



Honolulu County Committee on the Status of Women

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

715 South King Street, Suite 311 • Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Katherine "K.D." Chavez, Chair
Beverly Munson, Vice Chair
Dr. Diane Paloma, Vice Chair
Kathleen Algire-Fedarcy, Member
Rochelle Gregson, Member
Keali'i Lopez, Member
Dr. Reni Soon, Member

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

2:00 p.m.

Kapālama Hale Ethics Hearing Room, #153Floor
Honolulu, Hawai'i

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Honolulu County Committee on the Status of Women (HCCSW) was called to order by Chair Chavez at 2:37 p.m.

Present: Katherine "K.D." Chavez, Kathleen Algire-Fedarcy, Rochelle Gregson, and Dr. Diane Paloma

Absent: Beverly Munson, Dr. Reni Soon, and Keali'i Lopez

Staff Resources Personnel for the Committee present at the meeting:
Shane Akagi, Administrator, Office of Grants Management (DCS/OGM)
Rebecca Espinoza, Planner, (DCS/OGM)
Lauren Jagla, Planner, (DCS/OGM)
Blessing Quon, Planner (DCS/OGM)
Crysttal Steiner, Planner (DCS/OMG)

2. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 15, 2019 MINUTES

Chair Chavez noted that Member Algire-Fedarcy should be added to the Sex Trafficking Focus Group mentioned in the October 15, 2019 meeting

minutes. With that correction, Chair Chavez asked for a motion to approve the minutes of October 15, 2019 as corrected. Member Gregson motioned to accept the minutes as revised, motion was seconded by Vice Chair Paloma. Motion passed unanimously.

3. TESTIMONY/COMMENTS FROM DEPARTMENT/AGENCIES AND THE PUBLIC

a. Presentation from the Department of Community Services:

Mr. Akagi introduced his staff. Mr. Akagi then relayed an apology from Ms. Witty-Oakland, Director, Department of Community Services, and Ms. Rebecca Soon, Deputy Director, Department of Community Services to the Committee regarding their absence at the meeting due to an emergency. Ms. Witty-Oakland and Ms. Soon requested their scheduled presentation be rescheduled for the next meeting. Mr. Akagi passed out a copy of the presentation PowerPoint for the Committee to review.

Mr. Akagi updated the Committee on the budget. Mr. Akagi mentioned he will follow up with Ms. Rebecca Soon regarding the release of funds. He then reviewed the preliminary budget meeting held recently with the Director of Finance and Budget and Managing Director. The Fiscal Director said that property values for the upcoming year were flat and therefore City revenues are expected to be flat. There is a hard ceiling set on spending. Both rail and the Employer Union Trust Fund have bigger costs than expected. No budget cuts have been instituted yet. The Committee's \$30,000 budget request is still intact at this time.

Mr. Akagi updated the Committee regarding the status of the vacant Committee seats. Several potential Committee applications have been received from members of the public. However, appointments to Committee have not yet been made. It is anticipated that a new appointment may be made in January at the earliest.

b. Agency/Public Testimonies on All Agenda Items: None.

4. FOCUS GROUP REPORTS

a. Sex Trafficking:

If anyone else is interested in working on this issue, please let Chair Chavez know.

b. First Responder Training:

Mayor is willing to adopt a formal resolution that EMS, HPD, and HFB staff attend this training. Chair Chavez will set up a meeting with the Mayor, the HPD and HFD Chiefs, and the head of EMS to work on a formal resolution. This is an issue the Committee wants to push.

c. Homelessness:

The City has a working group on Homelessness. The Committee can be part of that group. Currently the Homelessness group does not have experts on women or children's issues and would appreciate the expertise of the Committee.

d. Economic Security and Gender Wage Equity: None

e. Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women:

Mayor is happy to do a City proclamation and light Honolulu Hale in red in support.

5. FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION: Fiscal Year 2020 Committee Budget

After meeting with the Mayor, Chair Chavez met with Mr. Akagi and Ms. Rebecca Soon. The Committee can take on tasks and events as they choose.

The Committee would like to collaborate more closely with the State Committee on the Status of Women and has been invited to attend their meetings.

The Committee would like to put on an annual women's conference. The conference would be in the future, perhaps mid/late 2020 or 2021. If the event is accomplished, this may be the first of its kind. The State may be able to help with funding. Committee would like to offer scholarships and bring direct providers into the conference.

Chair Chavez outlined the Focus Group Budget Requests she had received. Vice Chair Munson requested that \$5,000 be allocated for each of the focus groups she sits on.

Sex Trafficking Focus Group requested \$5,000. An additional \$2,000 would be used to pay for extending the term the upcoming State Committee on the Status of Women bus ad is aired. The Committee may also want to put up banners on poles around the City on this issue. The Committee also considered spending funds to support two researchers working on Hawaii specific statistics this fiscal year or next fiscal year.

First Responder Training Focus Group requested \$2,000. It is unclear whether the Mayor will put funds to doing the first responder training. Currently, HPD, HFD, and EMS all receive different training and the information is not standardized. It was suggested that the Focus Group working on clarifying what each organization is doing and figure out how to get everyone the same information across the board. This would be largely awareness training and it might be beneficial to have Honolulu County do the training. Hiring a consultant would be expensive. Member Gregson mentioned that in her experience, EMS gives the most pushback. It was suggested that the Focus Group inquire whether the State Committee on the Status of Women can share their research.

Homelessness Focus Group requested \$11,000. They would like to hold an event where micro-loans, scholarships, and/or gap in rent/security deposits

could be given to women with no strings attached. It was suggested that there could be a women's hygiene station and a Dress for Success station. Homeless women especially need clean bras, underwear, and feminine hygiene products. Other ideas were bus passes, assistance with the purchase of uniforms and work clothes. This event would be a women only, safe place to gather. It was suggested that attendees may be given a \$100 in a savings account that they can't touch for a certain length of time. Perhaps Bank of Hawaii could allocate some funds. Mr. Akagi mentioned that if the Focus Group would like to offer things like micro-loans, that they contact Mark Alexander, the City's Homeless Coordinator to coordinate with on-going City homeless efforts. It was also suggested that it might be easier for the Focus Group to join with another event and section off a women's only area. However, there may be problems using public funds in this way. It was suggested that the Focus Group could do an expungement event during the summer. It would need to be family friendly, so kids could be served as well. Perhaps the Focus Group could do a road show with Mark Alexander.

The Economic Security and Gender Wage Focus Group requested \$2,000. This might be used to fund small student stipends to analyze data for the Focus Groups use. It was suggested that HGEA might have information on County wage equity. Any review of City wage equity should include contracted employees.

The Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Focus Group requested \$5,000. The funds could help with a study the State is doing. It could also help with event transportation for Hawaii and indigenous women from throughout Oceania. It was mentioned that May 5th is International Women's Day. Maybe Honolulu Hale can be lighted in red. Maybe a statewide proclamation could be done, with the Mayor doing a City proclamation.

The Committee would retain \$3,000 in discretionary funds.

Chair Chavez summarized the Committee's proposed \$30,000 budget based on the discussion as follows:

- \$5,000 Sex Trafficking
- \$2,000 Extension of Bus Ad Airing
- \$2,000 First Responder Training
- \$11,000 Homelessness
- \$2,000 Economic Security and Gender Wage Equity
- \$5,000 Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women
- \$3,000 Discretionary

Chair Chavez asked for a motion of adopt the proposed budget. Member Gregson so moved and Vice Chair Paloma seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Member Algire-Fedarcy mentioned that she recently learned that there was no oral decay in the Hawaiian Island pre-contact.

7. NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 16, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. at Kapālama Hale, Ethics Commission Conference Room located on the first floor.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Chavez adjourned the meeting at 3:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

SHANE AKAGI, OGM Administrator

APPROVED:

KATHERINE "K.D." CHAVEZ
Chair

Date

The minutes of the Committee Meeting on
October 15, 2019 were approved at the
December 3, 2019 Committee Meeting

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Comment</u>
Katherine "K.D." Chavez – Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dr. Diane Paloma	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Beverly Munson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Keali'i Lopez	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dr. Reni Soon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Kathleen Algire-Fedarcyk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Rochelle Gregson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	