

Commission on Women
April 28, 2025

A meeting of the Commission on Women was held on this date beginning at 4:11 p.m. at 2 George Street and over video conference call.

Notice of this meeting was sent to all local news media.

Present: Chair Trischia Khouri, Jennifer Brown, Louis Weinstein, Leslie Skarden, Cynthia Bolt, Amy Castle-Rogers, Kate Wade, and Denise Fugo.

Staff: Mindy Sturm, Jamie Roper, and Patrick Carlson, recording.

1. Approval of Minutes

On a motion of Chair Khouri, seconded by Commissioner Weinstein, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the March 24, 2025 minutes.

2. Discussion

Chair Khouri said she needed to follow up with the City to help establish the proposed community resource guide that would help connect people with local groups and resources.

Commissioner Weinstein said he worked with the Barrier Islands Free Medical Clinic on John's Island but wanted to update the public that the board had opened the clinic services to any person in the area who did not have insurance.

Commissioner Brown asked if there was still a brick and mortar building for the My Sister's House nonprofit.

Commissor Fugo said she believed it was located on Azalea Drive and they did psychological counseling and helped provide scattered housing.

Commissor Fugo said she would send Chair Khouri a list of social services agencies and contact information for an organization that would provide programming support for people with Down syndrome called GiGi's Playhouse that would be opening on May 17th.

Chair Khouri said she owed the commission a draft of the Mamava proposal, and she would send it to the commission for review before she presented it to City Council.

Mindy Sturm asked where the commission would ask the City to install the Mamava units.

Chair Khouri said the initial proposed location was on the ground level of City Hall because it was centrally located and had associated security.

Commissioner Fugo said Mayor Cogswell's office proposed rapid housing shelters that were not supported by several Councilmembers. She said Councilmember Seekings spoke about a company

called Boxabl that produced 175 sq. ft. units which cost \$19,000 and could be installed in different places that had access to the necessary services.

Commissioner Bolt asked if the intention was to create a proposal for installing housing that could be passed on to the relevant authorities.

Commissioner Fugo said that was the intention and she spoke to Mayor Cogswell when he first proposed the rapid hosing plan and said she would support his efforts if he promised to do something for local women and children by 2027.

Commissioner Fugo showed a video showing the layout of the Boxabl units.

Commissioner Brown said she was concerned about the unit's mobile status because of the regional wind and hurricane frequency.

Commissioner Fugo said she would investigate the engineering requirements for securing the units.

Chair Khouri said this was a good conversation and they would discuss the proposal at the June meeting.

3. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the Commission adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

Patrick Carlson
Clerk of Council's Office