

Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 2, 2022
WebEX Video Conference
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Attendees:

Commissioners: Dr. Adena Williams Loston (Mayoral), Jennipha (Jae) Ricks (CD2), Dr. Cynthia Teniente-Matson (CD4), Geraldine Garcia (CD5), Leticia Gonzales (CD6), Dr. Lyssa Ochoa (CD7), Naomi Miller (CD10)

Associate Members: Kayla Carter-Moilanen (CD10), Katalina Munoz (CD1)

City Staff: Shreya Shah (City Attorney's Office), Michelle Lugalía-Hollon (Mayor's Office), Jenny Garcia (City Manager's Office)

Public: Naomi Taylor (MCSW Intern), Krystina Irvin (Texas A&M)

Roll Call. Quorum met.

Meeting called to order at 5:42 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of the minutes from the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women meeting on October 13, 2021.

Commissioners reviewed the meeting minutes from October 13, 2021.

Jae Ricks made a motion to approve edit. Second by Dr. Adena Loston.

- Letty Gonzales made a friendly amendment to edit the minutes from Kayla Moilanen, listed as a public attendee, to Associate member (D10 appointee)

Motion to approve edits with proposed amendment accepted.

Committee voted. Motion Passed (7-0).

Public Comments

Jenny read the public comment posted online under SASpeakUp.

CJ Johnson - as a San Antonio constituent I oppose the city's funding to expand BioMed labs . Primates should not be tested on as there are more successful innovative alternatives to this archaic cruel practice

Briefing and Possible Action on the following items

2. Commission Roster and Officer Update

Jenny opened up the discussion with update from Dr. Gonzalez, referencing e-mail sent to the Commission announcing her resignation.

Shreya confirmed Vice Chair (Letty) would step in as Chair until next officer elections are held.

Katalina asked about her status as Associate commissioner since she was appointed by Dr. Gonzalez.

Shreya provided guidance. Katalina would continue to provide feedback to commission on agenda items until an appointee has replaced Dr. Gonzalez. At that point, that person could reappoint Associate members.

Shreya asked for clarification of Dr. Gonzalez's resignation.

Jenny read an excerpt of Dr. Gonzalez letter to Commission.

The pandemic has continued to take its toll on health care providers, and we have found ourselves once again deeply consumed by the amount of patients we are seeing. Because of this demand (and the fact that we seem to be seeing COVID surges about every 3 months), this is my notice that I will regretfully resign as Chair of the MCSW. I will stay on in this capacity until after the IWD event so that there is no loss in continuity or momentum. – submitted via e-mail on Friday, February 21, 2022

Shreya recommended Vice Chair step in to conduct meetings until new Chair is identified.

Dr. Ochoa asked if the Vice Chair doesn't automatically serve as Chair if the Chair steps down.

Shreya would review by-laws and get back to the Commission.

3. International Women's Day

The Commission discussed event planning for International Women's Day (IWD). IWD is Tuesday, March 8, 2022. The group discussed in-person/virtual/hybrid options and timeline of events. Many members expressed opposition to a strictly virtual event.

Naomi Taylor (MCSW Intern) asked if the event were held in person, would it change the strategic plan/suggested tasks/watch parties.

Krystina Irvin updated the group on internship. The Internship Fund through Texas A&M runs through the student's graduation. Naomi will be ineligible for funds after the 2-3 week of May.

Dr. Matson asked the group to consider working along with other scheduled events.

Jenny Garcia brought up the City's Girls Empowerment Summit that is being planned on March 11-13, 2022 that includes Hero Like Her with SA Fire Dept.

The Commission discussed a Fireside Chat video option. Potential guests – Francesca (YWCA), Dalia Flores Contreras (City Educational Partners), Patricia Castillo (Peace Initiative)

Dr. Ochoa makes a motion to have a simple Fireside chat with Francesca or Dalia. Second by Naomi Miller.

Committee voted. Motion passes (7-0).

Naomi Miller motioned to have a community event hosted by the MCSW later in the year. Second by Dr. Loston.

Dr. Ochoa making a friendly amendment to motion to host the community event in October 2022.

Naomi Miller accepts the motion as amended. Second by Dr. Loston.

Commission voted. Motion passes (7-0).

Michelle Lugalía-Hollon offered a Mayor's Point of Personal Privilege to honor International Women's Day during Council A Session.

Kayla shared opportunity for care boxes for victims of crime through her organization (For Her). The Commission could pick the date/time and organization would provide supplies.

Naomi Miller made a motion that in honor of International Women's Day the MCSW work with Kayla and the For Her organization to organize kits for victims of crime in March. Second by Dr. Ochoa.

Commission votes. Motion passes (7-0).

4. Announcements and Future Items

Naomi Miller will not be present at next meeting.

The commission discussed subcommittees. Suzanne Hernandez is new and not on subcommittee.

Jenny brought up potential future item for Election of Officers. The item was on agenda for previous meeting that did not make quorum. The group discussed status of Nominating Committee.

Lyssa made a motion to keep the same nominating committee – Jae, Vanessa, Naomi, Letty.

Second by Gerry.

Dr. Loston brought up the even number of members in committee. Shreya confirmed there would still need to be a consensus.

Commission voted. Motion passes (7-0).

Krystina Irvin asked the Commission to consider tasks that Naomi Taylor (intern) could take on from this meeting to next.

Dr. Matson agreed to serve as moderator for Fireside Chats. She also requested Letty work with Naomi Taylor to review work plan to encourage meaningful learning.

The committee discussed opportunities for intern.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.