

**COMMISSION FOR WOMEN  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, March 2, 2022**

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**REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, March 2, 2022**

The Commission for Women convened for a hybrid regular meeting on Wednesday, March 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 12:07 p.m.**

**Commissioners in Attendance:**

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

**Commissioners Absent:**

Priscilla Cortez  
Neva Fernandez  
Vacant: District 2  
Vacant: Mayor Adler

**Staff in Attendance:**

Jonathan Babiak, Office of Civil Rights

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Consider approval of the minutes from the Commission for Women regular meeting on February 2, 2022.**

The minutes from the regular meeting on February 2, 2022 were approved on Chair Austen's motion, Commissioner Flannery's second on a vote of 7-0.

**2. OLD BUSINESS**

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

**i. Homelessness**

Motion to approve the draft recommendations for Women Experiencing Homelessness with changes was approved. It was put forth by Chair Austen and seconded by Commissioner Rattan. The motion passed 7-0.

**ii. Public Safety**

Motion to approve the draft recommendations for Public Safety with changes was approved. It was put forth by Chair Austen and seconded by Commissioner Gonzales. The motion passed 7-0.

**iii. Health**

Motion to approve the draft recommendations for Women Affected by Senate Bill 8 with changes was approved. It was put forth by Chair Austen and seconded by Josie Serrata. Record of vote: Passed on a 6-1 vote, with Chair Austen, Vice Chair Bope, Commissioners Bissereth, Gonzales, Melendez, and Serrata in favor; Commissioner Rattan against; and two commissioners absent.

Motion to approve the draft recommendations for Menstrual Equity with changes was approved. It was put forth by Chair Austen and seconded by Commissioner Flannery seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

A motion to address mental health recommendations was put forth by Chair Austen and seconded by Commissioner Gonzales. The motion passed 7-0.

**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 the recommendation for the City of Austin FY2022 budget.**

Discussion was held. No action was taken.

**d. Discussion and possible action regarding the recommendation for the City of Austin FY2023 budget.**

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Discussion was held. No action taken.

**3. BRIEFINGS**

- a. Presentation from Ryn Gonzales, 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.**

Ryn Gonzales provided a presentation to the LGBTQIA+ Quality of Life Study.

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

**5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Austen adjourned the meeting at 1:41 pm without objection.