

Commission on Women
March 24, 2025

A meeting of the Commission on Women was held on this date beginning at 4:04 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, Louis Weinstein, Leslie Skarden, Cynthia Bolt, Hilda Gadsden, Emma Cromedy, Amy Castle-Rogers, and Denise Fugo.

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

1. Approval of Minutes

On a motion of Commissioner Weinstein, seconded by Commissioner Bolt, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the February 24, 2024 minutes.

2. Discussion

Catina Whitfield gave a presentation about her work as a licensed funeral director specializing in helping people preplan for the loss of a loved one. She said that by planning ahead it was possible to organize much of the necessary information and preferences to help ease the funeral and burial processes. In addition, there were multiple payment and insurance options to help finance whatever a loved one wanted in a funeral policy.

Sean Riley spoke about the various veteran benefits available to military families and how to navigate the necessary processes and eligibility requirements to be interred in a state or national veteran cemetery.

Commissioner Weinstein asked if there was a charge for any preplanning services. Mr. Riley said there was not a charge, and it did not matter if a client ultimately went to another funeral home.

Commissioner Fugo suggested they also contact the College of Charleston to provide any necessary guidance and services.

Chair Khouri asked if there was a foundation that supported individuals that could not afford any burial services. Mr. Riley said it was on a case-by-case basis and they would work with the County if nobody was available to provide support for those situations.

Chair Khouri said she was going to follow up with the Mayor's office to ensure they were updated on Commission on Women discussions. She also said she would follow up with the Clerk of Council's office and send them a community resource guide to be published in a future Commission on Women's page on the City's website. Finally, she said she would send a proposal for the Mamava services for the Commission to consider and edit before submitting them to the City.

Commissioner Weinstein said the Post & Courier had published a list of the public meetings for the week and misnamed the Commission as a committee and asked the Clerk's office to inform them of the misprint.

Commissioner Gadsden said Chair Khouri made an impact connecting with several Councilmembers at the previous City Council meeting and the Commission was proud of her presentation.

3. Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the Commission adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Patrick Carlson
Clerk of Council's Office