



ERA Centennial 1923 ~ 2023

Long Beach July 18, 2023

You're Invited

March 7, 2023





Photo by Jose Cordon

Long Beach Commission for Women & Girls

- ❖ Seneca Falls 1848 to Long Beach 2023
- ❖ International Call for Women's Commissions
- ❖ 1975 Long Beach abstains
- ❖ January 10, 2022 LBCWG study begins
- ❖ March 7, 2023 Unanimous vote to Receive & File
- ❖ July 18, 2023 First vote on the Long Beach Commission for Women & Girls



Seneca Falls, 1848 ~ Long Beach, 2023

July, 1848 (75 years) July, 1923 (100 years) July, 2023



Seneca Falls
Women demand the Vote



Seneca Falls
Equal Rights Amendment
introduced



Long Beach Commission
for Women & Girls
established



International Call for Women's Commissions

Doris Stevens, right, talking to Sra. Gonzales at Pan-American Conference, Havana, Jan. 1928. The call to create Women's Commissions.





**Founded 1965.
Made permanent 1971**

Conversation Piece

THE GOVERNOR this weekend appointed seven women — two journalists, a businesswoman, a labor union representative, an attorney, the director of a clinical laboratory and a Pasadena elementary school principal — as the public members of California's new Advisory Commission on the Status of Women.

The Commission's job will be to study employment practices relative to women; laws concerning working conditions; laws affecting women's civil and political rights; educational needs and opportunities for women; the effect of social attitudes and pressures on the role of women in society, and, in general, how women can make a maximum contribution to society.

Its first order of business should be to study whether in settling it up the governor has discriminated against women who have no status, do no work, and make no contribution to society, other than as conscientious housewives and mothers.

—Ray McConnell

Advisory Group Sets Meeting

California's Advisory Commission on the Status of Women will meet next Monday at 10 a.m. in the State Building in San Francisco.

The Commission has announced the selection of Ruth Miller of Los Angeles as permanent chairman and Mrs. Inka O'Hanrahan of San Francisco, vice chairman. Mrs. Marian Ash was appointed executive secretary.

The 15 member committee will study four major subjects:

1. Public and private employment practices relative to women.
2. State laws in regard to the civil and political rights of women.
3. Educational needs and educational opportunities, particularly in connection with the needs of the mature woman.
4. The effect of social attitudes and pressures and economic considerations in shaping the roles to be assumed by women in society.

Public members of the commission are Mrs. Craven Douglass of El Segundo, Mrs. Kathleen Doyle of Palo Alto, Mrs. Charlotte Lewis of Albany, Mrs. J. Maria Pierce of Pasadena, Mrs. Mickey Warner of Los Angeles, Miss Miller and Mrs. O'Hanrahan.



Creation of County Panel on Status of Women Urged

Supervisor El Edelman proposed Tuesday the establishment of a Los Angeles County commission on the status of women.

Social, political and economic restrictions have resulted in women being denied certain basic human rights, Edelman said.

He moved to instruct Chief Administrative Officer Harry L. Edmond to confer with the county Human Relations Commission's advisory committee on women and to prepare an ordinance within 30 days to establish an independent commission on the status of women.

Supervisor Buster Ward sponsored the motion and the Board of Supervisors adopted it without dissent.

Edelman said a Los Angeles County commission would investigate conditions of discrimination or prejudice because of sex. It would seek to relieve them through consultation and legislation and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.

Edelman explained the commission would hold public hearings and make recommendations to the Civil Service Commission and Personnel Department for development of anti-discriminatory employment and promotional practices.

He said it would disseminate educational and informational material, provide guidance and technical assistance to public and private agencies and review national, state and local legislation having an impact on the status of women.

The county supervisor believed his argument by pointing out that 52% of the county's population, or more than 3,000,000 persons, are women.

On March 18, 1975, a motion was introduced to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to prepare a draft ordinance to establish an independent County Commission for Women.

A 15-member commission was created to represent women of all races, ethnic and social backgrounds, religious convictions, sexual orientation and social circumstances.



Long Beach City Council 1975



LONG BEACH City Councilwoman Renee Simon was a member of the steering committee that organized the California Elected Women's Association.

“Councilwoman Renee B Simon was unable to get a second “

“I am absolutely dumb-founded,” Mrs. Simon declared “and I’m sure the women in Long Beach will be equally shocked” She had proposed establishment of the commission in a letter to the City Council as a means of reducing the “long-standing tradition of restrictions” on women seeking equal opportunity in politics business education and economics.

Terminology keeps women divided



Barbara Bradley
Cecil Wilson
“We’re in favor of forming a women’s committee, but not a women’s commission.”

Mrs. Sara plans to bring the bill to the City Council on Tuesday. She said she will be in the office at 10 a.m. on Tuesday. She said she will be in the office at 10 a.m. on Tuesday. She said she will be in the office at 10 a.m. on Tuesday.



Rena Simon
“It doesn’t matter what you call it as long as it has authority to do something.”

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Council to decide on women’s commission

By ROBERT GORE
Staff Writer

A city manager’s report offering the first statistical look at women in Long Beach will be reviewed by the City Council today as the council considers the possible formation of a Commission on the Status of Women.

While they are a numerical majority, women represent a minority of elected and appointed office holders. City Manager John Mansell said in his report that only 57 per cent of Long Beach city administration executives are women, only 15 per cent of the appointed officials are women and only 12 per cent of the elected officials are women.

The report was requested by Councilman Erik Holt on Nov. 11, when he asked that the question of forming the 15-member commission be referred to the council’s Human and Cultural Resources Committee.

The committee will hold a hearing on the report and the women’s organization at 1 p.m. today.

The panel was originally proposed by Councilwoman Renee Simon at the council’s Nov. 4 meeting, but her motion died for lack of a second.

Mrs. Simon said at the time that she was “absolutely dumb-founded” by the council’s stand. (Vice Mayor James Wilson and Councilman Wallace Edgerley were absent.)

The council’s action was sharply criticized by local women’s groups.

Based on U.S. statistics, Long Beach’s population is 51.3 per cent female, with 18 per cent of the women qualifying as heads of households. Forty-one per cent of the word force is female, and they earn approximately 59 per cent of the average salary of a male.

Four other California cities have commissions on women. Mansell reported, and there are also 15 county groups and one statewide panel on women. The membership ranges from 19 to 17 and funding from \$5,000 to \$50,000 annually.

He said the Long Beach commission, if it is formed, could handle such responsibilities as legal problems, welfare, housing, credit, child care and private enterprise activities affecting women.

The city’s Affirmative Action Office already takes care of matters relating to the employment of women, Mansell pointed out.

The council committee, which will review the report, is chaired by Councilwoman Eunice Sato, who has said she is opposed to the women’s commission.

“I’m representing everybody, not just women,” Mrs. Sato said in November. “I think there is too much segregation in our society. I’m not saying that women have a right, but I am not saying there is not discrimination, but you can overcome it. Women are half the population. I think commission should perhaps represent smaller groups like the handicapped.”

“We had the conference (the city’s affirmative action) in October and we have an affirmative action officer. I think there is enough

Mrs. Simon hits council’s denial of L.B. women unit

Formation of a city commission on the status of women was rejected Tuesday by the Long Beach City Council when it passed Councilwoman Renee B. Simon, who announced in her motion to enter the matter to a committee for study. “I am absolutely dumb-founded,” Mrs. Simon declared, “and I’m sure the women in Long Beach will be equally shocked.” She had proposed establishment of the commission, in a letter to the City Council, as a means of reducing the “long-standing tradition of restrictions” on women seeking equal opportunity in politics, business, education and economics. When the item came up on the council agenda Tuesday, Mrs. Simon moved that it be referred to the council’s human and cultural affairs committee, whose chairman is Councilwoman Eunice N. Sato.

Some of the other council members present offered to second the motion, including Mrs. Sato, the only other woman on the council, on Mayor Thomas J. Clark three times asked if there were a second. Councilwoman Wallace Edgerley and James H. Wilson were absent.

Although she didn’t comment at the time, Mrs. Sato told the Independent Press-Telegram today she refused from accepting the motion because the council didn’t think the commission was necessary.

“I’m representing everybody, not just women,” she said. “I think there is too much segregation in our society. I’m not saying that women have a right, but I am not saying there is not discrimination, but you can overcome it. Women are half the population. I think commission should perhaps represent smaller groups like the handicapped.”

“We had the conference (the city’s affirmative action) in October and we have an affirmative action officer. I think there is enough

Mrs. Simon said Tuesday she would “submit at least a comment” on why there was no support for a program which, she said, “has served an extremely useful purpose in many other communities.”

She said also the idea of the commission had been “strongly supported” by those attending the recent Long Beach International Women’s Conference.

Councilwoman Rex Carroll Jr. was the only member to offer a comment, saying he did not second the motion because “I personally don’t feel that it is good and fair usage of taxpayers’ dollars to set up this commission.”

“Although I do have strong feelings that the issue of women in our community is certainly necessary,” Carroll said, “I have a personal belief that it is not the job of the council to set up such a women’s commission.”

The next step would be a men’s commission, he said.

“There is a need for women to ‘hand together’ to present a proposal to the City Council, they can do so, as other groups already do,” Carroll said.

Mrs. Simon said delegates to the International Women’s Year Conference were “very anxious” that there be an on-going effort to focus on “the long-standing issue of inequality, or at least, lack of opportunity,” faced by women.



January 10, 2022

Study Begins to establish LBCWG

Long Beach Human Relations Commission changes name to Equity & Human Relations Commission and advocate establishing a Commission for Women & Girls.



With the direction of the Long Beach Office of Equity, meetings, surveys, and studies began. Findings led to request the City Attorney's office to draw up the ordinance that is going to be voted on tonight.

As directed by the City Manager, (Jan 10, 2022) a Long Beach ad hoc Committee was formed to establish Commission for Women and Girls. Funding was awarded by the City of Long Beach and the California Commission on the Status of Women & Girls.



March 7, 2023 / July 18, 2023



Preliminary report by Office of Equity.



TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023
411 W. OCEAN BOULEVARD
CIVIC CHAMBERS, 5:00 PM

REVISED

29. [23-0202](#) Recommendation to receive and file a presentation on Women's History Month and receive an update on the Commission on Women and Girls.

Office or Department: VICE MAYOR CINDY ALLEN, SECOND DISTRICT; COUNCILWOMAN MARY ZENDEJAS, FIRST DISTRICT; COUNCILWOMAN SUELY SARO, SIXTH DISTRICT

Suggested Action: Approve recommendation.

CITY OF LONG BEACH
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2023
411 W. OCEAN BOULEVARD
CIVIC CHAMBERS, 5:00 PM

ORDINANCES:

25. [23-0772](#) Recommendation to declare ordinance amending the Long Beach Municipal Code by adding Chapter 2.45 relating to the Commission on Women and Girls; read the first time and laid over to the next regular meeting of the City Council for final reading. (Citywide)

Office or Department: CITY ATTORNEY

Suggested Action: Approve recommendation.

The proposed Ordinance is posted. Applications open for the LBCWG.



A Note to the Applicants



CHAPTER 2.45
COMMISSION FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

2.45.010 Created.
There is created a Commission to be known and designated as the Commission for Women and Girls.

2.45.020 Definition.
For the purposes of this Chapter, the following definition shall be applicable:

A. "Women and girls" means all who live as female-identified, including: cisgender and transgender, and those who identify as gender-expansive, non-binary, non-conforming, and genderqueer.



Speak up
Show up
Free up
Sum up
Look up
Be up

Duties.

A. To gather information and evaluate the needs and concerns of women and girls in Long Beach within the broader context of gender equity;

B. To inform and advise the City Council on issues and inequities affecting women and girls in Long Beach;

1. Recommend changes related to gender equality in existing City policies, programs and practices;
2. Recommend new policies, programs and practices that promote and ensure equal rights and opportunities for all genders;
3. Recommend protecting and promoting visibility for women who are mothers, caregivers or older adults;
4. Identify matters of discrimination, prejudice, health and safety;
5. Encourage the participation, visibility and leadership of all women and girls.

C. To recommend policy changes using an intersectional feminist lens, ensuring that women's overlapping identities, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, disability, class, religion, and marital status, are considered in decision-making related to City policies, programs, practices and resource allocation;

D. To consult and coordinate with other public agencies, commissions, and organizations serving women and girls on matters related to the Commission;

E. To conduct studies and surveys on the status of women and girls related to gender equity, as requested by the Mayor and City Council, and provide a report back to the City Council thereafter;

F. To submit a report to the City Council annually that details the status and progress on activities and recommendations

Read the Ordinance
Read the duties

This is volunteer
There is no power here, this is service

This a terrible, beautiful role
This is a passion calling to advance the Women & Girls of Long Beach



A Note to Long Beach City Council



We are 48 years behind.

These 11 women will make history.

They will set a course for future LBCWG commissioners
and the Women & Girls of Long Beach.

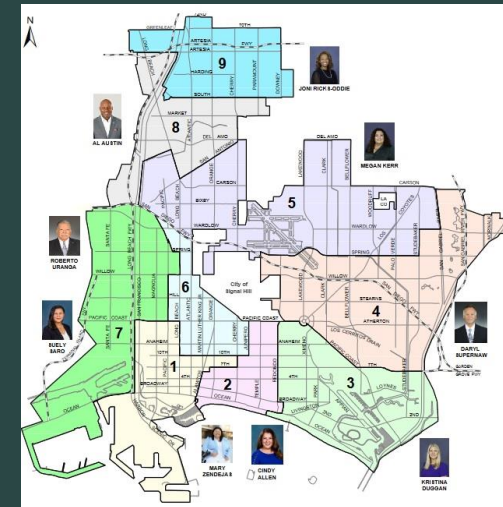
We cannot change the world, but locally we can improve life for some.

This commission needs women with skills, motivation and time.

There is a bold leader in YOUR district who is destined for this.

They will represent, listen and respond. Find them.

Please nominate women who are dedicated to gender equity.





Happy Birthday ERA

100 YEARS!

ERA CENTENNIAL BUS TOUR TO SENECA FALLS
 Contact: Lisa info@vanow.org
GET ON THE BUS WITH US
 July 20 - 22

PLAN TO END THE FIGHT!

ON JULY 21, 1923, THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT WAS INTRODUCED IN SENECA FALLS, NEW YORK

ERA CENTENNIAL CONVENTION

A FIGHT 100 YEARS IN THE MAKING. 21-22



ERA YES This is what gender equality looks like!

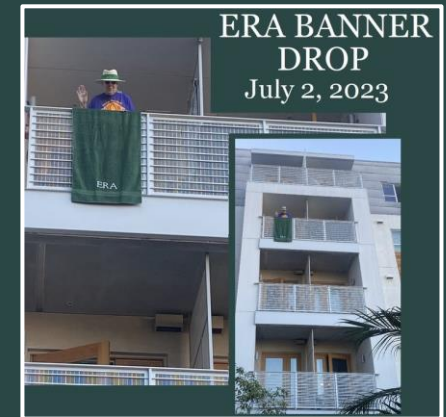
ABORTION RIGHTS I LOVE EQUALITY HONK IF YOU EQUALITY

PUT THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT IN THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

Tell CONGRESS you want equality NOW! 100 years is too long to wait.

ERA CENTENNIAL

PROTECT FROM DISCRIMINATION NATIONWIDE



Today, we are celebrating Equality by establishing the Long Beach Commission for Women & Girls.

