

**CIVIL + HUMAN RIGHTS AND  
EQUITY DEPARTMENT**

201 N. Los Angeles St., Ste. 6  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
(213) 978-1845  
www.civilandhumanrights.lacity.org

**CAPRI MADDOX**  
Executive Director  
General Manager

**CLAUDIA LUNA**  
Assistant General Manager

**KIM KASRELIOVICH**  
Assistant General Manager

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA**



**KAREN BASS**  
MAYOR

**COMMISSION ON THE STATUS  
OF WOMEN**

**TRACY D. GRAY**  
President

**SIMONA GRACE**  
Vice President

**ERMA BERNARD-GIBSON  
LUCIG H. DANIELIAN  
JERILYN LOPEZ MENDOZA  
CRISTINA ROSE  
KATHERINE YEOM**

**COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

Special Meeting Minutes

September 20, 2024

10:00 a.m.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Commission Vice-President Simona Grace called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m., Commissioners Erma Bernard-Gibson, Lucig Danielian, Cristina Rose, and Katherine Yeom were in attendance.

President Tracy Gray arrived at 10:15 a.m.

Commissioner Jerilyn Lopez Mendoza was absent.

Also in attendance were Capri Maddox, LA Civil Rights General Manager; Claudia Luna, Assistant General Manager; Nicole Gougis, City Attorney; Kiran Dhillon, City Attorney Law Clerk; Ivory Chambeshi, Director, Watts Rising Collaborative, Mayor's Office; Carla Ibarra, LGBTQIA+ Community Liaison Advocate; Liliana Villa, Human Relations Advocate; Chloe Coventry, Management Assistant; and Tyna Hall Blackman, Commission Executive Assistant.

A quorum was established and the meeting proceeded.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

The public comment period was opened. There were no speakers to address the Commission. Therefore, public comment was closed.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Commission reviewed the minutes of the August 29, 2024 Special meeting. Commissioner Rose moved to approve the August 29, 2024 meeting minutes. Commissioner Bernard-Gibson seconded the motion, and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Rose  
Seconded: Bernard-Gibson  
Ayes: Danielian, Grace, Yeom

Absent: Gray, Lopez Mendoza

Vote: 5 - 0

The motion passed and the minutes were approved.

**4. PRESENTATION**

Quentin Strobe, President and Chief Executive Officer of Vermont Slauson Economic Development Corporation (VSEDC), gave a presentation on his organization's programs. VSEDC helps small businesses access capital in South Los Angeles. They also offer business financing, coaching, and a variety of educational training courses.

**5. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

Commissioner Danielian shared that the HR&A consultants' final CSW strategic priorities document is missing some of the action items that the commission had requested be included. She will meet with LA Civil Rights staff to work on edits and add said items back into the plan. The Commission will vote on the edited version.

**6. CREATION OF AD HOCS**

Capri Maddox, General Manager, joined the commission for a discussion on creating the following ad hoc committees:

**Visibility and Marketing Ad Hoc**

The Commission on the Status of Women discussed creating an ad hoc for Visibility and Marketing. Commissioner Rose made the motion and Commissioner Bernard-Gibson seconded it. The vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Rose  
Seconded: Bernard-Gibson  
Ayes: Danielian, Grace, Gray, Yeom

Absent: Lopez Mendoza

Vote: 6 - 0

The motion passed.

**Menopause Ad Hoc**

The Commission on the Status of Women discussed creating an ad hoc for a Menopause Workplace Policies. President Gray made the motion, and Commissioner Yeom seconded the motion. The vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Gray  
Seconded: Yeom  
Abstain: Bernard-Gibson  
Ayes: Danielian, Grace, Rose

Absent: Lopez Mendoza

Vote: 6 - 0

The motion passed.

**7. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

a. Capri Maddox, General Manager, requested badges and business cards for all CSW commissioners. GM Maddox congratulated the three reappointed commissioners, Commissioners Grace, Rose, and Yeom. The City of Los Angeles will be illuminated in a beautiful mosaic of colors across iconic LA landmarks between September 27 through 29 in celebration of the LA for All campaign. GM Maddox gave special thanks to Mayra Medel, Nicole Bryant, and Alison Simard for making it happen.

- b. Erma Bernard-Gibson, CSW Commissioner, requested that the Commission tour and hold a future meeting at LA Trade Tech's Culinary Arts School.
- c. Simona Grace, CSW Vice-President, announced that Holly Milburn-Smith from City Hub and Network for Gender Equity (CHANGE) will hold CHANGE events at Occidental College next year.
- d. Liliana Villa, Human Relations Advocate, gave an update on the Pioneer Women's Awards. Seven council members will attend the awards ceremony. The majority of the honorees have accepted their invitations and have confirmed their attendance. Lastly, we're seeking new volunteers to plan the 2025 Pioneer Women's Award Ad Hoc.
- e. The CSW Commission agreed to reschedule November's regularly scheduled meeting to November 1, 2024.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Seeing no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

NOTICE TO PAID REPRESENTATIVES: If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code 48.01 et seq. More information is available at [ethics.lacity.org/lobbying](https://ethics.lacity.org/lobbying). For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or [ethics.commission@lacity.org](mailto:ethics.commission@lacity.org).