City of San Diego Commission on the Status of Women

Minutes June 13, 2025: 12pm-1:30pm

Chair: Susan Davis Vice Chair: Wendy Urushima Conn Commissioners: Gail Friedt, Dana Toppel, Lakeya Cherry, Marlyn Carrillo, Natasha Wong, Sophie Tarazi

City Staff Liaison: Fatima Maciel

Item 1: Call to order - 12:02 pm

Item 2: Roll call

Present: Friedt, Cherry, Carillo(remote) Tarazi, Davis Absent: Toppel, Wong, Urushima Conn

Item 3: Approval of minutes: Review Special meeting May 28,2025. Approval of letter to Mayor Gloria and Council registering service concerns from the impacts of library closures and recreation centers on children and families.

Item 4: Non-Agenda Public Comment: Commissioners heard from Jenni Prisk, former San Diego County Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women and Girls, re the newly formed CEDAW Rising National organization. Several of our members participated in the Zoom interactive session that Ms. Prisk helped lead. Following her input and member questions, it was determined that we need to return once again to the City to review our draft ordinance. On a consensus yea vote with all members concurring, we will submit to the City Attorney's office a form asking for a prompt review of concerns and suggestions.

Item 5: Discussion of FY 26 Budget. In an amendment to the Mayor's budget, the Council added 16 libraries to Monday openings as well as opportunities for students to access tutoring. We joined many other voices in this request. July 1 will be the final day for the Mayor to present a line item veto or accept these changes.

Item 6: Discussion to identify and prioritize questions for meeting with Chief of Police Wahl. At our meeting on May 9 during non agenda public comment, the issue of untested rape kits was raised, in addition to other concerns. Chair Davis had an opportunity to request a meeting with him and his department about this and to explore female recruiting issues for the force. A meeting has been set for July 29 at 11:am. This will be under the subcommittee advocacy/policy role.

Item 7: Member Carillo gave the subcommittee report for member Wong and Urashima Conn. On Saturday, August 9, we will host a program on Women's Health accompanied by a warm and inviting woman's tea. Three prominent speakers will present on "Ways to Cope with Postpartum Mental Health." We will be helped by several interns and the LIVE WELL mobile van with an array of resources for family health. Members are encouraged to attend and spread the word about community programs. We will call a special meeting in August for this inaugural education opportunity.

Item 8. Discussion on roles and responsibilities of officers, term limits etc. In reviewing our Commission's difficulty with a quorum, we agreed and voted on a second vice chair position. Gail Friedt was elected by a unanimous vote. In addition, we are delegating to the ByLaws committee a letter asking for new members to be seated on the Commission by the department of Boards and Commissions. With that, we will add clear guidelines to our bylaws acknowledging the difficulty of members to serve when unable to attend the bulk of meetings.

Item 9. Liaison and Member Comments/Updates. C Cherry reminded us that a planning proposal is due on July 1under our bylaws. Our second community profile in concert with the city should be placed on the agenda for July.

Meeting adjourned at 1:33pm.