



Commission on the Status of Women

**Commission on the Status of Women
Regular Meeting – May 17, 2023
DRAFT MINUTES**

The meeting convened at 7:12pm with Chairperson Marasovic presiding.

ROLL CALL

Present: Marasovic, Simon, Posey, Boyd, Goodwin, Ortiz-Cedeno, Seshagiri (arrived 7:25pm)
Absent: Henneman, Rodriguez
Excused: None

////////////////

Comments from the Public

- Public attendance: 1
- Public comments: 1

////////////////

Action

**Item # 1:
Presentation from, and Q and A with, Berkeley Police Department on domestic violence/gender-based violence/intimate partner violence, sex trafficking and increase in sexual assaults.**

////////////////

**Item # 2:
Presentation regarding African-American Holistic Resource Center (AAHRC) Planning Committee and proposed letter of support for the AAHRC to Council.**

**M/S/C: Marssovic/ Boyd
Ayes: Marasovic, Seshagiri, Simon, Posey, Boyd, Goodwin, Ortiz-Cedeno
Absent: Henneman, Rodriguez
Excused: None**

////////////////

Item # 3:

Discussion and planning regarding women-owned small businesses, identifying possible losses during the pandemic, and supports for women-owned business owners.

//////////

Item # 4:

Letter to Council advising Council that COSOW would like progress updates from the Mason-Tillman report regarding gender disparities in contractors directed to them. Discussion and possible action.

M/S/C: Marasovic/Seshagiri

Ayes: Marasovic, Seshagiri, Simon, Posey, Boyd, Goodwin, Ortiz-Cedeno

Absent: Henneman, Rodriguez

Excused: None

//////////

Item # 5:

Suicide rate surge among young women. Discuss approach and work to be conducted including exploration of the role of social media. Take on assignments.

//////////

Item # 6:

Plan Black Maternal Health Month. Take on assignments.

//////////

Item # 7:

Financial exploitation, scams and speculators approaching older women.

//////////

Item # 8:

Approval of April meeting minutes.

M/S/C: Marasovic/Ortiz-Cedeno

Ayes: Marasovic, Seshagiri, Simon, Posey, Boyd, Goodwin, Ortiz-Cedeno

Absent: Henneman, Rodriguez

Excused: None

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Okeya Vance-Dozier, Secretary
Commission on the Status of Women**