



Commission on the Status of Women

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

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**Comments from the Public**

- Public attendance: 1
- Public comments: 1

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**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.**

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**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**

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**Item # 3:**

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

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**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**

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**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.**

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**Item # 6:**

**Plan Black Maternal Health Month. Take on assignments.**

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**Item # 7:**

**Financial exploitation, scams and speculators approaching older women.**

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**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**