

COSW Special Meeting – November 10, 2021
Minutes

The special meeting was called to order at 8:15 pm

Chair Amey advised that the purpose of the special meeting is to discuss COSW's potential attendance at the December 4th Statewide convening of all Commissions on the Status of Women.

Commissioner Gilmore reminded Chair Amey we needed to have the roll call.

Present

Commissioners: Orly Amey, Chair; Martha Kreeger, Vice-Chair; Haleema Bharoocha-Jobe; Aliza Kazmi; Meredith Walker; Marie Gilmore; Courtney Welch; Erin Scott; Nina Senn

SSA Staff: Kim Fogel

Not Present:

Commissioners: Linda Tangren; Yasi Safinya-Davies, Amy Levine, Ge'Nell Gary

1. Event

Over the summer Chair Amey and Commissioner Senn met with the leadership of the Association of California Commissions for Women (ACCW). A discussion regarding funds received by ACCW to help commissions around the state yielded a desire for the commissions to work together as a unified body to help strengthen our voices for the causes identified and pursued by the commissions, specifically the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

Our nation is one of 6 nations that have not ratified CEDAW. It is an International Human Rights Treaty focused on eliminating discrimination against women in all areas i.e., equal pay, violence, support for families and caregivers and more.

Berkeley is the only city in the county that has already ratified CEDAW. Chair Amey asked if COSW would be interested in sending a delegation to the state convening. Commissioners Scott, Senn, Welch, Bharoocha-Jobe. Kreeger and Walker volunteered to attend.

Commissioner Scott offered to bring some additional knowledge and background information regarding CEDAW and its standing within Alameda County and beyond to the commission.

Commissioner Bharoocha-Jobe addressed the possibility of including a discussion on the 2022 budgetary needs for women recovering from COVID-19 at the convening.

Commissioner Gilmore motioned to send a delegation, seconded by Commissioner Senn.
Motion Passed

Commissioner Scott offered to reach out to someone on the Berkeley's Commission to chat and possibly get more information about CEDAW. Commissioner Kazmi offered to support this effort now that she is in Berkeley.

Chair Amey will be meeting with Nancy from Santa Clara County commission to discuss CEDAW to gather more knowledge.

2. Public Comment

None

3. Adjournment at 8:29 p.m.