

**Falcon Heights- Community Engagement Commission**

**October 16, 2017**

**7:00 pm**

**Agenda**

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of September 18, 2017 Minutes
3. Housekeeping Items and Announcements
  - a. Open Meeting Laws
  - b. Commission Roles
4. Human Rights Day
  - a. Speakers
  - b. Outreach
5. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
6. Task Force Recommendations
7. Meeting Schedule and Adjourn

## Falcon Heights- Community Engagement Commission

September 18, 2017

7:00 pm

### Minutes

**Members Present:** Commission Chair Shirley Reider; Vice Chair Jay Colond; Commissioners Georgiana May, Stacey Tidball, Katie Kohn; Council Liaison Tony Fischer; SAPD Liaison Chief Jon Mangseth; Staff Liaison Katie O'Connor

**Members Absent:** Commissioner Clem Kurhajetz, Ahmed Hassan; FHFDF Liaison Anton Fehrenbach

1. Call to Order: 7:02 pm
2. Updates and Announcements (Amended Jay Colond, Stacey Tidball)

League of Women Voters has the election forum at 7pm on Monday, September 25. It will be televised on the public channel as well. Consider providing an update on how to get public access television.

3. Approval of August 21, 2017 Minutes                      Stacey Moves, Georgiana Seconds
4. Presentation from Kris Grangaard

Presenting on the history of the Neighborhood Commission before the merge. The Commission evolved from having neighborhood watch groups, intergenerational dialogues, and emergency preparedness dialogues.

5. Human Rights Day
  - a. Date and Time: Thursday, Dec 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30-8:30pm
  - b. Topic: SOLD
  - c. Outreach: promotion can happen through partnerships and/or a mailer to each residence. Staff will begin working on promotional materials.

Make contact with potential guest speakers: University Law School, The Advocates for Human Rights, The Family Partnership/PRIDE Program, The Link, Day One, St. Paul Mayor's Office, Ramsey County Attorney's Office, and a partnership with Roseville Library.

6. Task Force Recommendations
  - a. Education and Training: What programming does the Science Museum have? Explore what is available through the Science Museum.
  - b. Resources

- c. Events: Move forward with doing more outreach to include community groups.

Need direction from Council and authority to move ahead on recommendations. The Commission would like a vote from the Council on the direction and authorization for the Commission to move forward.

Create a list of updates on the task force recommendations on the home page (i.e. application made to St. Paul Foundation and considerations to Bush Foundation).

Motion to report our recommendations to the Council and ask for authorization and to provide direction on the recommendation: Georgiana moves, Katie seconds

Email the final report of recommendations and have commissioners give individual feedback.

#### 7. Meeting Schedule and Adjourn: October 16

Adjourn 8:50 pm



### **CEDAW: A Declaration of Human Rights for Women**

The call for a Women's Treaty emerged from the *First World Conference on Women* in Mexico City in 1975. On December 18, 1979, the United Nations adopted ***the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women***. Until the adoption of CEDAW, no treaty fully addressed women's rights within political, cultural, economic, social, and family life.

CEDAW is the most comprehensive international agreement which seeks the advancement of women. It establishes rights for women in areas not previously subject to international standards. The treaty provides a ***universal definition of discrimination against women so that those who would discriminate on the basis of sex cannot claim that no clear definition exists***. It also calls for **action in nearly every field of human endeavor**: politics, law, employment, education, health care, commercial transactions, and domestic relations. CEDAW also establishes a Committee for periodic review of the progress being made by its adherents.

As of 2015, 187 countries have ratified the Convention, a powerful step towards recognizing that women's rights are human rights.

### **CEDAW and the United States**

The United States is one of only six countries in the world -the others being Iran, Sudan, Somalia, Palau and Tonga - that have yet to ratify the treaty. As a leading advocate for human rights, the United States has a compelling interest to improve conditions for women. With this failure to ratify CEDAW, however, the United States compromises its credibility as a leader for either human rights or women's rights.

### **History of CEDAW Ratification in the US**

- The U.S. was active in drafting CEDAW and President Jimmy Carter signed it on **July 17, 1980**. It was transmitted to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in November, 1980.
- **During the Reagan Administration CEDAW was largely buried.**
- In **summer 1990**, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee held hearings on the treaty. At that time, the State Department testified that it had not prepared a legal analysis of the treaty to determine how it comports with U.S. law.
- In **spring 1993**, sixty-eight senators signed a letter to President Clinton, asking him to take the necessary steps to ratify CEDAW. **In June of 1993**, former Secretary of State Warren Christopher announced at the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna that the Administration would move on the Women's convention and on other human rights treaties. The Clinton State Department finally released CEDAW with four reservations, three understandings, and two declarations on issues such as comparable worth, paid maternity leave, freedom of speech, private conduct, and combat assignments.
- In **September 1994**, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee reported out favorably on the treaty, by a vote of 13 to 5 (with one abstention). Unfortunately, this occurred in the last days of

the Congressional session. Several Republican senators put a hold on the treaty, blocking it from the Senate floor during the 103rd Congress.

- When the new Senate convened in **January 1995**, CEDAW was submitted to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for action, where it remained at the end of the 104th Congress in October 1996.
- On **March 8, 1999**, International Women's Day, Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC), Chair of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, made a statement on the Senate Floor expressing his strong opposition to bringing CEDAW to a hearing and eventual ratification.
- Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA), on **April 12, 2000**, introduced Senate Resolution 286 in support of CEDAW. This Resolution expresses the sense of the Senate that the US Senate Committee on Foreign Relations should hold hearings and the Senate should act on CEDAW by July 19, 2000.
- With Jesse Helms retired and a brief period of a Democrat Senate majority, CEDAW was approved on **July 30, 2002** by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in a 12-7 bipartisan vote. However, the Senate adjourned in 2002 without time for a vote on ratification. CEDAW then went back to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee under the leadership of then current chairman Senator Richard Lugar (R-IN).
- On **October 8, 2002**, support for US ratification of CEDAW was expressed by the Feminist Majority President Eleanor Smeal, Her Majesty Queen Noor, Senator Joseph Biden (D-DE) the ranking minority leader of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, several key members of Congress, and over 170 women's rights and major non-governmental organizations.
- **The Bush Administration did not take a formal position on CEDAW**, though the State Department reported to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that the treaty is "generally desirable and should be ratified."
- **The Obama/Biden Administration as well as the current chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, support ratification of CEDAW.**

### CEDAW by the Numbers

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) is a landmark international agreement that affirms principles of fundamental human rights and equality for women around the world.

- **187** - The number of countries, out of 193 countries, that have ratified the treaty.
- **6** - The number of countries that have NOT ratified CEDAW, including the United States, Iran, Somalia, Sudan, and two small Pacific island nations (Palau, and Tonga).
- **67** - The number of votes needed for the U.S. Senate to ratify CEDAW.
- **200 and growing** - The number of U.S.-based organizations -- representing millions of Americans -- that support US ratification of CEDAW.

### Q. Why Should the United States ratify CEDAW?

The American public strongly supports the principles and values of equality, fairness, education and basic human rights.

Ratifying CEDAW would add the United States' influential voice when the United Nations discusses the status of women and girls in places such as Afghanistan and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Ratifying CEDAW would continue America's proud bipartisan tradition of promoting and protecting human rights. Presidents Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, and Bill Clinton achieved ratification of similar agreements against torture, genocide, and race discrimination.

Ratifying CEDAW is an effective way to support women and girls, and there are no additional costs or new appropriations required with ratification.

Ratifying CEDAW affirms principles of fundamental human rights and equality for women and girls.

Ratifying CEDAW would provide an effective catalyst for the U.S. to examine areas of persistent discrimination against women and develop strategies for solutions.

- *Domestic violence*: the landmark Violence Against Women Act has done much to prevent domestic violence and meet the needs of victims, yet two million women a year report injuries from current or former partners in the United States.
- *Maternal health*: the United States ranks 41<sup>st</sup> among a ranking of 184 countries on maternal deaths during pregnancy and childbirth, below all other industrialized nations and below a number of developing countries.
- *Economic security*: U.S. women continue to lag behind men in income, earning on average only 77 cents for every dollar that a man makes.
- *Human trafficking*: the Trafficking Victims Protection Act has played a pivotal role in combating human trafficking. However, estimates suggest that there may be 20,000 women, men and children trafficked into the U.S. each year.

#### Q. Who in the US supports CEDAW?

The Obama administration strongly supports ratification and has included CEDAW as one of five treaties that are a priority. Also, millions of Americans are represented by nearly 200 national, state and local organizations that are united in support of CEDAW. The groups include a broad range of religious, civic, and community organizations such as the American Bar Association, Amnesty International USA, The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, NAACP, the National Council of La Raza, National Council of Churches Women's Ministries, National Education Association, The United Methodist Church, Sisters of Mercy, and the YWCA. In 2014 the National Conference of Mayors endorsed a resolution of support for CEDAW. To date, more than forty US cities, including Portland, Oregon and Berkeley, California; two dozen counties; and twenty state legislatures have passed resolutions urging CEDAW ratification, with a goal to reach 100 cities in support by 2016.

#### Q. What are some objections raised by CEDAW opponents?

- Some opponents fear that CEDAW will interfere in parents' role in child-rearing.

**FACT:** CEDAW calls only for the recognition of the "common responsibility of men and women in the upbringing and development of their children" and "to promote what is in the best interests of the child." This is consistent with U.S. law.

- Some opponents fear that CEDAW encourages abortion by promoting access to 'family planning.'

**FACT:** CEDAW intentionally does not address the issue of abortion. Many countries where abortion is illegal have ratified CEDAW, such as Ireland, Burkina Faso, and Rwanda. The U.S. State Department says that CEDAW is 'abortion-neutral.' In 1994 the Senate Foreign Relations Committee added an 'understanding' to CEDAW noting that it does not include a right to abortion.

- Some opponents believe that CEDAW is unnecessary in the US because it defines 'discrimination' too broadly and would lead to unwise laws and frivolous lawsuits.

**FACT:** CEDAW is non-self-executing, meaning that legislation to implement any CEDAW provision would come before the House and Senate the same as for any other bill. CEDAW would not authorize any lawsuit that would not already be allowed under U.S. law. CEDAW urges that the same 'strict scrutiny' apply to U.S. claims of unintentional sex discrimination as now apply to claims of race discrimination. In fact, CEDAW terms resemble those of the UN Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD), which the US ratified in 1994 with no result of any frivolous lawsuits. There is no reason to expect them for CEDAW, either.

- Some opponents fear that CEDAW will destroy traditional families by redefining 'family' and the roles of men and women.

**FACT:** CEDAW does not seek to regulate family life. It only urges governments 'to adopt education and public information programs [to] eliminate prejudices and current practices that hinder full operation of the principle of the social equality of women.'

- Some opponents fear that CEDAW requires women's participation in armed combat.

**FACT:** There is no reference in CEDAW to women in the military or to women in combat. In 1997, the CEDAW Committee report urged 'full participation of women in the military in decision-making, negotiations, and peace-making to take note of the effect upon women and families of military decisions in times of conflict.'

- Some opponents believe that CEDAW conflicts with the Koran.

**FACT:** Muslim nations throughout the world have ratified CEDAW.

- Some opponents fear that CEDAW will conflict with US policy and the Constitution.

**FACT:** Ratification of CEDAW is consistent with US foreign and domestic policy. The US has a track record of ratifying international human rights treaties. Among those treaties are the following:

- International Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (1988),
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1992),
- Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (1994),
- International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (1994), and
- International Labor Organization Convention on the Worst Forms of Child Labor (1999).

CEDAW is consistent with US constitutional principles opposing discrimination against women. In fact, US law is already in substantial compliance with CEDAW. Where discrepancies exist between CEDAW's principles of nondiscrimination and US law, CEDAW permits progressive implementation. The US can submit — and previous administrations have proposed — reservations, understandings and declarations with its instrument of ratification to address discrepancies, as it has done with other human rights treaties.

#### Q. How Does CEDAW work?

Countries that ratify CEDAW commit to take action to end discrimination against women and girls and to affirm their principles of fundamental human rights and equality. CEDAW is clear that it is up to each country to determine how best to bring their policies and laws in line with ending discrimination against women and girls.

#### Q. What success has CEDAW had in other countries?

In countries that have ratified CEDAW, women have partnered with their governments to improve conditions for women and girls and shape policies for greater safety and opportunities for women and their families. For example:

- Educational opportunities – e.g., Bangladesh used CEDAW to help attain gender parity in primary school enrolment with a goal for 2015 to eliminate all gender disparities in secondary education.
- Violence against women and girls – e.g., Mexico responded to an epidemic of violence against women by using CEDAW terms in a General Law on Women's Access to a Life Free from Violence. By 2009, all 32 Mexican states had adopted the measure.
- Marriage and family relations – e.g., Kenya used CEDAW to address differences in inheritance rights in 2005, eliminating discrimination against widows and daughters of the deceased.
- Political participation – e.g., Kuwait's Parliament voted to extend voting rights to women in 2005 following a recommendation by the CEDAW Committee to eliminate discriminatory provisions in its electoral law.



## CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

### *The States Parties to the present Convention,*

Noting that the Charter of the United Nations reaffirms faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women,

Noting that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights affirms the principle of the inadmissibility of discrimination and proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth therein, without distinction of any kind, including distinction based on sex,

Noting that the States Parties to the International Covenants on Human Rights have the obligation to ensure the equal rights of men and women to enjoy all economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights,

Considering the international conventions concluded under the auspices of the United Nations and the specialized agencies promoting equality of rights of men and women,

Noting also the resolutions, declarations and recommendations adopted by the United Nations and the specialized agencies promoting equality of rights of men and women,

Concerned, however, that despite these various instruments extensive discrimination against women continues to exist,

Recalling that discrimination against women violates the principles of equality of rights and respect for human dignity, is an obstacle to the participation of women, on equal terms with men, in the political, social, economic and cultural life of their countries, hampers the growth of the prosperity of society and the family and makes more difficult the full development of the potentialities of women in the service of their countries and of humanity,

Concerned that, in situations of poverty women have the least access to food, health, education, training and opportunities for employment and other needs,

Convinced that the establishment of the new international economic order based on equity and justice will contribute significantly towards the promotion of equality between men and women,

Emphasizing that the eradication of apartheid, all forms of racism, racial discrimination, colonialism, neo-colonialism, aggression, foreign occupation and domination and interference in the internal affairs of States is essential to the full enjoyment of the rights of men and women,

Affirming that the strengthening of international peace and security, the relaxation of international tension, mutual co-operation among all States irrespective of their social and economic systems, general and complete disarmament, in particular nuclear disarmament under strict and effective international control, the affirmation of the principles of justice, equality and mutual benefit in relations among countries and the realization of the right of peoples under alien and colonial domination and foreign occupation to self-determination and independence, as well as respect for national sovereignty and

territorial integrity, will promote social progress and development and as a consequence will contribute to the attainment of full equality between men and women,

Convinced that the full and complete development of a country, the welfare of the world and the cause of peace require the maximum participation of women on equal terms with men in all fields,

Bearing in mind the great contribution of women to the welfare of the family and to the development of society, so far not fully recognized, the social significance of maternity and the role of both parents in the family and in the upbringing of children, and aware that the role of women in procreation should not be a basis for discrimination but that the upbringing of children requires a sharing of responsibility between men and women and society as a whole,

Aware that a change in the traditional role of men as well as the role of women in society and in the family is needed to achieve full equality between men and women,

Determined to implement the principles set forth in the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and, for that purpose, to adopt the measures required for the elimination of such discrimination in all its forms and manifestations,

Have agreed on the following:

## **PART I**

### ***Article 1***

For the purposes of the present Convention, the term "discrimination against women" shall mean any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field.

### ***Article 2***

States Parties condemn discrimination against women in all its forms, agree to pursue by all appropriate means and without delay a policy of eliminating discrimination against women and, to this end, undertake:

- (a) To embody the principle of the equality of men and women in their national constitutions or other appropriate legislation if not yet incorporated therein and to ensure, through law and other appropriate means, the practical realization of this principle;
- (b) To adopt appropriate legislative and other measures, including sanctions where appropriate, prohibiting all discrimination against women;
- (c) To establish legal protection of the rights of women on an equal basis with men and to ensure through competent national tribunals and other public institutions the effective protection of women against any act of discrimination;
- (d) To refrain from engaging in any act or practice of discrimination against women and to ensure that public authorities and institutions shall act in conformity with this obligation;
- (e) To take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women by any person, organization or enterprise;
- (f) To take all appropriate measures, including legislation, to modify or abolish existing laws, regulations, customs and practices which constitute discrimination against women;
- (g) To repeal all national penal provisions which constitute discrimination against women.

### **Article 3**

States Parties shall take in all fields, in particular in the political, social, economic and cultural fields, all appropriate measures, including legislation, to ensure the full development and advancement of women, for the purpose of guaranteeing them the exercise and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms on a basis of equality with men.

### **Article 4**

1. Adoption by States Parties of temporary special measures aimed at accelerating de facto equality between men and women shall not be considered discrimination as defined in the present Convention, but shall in no way entail as a consequence the maintenance of unequal or separate standards; these measures shall be discontinued when the objectives of equality of opportunity and treatment have been achieved.

2. Adoption by States Parties of special measures, including those measures contained in the present Convention, aimed at protecting maternity shall not be considered discriminatory.

### **Article 5**

States Parties shall take all appropriate measures:

- (a) To modify the social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women, with a view to achieving the elimination of prejudices and customary and all other practices which are based on the idea of the inferiority or the superiority of either of the sexes or on stereotyped roles for men and women;
- (b) To ensure that family education includes a proper understanding of maternity as a social function and the recognition of the common responsibility of men and women in the upbringing and development of their children, it being understood that the interest of the children is the primordial consideration in all cases.

### **Article 6**

States Parties shall take all appropriate measures, including legislation, to suppress all forms of traffic in women and exploitation of prostitution of women.

## **PART II**

### **Article 7**

States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in the political and public life of the country and, in particular, shall ensure to women, on equal terms with men, the right:

- (a) To vote in all elections and public referenda and to be eligible for election to all publicly elected bodies;
- (b) To participate in the formulation of government policy and the implementation thereof and to hold public office and perform all public functions at all levels of government;
- (c) To participate in non-governmental organizations and associations concerned with the public and political life of the country.

### **Article 8**

States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to ensure to women, on equal terms with men and without any discrimination, the opportunity to represent their Governments at the international level and to participate in the work of international organizations.

### **Article 9**

1. States Parties shall grant women equal rights with men to acquire, change or retain their nationality. They shall ensure in particular that neither marriage to an alien nor change of nationality by the husband during marriage shall automatically change the nationality of the wife, render her stateless or force upon her the nationality of the husband.

2. States Parties shall grant women equal rights with men with respect to the nationality of their children.

## **PART III**

### **Article 10**

States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in order to ensure to them equal rights with men in the field of education and in particular to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women:

- (a) The same conditions for career and vocational guidance, for access to studies and for the achievement of diplomas in educational establishments of all categories in rural as well as in urban areas; this equality shall be ensured in pre-school, general, technical, professional and higher technical education, as well as in all types of vocational training;
- (b) Access to the same curricula, the same examinations, teaching staff with qualifications of the same standard and school premises and equipment of the same quality;
- (c) The elimination of any stereotyped concept of the roles of men and women at all levels and in all forms of education by encouraging coeducation and other types of education which will help to achieve this aim and, in particular, by the revision of textbooks and school programs and the adaptation of teaching methods;
- (d) The same opportunities to benefit from scholarships and other study grants;
- (e) The same opportunities for access to programs of continuing education, including adult and functional literacy programs, particularly those aimed at reducing, at the earliest possible time, any gap in education existing between men and women;
- (f) The reduction of female student drop-out rates and the organization of programmes for girls and women who have left school prematurely;
- (g) The same Opportunities to participate actively in sports and physical education;
- (h) Access to specific educational information to help to ensure the health and well-being of families, including information and advice on family planning.

### **Article 11**

1. States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in the field of employment in order to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women, the same rights, in particular:

- (a) The right to work as an inalienable right of all human beings;
- (b) The right to the same employment opportunities, including the application of the same criteria for selection in matters of employment;
- (c) The right to free choice of profession and employment, the right to promotion, job security and all benefits and conditions of service and the right to receive vocational training and retraining, including apprenticeships, advanced vocational training and recurrent training;
- (d) The right to equal remuneration, including benefits, and to equal treatment in respect of work of equal value, as well as equality of treatment in the evaluation of the quality of work;
- (e) The right to social security, particularly in cases of retirement, unemployment, sickness, invalidity and old age and other incapacity to work, as well as the right to paid leave;

(f) The right to protection of health and to safety in working conditions, including the safeguarding of the function of reproduction.

2. In order to prevent discrimination against women on the grounds of marriage or maternity and to ensure their effective right to work, States Parties shall take appropriate measures:

(a) To prohibit, subject to the imposition of sanctions, dismissal on the grounds of pregnancy or of maternity leave and discrimination in dismissals on the basis of marital status;

(b) To introduce maternity leave with pay or with comparable social benefits without loss of former employment, seniority or social allowances;

(c) To encourage the provision of the necessary supporting social services to enable parents to combine family obligations with work responsibilities and participation in public life, in particular through promoting the establishment and development of a network of child-care facilities;

(d) To provide special protection to women during pregnancy in types of work proved to be harmful to them.

3. Protective legislation relating to matters covered in this article shall be reviewed periodically in the light of scientific and technological knowledge and shall be revised, repealed or extended as necessary.

#### **Article 12**

1. States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in the field of health care in order to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women, access to health care services, including those related to family planning.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 of this article, States Parties shall ensure to women appropriate services in connection with pregnancy, confinement and the post-natal period, granting free services where necessary, as well as adequate nutrition during pregnancy and lactation.

#### **Article 13**

States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in other areas of economic and social life in order to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women, the same rights, in particular:

(a) The right to family benefits;

(b) The right to bank loans, mortgages and other forms of financial credit;

(c) The right to participate in recreational activities, sports and all aspects of cultural life.

#### **Article 14**

1. States Parties shall take into account the particular problems faced by rural women and the significant roles which rural women play in the economic survival of their families, including their work in the non-monetized sectors of the economy, and shall take all appropriate measures to ensure the application of the provisions of the present Convention to women in rural areas.

2. States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in rural areas in order to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women, that they participate in and benefit from rural development and, in particular, shall ensure to such women the right:

(a) To participate in the elaboration and implementation of development planning at all levels;

- (b) To have access to adequate health care facilities, including information, counselling and services in family planning;
- (c) To benefit directly from social security programmes;
- (d) To obtain all types of training and education, formal and non-formal, including that relating to functional literacy, as well as, inter alia, the benefit of all community and extension services, in order to increase their technical proficiency;
- (e) To organize self-help groups and co-operatives in order to obtain equal access to economic opportunities through employment or self employment;
- (f) To participate in all community activities;
- (g) To have access to agricultural credit and loans, marketing facilities, appropriate technology and equal treatment in land and agrarian reform as well as in land resettlement schemes;
- (h) To enjoy adequate living conditions, particularly in relation to housing, sanitation, electricity and water supply, transport and communications.

#### **PART IV**

##### ***Article 15***

1. States Parties shall accord to women equality with men before the law.
2. States Parties shall accord to women, in civil matters, a legal capacity identical to that of men and the same opportunities to exercise that capacity. In particular, they shall give women equal rights to conclude contracts and to administer property and shall treat them equally in all stages of procedure in courts and tribunals.
3. States Parties agree that all contracts and all other private instruments of any kind with a legal effect which is directed at restricting the legal capacity of women shall be deemed null and void.
4. States Parties shall accord to men and women the same rights with regard to the law relating to the movement of persons and the freedom to choose their residence and domicile.

##### ***Article 16***

1. States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in all matters relating to marriage and family relations and in particular shall ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women:
  - (a) The same right to enter into marriage;
  - (b) The same right freely to choose a spouse and to enter into marriage only with their free and full consent;
  - (c) The same rights and responsibilities during marriage and at its dissolution;
  - (d) The same rights and responsibilities as parents, irrespective of their marital status, in matters relating to their children; in all cases the interests of the children shall be paramount;

- (e) The same rights to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children and to have access to the information, education and means to enable them to exercise these rights;
- (f) The same rights and responsibilities with regard to guardianship, wardship, trusteeship and adoption of children, or similar institutions where these concepts exist in national legislation; in all cases the interests of the children shall be paramount;
- (g) The same personal rights as husband and wife, including the right to choose a family name, a profession and an occupation;
- (h) The same rights for both spouses in respect of the ownership, acquisition, management, administration, enjoyment and disposition of property, whether free of charge or for a valuable consideration.

2. The betrothal and the marriage of a child shall have no legal effect, and all necessary action, including legislation, shall be taken to specify a minimum age for marriage and to make the registration of marriages in an official registry compulsory.

## **PART V**

### ***Article 17***

1. For the purpose of considering the progress made in the implementation of the present Convention, there shall be established a Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (hereinafter referred to as the Committee) consisting, at the time of entry into force of the Convention, of eighteen and, after ratification of or accession to the Convention by the thirty-fifth State Party, of twenty-three experts of high moral standing and competence in the field covered by the Convention. The experts shall be elected by States Parties from among their nationals and shall serve in their personal capacity, consideration being given to equitable geographical distribution and to the representation of the different forms of civilization as well as the principal legal systems.
2. The members of the Committee shall be elected by secret ballot from a list of persons nominated by States Parties. Each State Party may nominate one person from among its own nationals.
3. The initial election shall be held six months after the date of the entry into force of the present Convention. At least three months before the date of each election the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall address a letter to the States Parties inviting them to submit their nominations within two months. The Secretary-General shall prepare a list in alphabetical order of all persons thus nominated, indicating the States Parties which have nominated them, and shall submit it to the States Parties.
4. Elections of the members of the Committee shall be held at a meeting of States Parties convened by the Secretary-General at United Nations Headquarters. At that meeting, for which two thirds of the States Parties shall constitute a quorum, the persons elected to the Committee shall be those nominees who obtain the largest number of votes and an absolute majority of the votes of the representatives of States Parties present and voting.
5. The members of the Committee shall be elected for a term of four years. However, the terms of nine of the members elected at the first election shall expire at the end of two years; immediately after the first election the names of these nine members shall be chosen by lot by the Chairman of the Committee.
6. The election of the five additional members of the Committee shall be held in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of this article, following the thirty-fifth ratification or accession. The

terms of two of the additional members elected on this occasion shall expire at the end of two years, the names of these two members having been chosen by lot by the Chairman of the Committee.

7. For the filling of casual vacancies, the State Party whose expert has ceased to function as a member of the Committee shall appoint another expert from among its nationals, subject to the approval of the Committee.

8. The members of the Committee shall, with the approval of the General Assembly, receive emoluments from United Nations resources on such terms and conditions as the Assembly may decide, having regard to the importance of the Committee's responsibilities.

9. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall provide the necessary staff and facilities for the effective performance of the functions of the Committee under the present Convention.

#### **Article 18**

1. States Parties undertake to submit to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, for consideration by the Committee, a report on the legislative, judicial, administrative or other measures which they have adopted to give effect to the provisions of the present Convention and on the progress made in this respect:

- (a) Within one year after the entry into force for the State concerned;
- (b) Thereafter at least every four years and further whenever the Committee so requests.

2. Reports may indicate factors and difficulties affecting the degree of fulfilment of obligations under the present Convention.

#### **Article 19**

1. The Committee shall adopt its own rules of procedure.

2. The Committee shall elect its officers for a term of two years.

#### **Article 20**

1. The Committee shall normally meet for a period of not more than two weeks annually in order to consider the reports submitted in accordance with article 18 of the present Convention.

2. The meetings of the Committee shall normally be held at United Nations Headquarters or at any other convenient place as determined by the Committee.

#### **Article 21**

1. The Committee shall, through the Economic and Social Council, report annually to the General Assembly of the United Nations on its activities and may make suggestions and general recommendations based on the examination of reports and information received from the States Parties. Such suggestions and general recommendations shall be included in the report of the Committee together with comments, if any, from States Parties.

2. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit the reports of the Committee to the Commission on the Status of Women for its information.



**Article 22**

The specialized agencies shall be entitled to be represented at the consideration of the implementation of such provisions of the present Convention as fall within the scope of their activities. The Committee may invite the specialized agencies to submit reports on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities.

**PART VI**

**Article 23**

Nothing in the present Convention shall affect any provisions that are more conducive to the achievement of equality between men and women which may be contained:

- (a) In the legislation of a State Party; or
- (b) In any other international convention, treaty or agreement in force for that State.

**Article 24**

States Parties undertake to adopt all necessary measures at the national level aimed at achieving the full realization of the rights recognized in the present Convention.

**Article 25**

1. The present Convention shall be open for signature by all States.
2. The Secretary-General of the United Nations is designated as the depositary of the present Convention.
3. The present Convention is subject to ratification. Instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.
4. The present Convention shall be open to accession by all States. Accession shall be effected by the deposit of an instrument of accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

**Article 26**

1. A request for the revision of the present Convention may be made at any time by any State Party by means of a notification in writing addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.
2. The General Assembly of the United Nations shall decide upon the steps, if any, to be taken in respect of such a request.

**Article 27**

1. The present Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the twentieth instrument of ratification or accession.
2. For each State ratifying the present Convention or acceding to it after the deposit of the twentieth instrument of ratification or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of the deposit of its own instrument of ratification or accession.

**Article 28**

1. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall receive and circulate to all States the text of reservations made by States at the time of ratification or accession.

2. A reservation incompatible with the object and purpose of the present Convention shall not be permitted.

3. Reservations may be withdrawn at any time by notification to this effect addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall then inform all States thereof. Such notification shall take effect on the date on which it is received.

**Article 29**

1. Any dispute between two or more States Parties concerning the interpretation or application of the present Convention which is not settled by negotiation shall, at the request of one of them, be submitted to arbitration. If within six months from the date of the request for arbitration the parties are unable to agree on the organization of the arbitration, any one of those parties may refer the dispute to the International Court of Justice by request in conformity with the Statute of the Court.

2. Each State Party may at the time of signature or ratification of the present Convention or accession thereto declare that it does not consider itself bound by paragraph 1 of this article. The other States Parties shall not be bound by that paragraph with respect to any State Party which has made such a reservation.

3. Any State Party which has made a reservation in accordance with paragraph 2 of this article may at any time withdraw that reservation by notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

**Article 30**

The present Convention, the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts of which are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, duly authorized, have signed the present Convention.



---

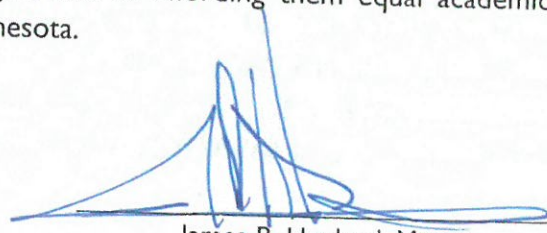
**RESOLUTION NO. 2016-30**  
**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CITIES FOR THE CONVENTION ON THE**  
**ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN**  
**(CEDAW) INITIATIVE AND SUPPORT OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THE UN**  
**CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF**  
**DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN AT THE LOCAL LEVEL**

- WHEREAS: CEDAW was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 18, 1979, and became an international treaty as of September 3, 1981, and 189 UN member nations have agreed to be bound by CEDAW's provisions; and
- WHEREAS: Although women have made gains in the struggle for equality in many fields, much more needs to be accomplished to fully eradicate discrimination based on gender and to achieve one of the most basic human rights - equality; and
- WHEREAS: In 2014, Minnesota passed the Women's Economic Security Act (WESA) which included steps toward closing the gender pay gap, expanding family and sick leave for working families, helping older women be economically secure, and providing support for women-owned small businesses; and
- WHEREAS: In 2015 the Edina City Council voted to support the Human Rights Cities Initiative, which supports the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and its aspiration for equal rights for 'all members of the human family;' and
- WHEREAS: The Edina City Council desires to ensure that women and girls who live in Edina enjoy all the rights and privileges and remedies that are bestowed on all people in the U.S., no matter race, national origin, gender, or religious belief, and with a purpose to claim worldwide that Edina is a city within which women can thrive and a city that will not tolerate discrimination against women and girls or violence perpetrated against them in any form, by any hand; and
- WHEREAS: CEDAW provides a comprehensive framework for governments to examine their policies and practices in relation to women and girls and to rectify discrimination based on gender; and
- WHEREAS: City and County governments have an appropriate and legitimate role affirming the importance of eliminating all forms of discrimination against women in communities as universal norms and to serve as guides for public policy; and

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved** that the Edina City Council supports CEDAW and that the City of Edina is committed to eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls, to promoting the health and safety of women and girls and to affording them equal academic, economic, and business opportunities in Edina, Minnesota.

Dated: March 2, 2016

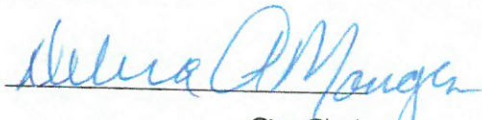
Attest:   
Debra A. Mangen, City Clerk

  
James B. Hovland, Mayor

STATE OF MINNESOTA)  
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN) SS  
CITY OF EDINA )  
CERTIFICATE OF CITY CLERK

I, the undersigned duly appointed and acting City Clerk for the City of Edina do hereby certify that the attached and foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Edina City Council at its Regular Meeting of <sup>mar 2</sup> February 17, 2016, and as recorded in the Minutes of said Regular Meeting.

WITNESS my hand and seal of said City this 2nd day of March, 2016.

  
City Clerk



# The City of Minneapolis

## A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL

By Frey, Reich, Gordon, B. Johnson, Yang,  
Warsame, Goodman, Glidden, Cano, Bender, Quincy, A. Johnson, Palmisano

Supporting

### A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CITIES FOR THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW) INITIATIVE AND SUPPORT OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THE UN CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

- WHEREAS: CEDAW was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 18, 1979, and became an international treaty as of September 3, 1981, and 187 UN member nations have agreed to be bound by CEDAW's provisions; and
- WHEREAS: Although women have made gains in the struggle for equality in many fields, much more needs to be accomplished to fully eradicate discrimination based on gender and to achieve one of the most basic human rights - equality; and
- WHEREAS: In 2014, Minnesota passed the Women's Economic Security Act (WESA) which included steps toward closing the gender pay gap, expanding family and sick leave for working families, and helping older women be economically secure. The bill also provided support for women-owned small businesses; and
- WHEREAS: In 2013 the Minneapolis City Council voted unanimously to support Congressional reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act; and
- WHEREAS: Since the Act was first approved in Congress in 1994, the City of Minneapolis has implemented several programs using funds from the Act, including the City Attorney's on-call domestic response team, the domestic repeat offender list and, and enhanced enforcement of Domestic Abuse No Contact Orders.
- WHEREAS: Women and girls make up 50% of Minneapolis population, and with a desire to ensure these women and girls who live in Minneapolis enjoy all the rights and privileges and remedies that are bestowed on all people in the U.S., no matter race, national origin, gender or religious belief, and with a purpose to claim worldwide that Minneapolis is a city within which women can thrive and a city that will not tolerate discrimination against women and girls or violence perpetrated against them in any form, by any hand; and
- WHEREAS: CEDAW provides a comprehensive framework for governments to examine their policies and practices in relation to women and girls and to rectify discrimination based on gender; and
- WHEREAS: City and County governments have an appropriate and legitimate role affirming the importance of eliminating all forms of discrimination against women in communities as universal norms and to serve as guides for public policy.; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MINNEAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL:

THAT THE CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS IS COMMITTED TO ELIMINATING ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS, TO PROMOTING THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF WOMEN AND GIRLS, AND TO AFFORDING THEM EQUAL ACADEMIC, ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.

Passed by the City Council this the  
Eleventh Day of December A.D. 2015

The Community Engagement Commission met on June 27, 2017 and discussed the Falcon Heights Task Force Recommendations. They were tasked to find “the recommendations that could most immediately be implemented...and consider how it might apply to their work.” These three categories had the most consensus to take immediate action.

### **Education and Training**

- Explore what trainings the Science Museum has to offer and schedule a date for a training that’s open to all.
- Host a city-offered implicit bias training.
- Host workshops on Falcon Heights resources and specifically have dialogue about legal rights of renters vs. landlords. Bring these workshops to the community instead of hosting it only at City Hall.

### **Resources**

- Consider what resources are needed to enhance the website and utilize those resources to make updates.
- Enhance the new resident and block party packets with updated community resources.
- Post the community values clearly on the homepage of the website, and include them in the new resident/block party packets.

### **Events: increase participation, provide more resources, and have more community groups present**

- Ice Cream Social- July
- Human Rights Day- Dec
- Block Parties- increased support
- Continued Community Conversations