



City and County of San Francisco

Commission on the Status of Women

Mayor London N. Breed

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

5:00 pm

San Francisco City Hall, Room 408

Members Present:

President Dr. Shokooh Miry

Vice President Dr. Raveena Rihal (excused)

Commissioner Sophia Andary

Commissioner Sharon Chung (late)

Commissioner Dr. Anne Moses

Commissioner Ani Rivera

Commissioner Breanna Zwart (excused)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 5:13 pm. Opening remarks by President Shokooh Miry. Ms. Lauren Battung performed roll call, confirmed 4 of 7 Commissioners present (quorum). Ms. Battung read the land acknowledgement.

II. CONSIDERATION OF POLICY REGARDING REMOTE PUBLIC COMMENT

The Commission discussed a policy to allow members of the public to provide remote public comment on agenda items at future Commission meetings.

No Commissioner comment.

Commissioner Sharon Chung arrived late.

No public comment.

(Roll Call Vote) Andary / Moses – 5 ayes, 0 nays – Unanimous

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No Commissioner comment.

No public comment.

(Roll Call Vote) Rivera, Chung – 5 ayes, 0 nays – Unanimous

IV. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Alex Boskovich read the Director's Report on behalf of Director Kimberly Ellis. Ms. Boskovich discussed budget reductions per the directive of the Mayor's Budget Office; the Department's inaugural Women's Policy Summit; and the newest staff addition to the Department, Kalkidan "Kali" Shebi as Program Manager for Economic Security.

President Miry thanked Department staff for the efforts that went into the Women's Policy Summit. Commissioner Rivera echoed the sentiment. Commissioner Rivera asked where the additional budget reductions are coming from. Senior Fiscal Analyst Dr. My Lan Do Nguyen responded to Commissioner's question explaining that the reductions are coming from the non-personnel services budget. Commissioner Andary echoed President Miry and Commissioner Rivera's sentiments regarding the Women's Policy Summit. President Miry encourages all Commissioners to support the bills recommended by the Department and asks that the Department make the Commission aware of any potential action Commissioners can take to support these bills.

No public comment.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. COMPETITIVE SOLICITATION REQUIREMENT WAIVER REQUEST TO INDIGENOUS JUSTICE

Department staff – Ms. Kalkidan Shebi – presented a request for a waiver of the competitive solicitation requirement for the awarding of a Health and Safety grant to Indigenous Justice under Chapter 21G of the Administrative Code.

No Commissioner comment.

No public comment.

(Roll Call Vote) Andary / Moses – 5 ayes, 0 nays - Unanimous

B. PRESENTATION ON 2022 FEMALE REPRESENTATION IN CITY PROPERTY

Dr. Kevin Roach – Research, Data and Evaluation Analyst – presented the findings of the 2022 Representation in City Property Report, which examines the representation of women in San Francisco's public art, streets, buildings and parks.

Commissioner Moses asked whether the Pioneer Woman statue in Golden Gate Park counted as a woman in the data. Dr. Roach stated that he believes it does.

Commissioner Moses asked what the Department planned to do about this inequity. Dr. Roach stated that the Department's position is to recommend that all new pieces are named after historical women.

President Miry asked whether the recommendations require changing names or adding new

things. Dr. Roach clarified that the recommendations require the adding of new things. President Miry emphasized that there is no cost associated with the naming of new things after women instead of renaming things.

President Miry asked what the number of pieces needed to be named after women in order to achieve true equity at 50% - emphasized that the Ordinance was passed 5 years ago.

Commissioner Moses asked whether renaming parks was more feasible. Dr. Roach said that yes there are examples of it recently happening. Commissioner Moses emphasized the cost-effectiveness.

President Miry asked what happens when we take the Rainbow Honor Walk out of the calculations and emphasizes that we need more public art depicting and named after women. President Miry noted that the numbers were abysmal.

Commissioner Rivera noted the need to support women artists in San Francisco in these projects. Commissioner Rivera also noted the need for diversity within the list of women and nonbinary people that the Department will recommend to the Mayor's office for depiction and naming of pieces.

Commissioner Rivera noted the necessary investment. President Miry clarified that there is no additional cost in naming the new pieces after women rather than men.

Commissioner Chung asked after the timeline related to the Report and when an action plan will be put into place. Dr. Roach clarified that this is the third iteration of the report and that there is currently no action plan.

Commissioner Andary asked realistically how many new streets were added. Dr. Roach noted that there is not a great deal of change in street naming and that there has not been a great deal of focus on changing street names to meet the Ordinance.

Commissioner Andary asked the overall demographics of those women who were depicted or represented. Dr. Roach noted that there will be a push to increase the depth of the data in regards to demographic information. Commissioner Rivera asked after what data made its way into the report. Dr. Roach responded that the data was retrieved from four city departments and the Department did not have much say in what data was provided by those departments.

President Miry thanked Dr. Roach for his hard work and the Department for putting together the report. Dr. Roach highlighted a plan to request a special hearing of the Board of Supervisors on the renaming of streets.

No public comment.

VI. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Emberly Cross from Cooperative Restraining Order Clinic (CROC) shared the story of two women served by CROC. She highlighted the legal processes that make their work possible thanks to advocacy like what is done by DOSW and thanks the Department for its support.

Raegan Joarn, Managing Attorney at the Bay Area Legal Aid San Francisco office, shared the story of a client. Thanks everyone for their work.

Beverly Upton of San Francisco Domestic Violence Consortium shared some of the work that SFDVC and the Family Violence Council has done and emphasized that their work is ongoing. Thanks everyone for their work.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 6:20 pm.