



City and County of San Francisco

Commission on the Status of Women

Mayor London N. Breed

COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, October 25, 2023

5:00 pm

San Francisco City Hall, Room 408

Roster:

President Dr. Shokooh Miry

Vice President Sophia Andary

Commissioner Sharon Chung (Excused)

Commissioner Dr. Anne Moses (Excused)

Commissioner Dr. Raveena Rihal

Commissioner Ani Rivera

Note: *The Commission will hear public comment on each item on the agenda before or during consideration of that item.*

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Shokooh Miry called the meeting to order at 5:04pm. Mr. Cameron Lucas performed roll call, confirmed 4 of 6 Commissioners present (quorum). Mr. Lucas read the land acknowledgement.

President Miry deferred to Vice President Andary for remarks. Vice President Andary delivered the following statement:

"October 7th and the aftermath has made many Americans wake up to the reality of the Israeli apartheid regime's brutal practices.

Many prior to October 7th did not pay attention when Israel on a daily basis killed innocent Palestinians, jailed children, has been holding 2 million people in an open-air prison for over a decade (½ of which are children), stole homes, and withheld food, electricity, water and medicine from the Palestinian people.

We, especially Middle Eastern Americans, are constantly being asked to condemn terrorism, because that word is only used for Middle Eastern people. Let me be clear I condemn Hamas for the attacks on civilians in Israel and Occupied Palestine. Taking of a life should never be celebrated, and this also hurts the Palestinian cause, however the occupation hurts them the most. I condemn Israel's occupation of Palestinian Territory and their genocide of the Palestinians.

Targeting civilians, the use of phosphorus, collective punishment are all violations of international law. There is no justification for genocide and the killing of innocent civilians and children.

This is a morally clear issue, I urge everyone to stand up for human rights, to stand against the occupation and genocide of the Palestinian people.

We need to do everything we can to save lives and call on the US Government and local officials and leaders to demand a ceasefire and stop the US from funding the occupation and murder of the Palestinians.

An occupation demands compliance and order which doesn't bring peace, only justice will. If we don't call out the root cause of aggression, we are helping the oppressor continue to oppress.

There will be no peace until Israel's occupation of Palestine ends.

Never again for anyone!"

Commissioner Rivera remarked on standing in solidarity.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Commission reviewed and approved the minutes from the regular Commission meeting on September 27, 2023.

No public comment.

(Roll Call Vote) Rivera/Rihal – 4 ayes, 0 nays – Unanimous

III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Chief of Staff Alex Boskovich presented the Director's Report on behalf of Director Kimberly Ellis. She discussed the Department's compliance with the MBO's projection of a budget deficit and requests, and highlighted that the Department does not anticipate an impact to grantees' baseline contracts. Additionally, she discussed Director Ellis facilitating a panel at an event hosted by Black Women Revolt Against Domestic Violence to kick off Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and how the Department hosted its virtual Open House to introduce new staff, reconnect with community partners, and share important programmatic updates.

Commissioner Comment:

Commissioners asked about the budget, how to promote the GEPI flyer, and requested to be added to the distribution list/calendar for events.

No public comment.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. QUEER BIPOC & WOMAN-OWNED BUSINESSES PANEL

Mahsa Hakimi, Arts Commissioner, facilitated a panel comprised of queer, BIPOC and woman-owned businesses to showcase the stories, challenges, and successes of queer, BIPOC and woman-owned businesses in San Francisco and promote a deeper understanding between the intersection of identity and entrepreneurship in San Francisco.

Speakers: Madeleine Lim, Executive/Artistic Director of Queer Women of Color Media Arts Project; Jolene Linsangan, Business Owner of Jolene’s Bar and Restaurant; Kaela Miller, Business Owner of Scarlet Fox Wine Bar.

Mahsa Hakimi highlighted the difference between nonprofits vs. brick-and-mortar businesses, and inquired about the demographic of the speakers’ clientele, if they would encourage young, queer BIPOC women to open a business in San Francisco, if they felt support from the City and/or community during COVID-19, any positives to their business, and what the City can do to elevate their business.

Kaela Miller mentioned a map of queer-owned businesses in San Francisco would help elevate business. Madeleine Lim mentioned that City infrastructure such as transportation would help elevate their festival. Jolene Linsangan mentioned creating a map, and described how money and increased grant money would help.

Commissioner Comment:

President Miry and Vice President Andary thanked speakers for their honesty and time. President Andary encouraged people to support woman-owned spaces, businesses, and nonprofit. Commissioner Rivera talked about the queer space legacy and nonprofits in San Francisco and thanked speakers.

No public comment.

V. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Emberly Cross from Cooperative Restraining Order thanked panel and recognized Department for cosponsoring the Domestic Violence Awareness Rally joined by the Mayor, District Attorney, and SFPD.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned at 6:22pm.