



Commission on the Status of Women

Meeting Minutes

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 2024

Hybrid Meeting, 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

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Meeting ID: 291 250 502 091

Passcode: DQCTmR

Location: Sudbury Room, Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Library
9005 Aero Drive, San Diego, CA 92123,

Chair: Susan Davis | **Vice Chair:** Wendy Urushima-Conn

Commissioners: Gail Friedt, Dana Toppel, Joy Hartmann, Lakeya Cherry, Laurie Black, Marlyn Carrillo, Natasha Wong, Solange Jacobs, Sophie Tarazi

City Staff Liaison: Fatima Maciel

Item 1: Call to Order (Chair Davis)

Item 2: Roll Call (Chair Davis)

Present: Gail Friedt, Lakeya Cherry, Laurie Black, Marlyn Carrillo, Natasha Wong, Solange Jacobs, Sophie Tarazi, Susan Davis, **Wendy Urushima-Conn**

Absent: Dana Toppel, Joy Hartmann,

Item 3: Approval of the Minutes (Chair Davis)

- Review of minutes from August 9, 2024
Approved
- Review of minutes from September 13, 2024
Approved
- Review of minutes from October 11, 2024
Approved

Item 4: Non-Agenda Public Comment

- There is a need to encourage more advocates to get involved, as noted by the chairman.
- Efforts are being made to increase participation on Zoom.

Item 5: Brown Act Reminder

Item 6: Review of the End of the Year Report

General Notes:

- The recent changes have been positive, and members are encouraged to continue making a difference.
- Alignment with other women's groups is a priority, as emphasized by the chairman.
- The Rules Committee played an essential role.
- Advocacy for gender equity in the workforce continues, supported by PANDA, which provides valuable insights.
- The Women of Commission established a workforce database based on survey results (PANDA).
- "Success for women is linked to the overall success of the city."

Pending Items:

- The Mayor's speech (State of the City) is next week, but it remains unpaid.
- Survey results intended for the City Council were not presented. These need to be divided by district and shared.
- Chida is responsible for packaging and making the survey results public. This was originally due by the end of the year (EOY).
- One of the chairwomen requested edits to the materials.

Health & Data Concerns:

- Issues such as food deserts and their impact on health were raised.
- Concerns were noted about the city's response to these issues.
- There is a need to better utilize existing data and encourage more people to participate in future surveys.

Action Items:

- Retrieve the names of experts who contributed to the workforce ordinance and ensure they are listed on the website.
- Review past agendas to verify and document these names.
- Create a Google Drive or Dropbox repository to store council meeting minutes and bylaws.
- Ensure meeting minutes are uploaded regularly (currently, only the October minutes are available).

Strategic Engagement:

- Questions were raised about how the Mayor utilizes input from the committee.

- By-laws and a strategic plan for community engagement and advocacy should guide efforts.
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - Official invitations for the State of the City event are expected next week.

Item 6.1: Discussion of the End of the Year Report

- Concerns were raised about the Trump administration's impact on women's health. Suggested collaboration with the county to address these issues.
- A committee member expressed frustration with Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) .
- Follow-up needed with Heather Ferbert.
 - Discussed the state of the Commission on Women, focusing on employment, earning, economic security, and women's empowerment, which aligns with Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women's (CEDAW) goals.

Proposed New Committees:

- **Buckets of Focus:**
 - Safety
 - Employment and earning (including childcare)
 - Education and economic security
 - Women's empowerment

Item 7: Re-establish Goals for 2025

- **Outreach Plans:**
 - Engage with women's outreach groups.
 - Visit school districts to speak with high school girls.
 - Reach out to young women (e.g., women in the military).
 - Address topics such as power and politics.
 - Expand outreach to additional school districts, including San Ysidro middle schools.
- **Action Items:**
 - Share an outline with schools to align committee messaging.
 - Create commissioner badges (self-funded).
 - Follow up with the City Attorney's Office and complete pending work.
 - Recognize President Carter's contributions, emphasizing women in leadership roles.
- **Goal Plan:**

- Establish two committees to tackle specific focus areas.
- Each committee will identify 1–3 organizations in San Diego to collaborate with and advocate for initiatives.

Committee Breakdown:

1. Health and Safety
2. Education and Economic Security
 - Modeled after the Commission on Women.
 - Each committee will research organizations already addressing these topics in San Diego.

Next Steps:

- Conduct research on the four focus areas and create a shortlist of potential collaborators before the next meeting.

Event Planning:

- Host a Chinese Tea event on Saturday, May 21.
 - Seek sponsors (e.g., Chinese Family Association for tea/coffee donations).
 - Secure a free facility for the event.
- **Reminder:** Send event details to Fatima.
 - Check the calendar for relevant events that the Women’s Commission may need to know about. Fatima will handle this task.
- **Meeting with Mana (FM):** She will address topics/collaboration related to the Women’s Commission.
 - MLK breakfast the Friday before MLK day

Item 8: Discussion on CSW Monthly Meeting Schedule

(March 14)

- Two of chairman won’t be there

(Feb 14)

Item 9: Subcommittee Updates

Item 10: Liaison Updates

Update: Currently working on the Women of Distinction event in coordination with the Council President's Office. No updates yet, but the event is anticipated to take place sometime in March.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30pm

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