



WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

January 6, 2026

A meeting of the Women's Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, at 5:33 PM, in the Cascadia Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall, and via electronic means.

PRESENT: Ellie Lawson, Chair
Morrell Andrews
Katsy Concepcion
Nazma Lee
Serena Mohammed
Molly Needham
Alida Oegema Thomas, Co-Chair
Olga Shcherbyna
Shirin Shushtarian

ABSENT: Alaina Chun

ALSO PRESENT: Insp. Kelly Risebrough, Vancouver Police Department
Liaison
Gillian Guilment-Smith, Vancouver Public Library Liaison
Tanya Fink, Social Planner; Staff Liaison

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Julie Emmerson, Meeting Coordinator

WELCOME

The Chair acknowledged we are on the unceded homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Peoples. We thank them for having cared for this land and look forward to working with them in partnership as we continue to build this great city together.

Leave of Absence Requests

None.

Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Morrell Andrews
SECONDED by Olga Shcherbyna

THAT the Women's Advisory Committee approve the minutes from the meeting of Tuesday, November 18, 2025, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Appointment of Chair and Co-Chair

MOVED by Molly Needham
SECONDED by Shirin Shushtarian

THAT the Women's Advisory Committee appoint Alida Oegema Thomas and Ellie Lawson as Co-Chairs of the Women's Advisory Committee for a term ending November 1, 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Update on Women's Equity Strategy and City-wide Equity Program

Staff from the Strategy and Project Support Office provided a presentation and responded to questions and comments.

3. Annual Report Approval

The Chair provided an overview of the 2025 Annual Report. Following discussion, the Committee deferred approval to a subsequent meeting.

4. Liaison Updates

All Liaisons present provided updates and responded to questions.

5. Subcommittee Updates

None.

6. New Business

None.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Olga Shcherbyna
SECONDED by Serena Mohammed

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting:

DATE: Tuesday, March 3, 2026
TIME: 5:30 pm
PLACE: Cascadia Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall
/ Teams Meeting

The Committee adjourned at 7:30 pm.

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