

RESOLUTION 2011-R-019

AMENDING RESOLUTION 95-R-046 OF THE BYLAWS OF THE LAREDO COMMISSION FOR WOMEN BY AMENDING ARTICLE III, IV, AND VI.

WHEREAS, on April 4, 1994, the City Council passed a motion to create a Laredo Commission for Women;

WHEREAS, the Commission was created to promote women's quality in legal, social, political, economic, and educational opportunity and advancement for all women throughout the City of Laredo;

WHEREAS, there was a need to adopt a formal set of bylaws in order to provide an effective structure for the Commission to carry out their work and which were adopted by Council on March 6, 1995; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to amend articles III, IV, and VI of the bylaws.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAREDO THAT:

1. The City Council approves the Laredo Commission for Women Bylaws, attached hereto as Exhibit A.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR ON THIS THE 21st DAY OF March, 2011.



RAUL G. SAUNAS
MAYOR

ATTEST:



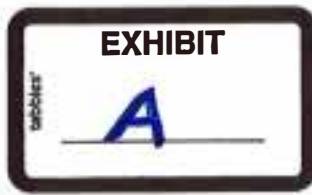
GUSTAVO GUEVARA, JR.
CITY SECRETARY



APPROVED AS TO FORM:



RAUL CASSO
CITY ATTORNEY



LAREDO COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

BYLAWS

February 21, 2011

As Amended

Article I

Name

The name of this commission shall be the Laredo Commission for Women, hereinafter designated as the Commission.

Article II

Creation and Purpose

The purpose of the Commission is to promote equality in legal, social, political, economic, and educational opportunity and advancement for all women throughout the City of Laredo. The Commission shall:

1. Identify the needs and concerns of women, develop and assess strategies, including community outreach activities, public-private partnerships, coordination of community and state resources, and recommend assistance and services to improve the status of women in Laredo;
2. Participate with established task forces and policy groups on issues affecting women;
3. Monitor federal and state legislation, and city policies (ordinances and resolutions) relating to issues affecting women;
4. Aid the City Council in finding and recommending qualified women for appointive office, other commissions and boards, etc;
5. Develop a Hall of Fame for women and programs to honor and promote women during Women's History Month in March; and
6. Seek assistance from the City Council as needed to fulfill its charge.

Article III Membership

The Commission shall be composed of 18 members appointed and ratified by the Mayor and City Council (2 members each). The Commission members shall serve for the duration of the Mayor's or City Council's elected term. The members of the Commission shall serve without pay, but are entitled to travel expenses when representing the Commission. Members are responsible for the following:

- Section 1. Members are expected to attend all regularly scheduled meetings.
- Section 2. If any member is absent from more than two (2) unexcused consecutive regularly scheduled meetings, the Commission Chair may recommend to the appropriate elected official that another person be appointed.
- Section 3. Members are expected to participate in Commission projects, activities, and committees.
- Section 4. Terms of service *in any particular project, activity or committee* are not limited.
- Section 5. Resignation shall be tendered in writing.

Article IV Commission Officer

A nominating committee (established under the provisions of Article V) consisting of three (3) Commission members shall be appointed by the Chair prior to the end of the current office terms. The nominating committee will submit recommendations for each of the officer positions for vote by the general membership. Members of the nominating committee are not eligible for an elected office.

- Section 1. Chair: The Chair is elected by the members and presides over Commission meetings, represents the Commission as necessary, appoints special and standing committees, and serves as ex-officio member of all committees.
- Section 2. ~~Vice Chair~~ — ~~The Vice Chair~~ *Chair-elect – The Chair-elect* is elected by the members and represents the chair in her absence.
- Section 3. Recorder -- The Recorder is elected by the members and maintains accurate records of all Commission meetings.

- Section 4. Parliamentarian -- The Parliamentarian is elected by the members and assists the Commission in parliamentary law.
- Section 5. Terms of office -- All elected officers shall serve for a period of one year ~~beginning in June.~~ **Commencing on October 1. Elected officers may be re-elected.**
- Section 6. Committee Chairs -- Committee Chairs may be appointed by the Chair or designated by the committee.
- Section 7. **Resignation – Resignation from an elected officer position must be in writing and presented at a regular monthly meeting prior to the vacancy fo the office, when possible. Replacement of the officer will be left to the discretion of the remaining officers with the confirmation of the Commission. Appointments for vacancies will be for the unexpired term.**
- Section 8. The Commission may establish such other officers as the Commission may deem necessary.**

Article V **Committees**

Special and standing committees may be created as needed to support the Commission projects and activities. The Chair may designate committee members or Commission members may volunteer for the committee of their choice.

Article VI **Meetings**

The Commission shall meet once a month or at the call of the Chair. The meetings will be held at a time and place designated by the Chair. ~~A majority of the membership (10)~~ **Seven (7) members of the Commission** shall constitute a quorum. On all questions of parliamentary law not addressed by these bylaws, Robert Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern.

Article VII **Reports**

The Commission shall make a complete written report of its findings, activities and recommendations to the Mayor and City Council as needed.

Article VIII
Commission Liaison

A liaison, selected by the City Manager, shall provide assistance to the Commission.

Article IX
Finances

The Commission shall request funds from the City of Laredo for projects and special needs. The Commission may also seek other sources of revenue.

Article X
Amendments

- Section 1. The bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Commission by a two-thirds vote of the Commission members present, provided that notice of any proposed amendment is sent to every Commission member 14 days prior to the meeting at which a vote is scheduled.
- Section 2. Any amendment to the bylaws shall become effective immediately upon their review and approval by the City Council of the City of Laredo.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

DATE: 03/21/2011	SUBJECT: RESOLUTION 2011-R-019 AMENDING RESOLUTION 95-R-046 OF THE BYLAWS OF THE LAREDO COMMISSION FOR WOMEN BY AMENDING ARTICLE III, IV, AND VI.
INITIATED BY: Laredo Commission for Women	STAFF SOURCE: Christy Lara - Liaison City Secretary's Office
PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: The City Council created the Commission for Women's Committee on April 4, 1994 and approved their bylaws on March 6, 1995.	
ACTION PROPOSED: The Commission for Women request amending Articles III, IV and VI as highlighted in Resolution 2011-R-019. The major change is lowering the quorum for meetings from 10 to 7 because they are having a very difficult time meeting due to not having a quorum present at their scheduled meetings.	
FINANCIAL: None	
RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends motion approval.	