil Rights

### **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

None

## **1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. **Consider approval of the minutes from the Commission for Women regular meeting on July 7, 2021.**

The minutes from the regular meeting on November 3, 2021 were approved on Chair Austen's motion, Commissioner Rattan's second on a vote of 9-0.

## **2. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. **Discussion and possible action regarding updated from the following working groups:**
  - i. **Homelessness**

Discussion was held. No action was taken.
  - ii. **Safety**

Discussion was held. No action was taken.

**iii. Health**

Discussion was held. No action was taken.

**iv. Recognition of Equity for Women and Girls**

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 2021 Commission for Women Working Groups.**

Discussion was held. The following working group membership was adopted on Chair Austen's motion, Commissioner Rattan's second on a vote of 9-0:

Homelessness: Rebecca Austen, Vanessa Bissereth, Flannery Bope, and Pam Rattan

Safety: Neva Fernandez, Juliana Gonzales, Josie Serrata, and Amanda Lewis\*

Health: Flannery Bope, Juliana Gonzales, Diana Melendez, and Josie Serrata

Recognition of Equity for Women and Girls: Vanessa Bissereth, Priscilla Cortez, and Diana Melendez

\* Community participant

**d. Discussion and possible action regarding the recommendation for the City of Austin FY2022 budget.**

Discussion was held. No action was taken.

**3. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Presentation by Melissa Taylor, Vice Chair, City of Austin Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Quality of Life Advisory Commission, followed by discussion and possible action regarding the LGBTQIA+ Quality of Life Study.**

The presenter was unavailable. By unanimous consent the Commission agreed to return this item to a future agenda.

**b. Discussion and possible action regarding selection of members to represent the Commission for Women on the Joint Inclusion Committee.**

Discussion was held. Chair Austen was nominated to represent the Commission on the Joint Inclusion Committee on Commissioner Gonzales's motion, Commissioner Fernandez's second on a vote of 9-0. Commissioner Bissereth was nominated to represent the Commission as the alternate on the Joint Inclusion Committee on Commissioner Gonzales's motion, Commissioner Rattan's second on a vote of 9-0.

**c. Discussion and possible action regarding the City of Austin FY2022 & FY2023 budget.**

Discussion was held. No action was taken.

- d.** Discussion and possible action regarding the 2022 Commission for Women Charter.

Discussion was held. The 2022 Commission for Women Charter was adopted on Chair Austen's motion, Commissioner Rattan's second on a vote of 9-0.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Presentation from Police Executive Research Forum.

Presentation on LGBTQIA+ Quality of Life Study.

Presentation from Community Action Network (CAN).

Presentation from Homeless Strategy Officer Dianna Grey.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Austen adjourned the meeting at 1:20 p.m. without objection.