

*City of Alexandria, Virginia*20
3-27-01

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MARCH 21, 2001

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PHILIP SUNDERLAND, CITY MANAGER *PS*

SUBJECT: ORDINANCE MODIFYING THE MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS OF THE ALEXANDRIA COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

ISSUE: Ordinance modifying the membership and terms of the Alexandria Commission for Women.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council pass the ordinance on first reading and set it for public hearing, second reading and final passage on Tuesday, April 10.

DISCUSSION: The Commission for Women has requested that its membership be increased from 11 to 15 members to assist in the growing work of the Commission. Additionally, the last several vacancies for positions on the Commission have generated many well-qualified applicants, and the Commission is eager to expand its membership to provide the opportunity for wider participation in its activities.

Frequently significant numbers of commissioners are appointed in the fall after the beginning of the Commission's program year which prevents the new commissioners from being involved in the planning and retreat activities held during the summer. In order to address this, the Commission has asked that the terms of its members all have May 31 expiration dates. To achieve this, all current terms would be changed to have a May 31 expiration date. At the first regular meeting of the Commission following the enactment of the ordinance the Commission members would draw lots to determine if their term is one, two or three years. It is understood and agreed upon by all seated commissioners that this could result in some newly-appointed commissioners who were appointed recently to three year terms having to reapply for Commission membership in the next year.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

STAFF: Lisa Oviatt, Director, Office on Women

ATTACHMENT: Ordinance

Introduction and first reading:	3/27/01
Public hearing:	4/10/01
Second reading and enactment:	4/10/01

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED ORDINANCE

Title

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 12-6-2 (COMPOSITION; APPOINTMENT, TERMS AND COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS; FILLING VACANCIES; CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON), and Section 12-6-3 (MEETINGS-- QUORUM; RULES OF PROCEDURE; ANNUAL REPORT TO COUNCIL) of Chapter 6 (COMMISSION FOR WOMEN), Title 12 (EDUCATION, SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELFARE) of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

Summary

The proposed ordinance increases the membership of the Commission for Women from eleven to fifteen members and implements for the members, staggered three year terms, uniformly ending on May 31 of the applicable year. The number of members required for a quorum is increased from seven to eight members.

Sponsor

Office of Women

Staff

Lisa Oviatt, Director, Office on Women
Karen S. Snow, Assistant City Attorney

Authority

§ 3.04(g), Alexandria City Charter

Estimated Costs of Implementation

None

Attachments in Addition to Proposed Ordinance and its Attachments (if any)

None

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 12-6-2 (COMPOSITION; APPOINTMENT, TERMS AND COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS; FILLING VACANCIES; CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON), and Section 12-6-3 (MEETINGS-- QUORUM; RULES OF PROCEDURE; ANNUAL REPORT TO COUNCIL) of Chapter 6 (COMMISSION FOR WOMEN), Title 12 (EDUCATION, SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELFARE) of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That section 12-6-2 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended, be, and the same is hereby, amended and reordained to read as follows:

Sec. 12-6-2 Composition; appointment, terms and compensation of members; filling vacancies; chairperson and vice chairperson.

The commission shall consist of ~~11~~15 members appointed at large by the city council. ~~Of the members first appointed, four shall be appointed for terms of one year, four shall be appointed for terms of two years and three shall be appointed for terms of three years. The length of initial terms shall be determined by lot. Thereafter~~ ~~m~~Members shall be appointed for terms of three years each which shall expire as of May 31. Any vacancy shall be filled by the council for the unexpired portion of a term. A chairperson and a vice chairperson shall be chosen by a majority vote of all the members of the commission. Members shall serve without compensation but may receive such reimbursement for expenses as the council may from time to time allow.

Section 2 That section 12-6-3 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended, be, and the same is hereby, amended and reordained to read as follows:

Sec. 12-6-3 Meetings-quorum; rules of procedure; annual report to council.

The commission shall meet at least once each month from September to June, and may meet in July and August. All meetings shall be open to the public. All members of the commission shall be entitled to vote and the decisions of the commission shall be determined by a majority vote of the members present. A quorum of ~~seven~~eight members present is required before the commission can take official action. A member present but not voting shall be considered in counting a quorum. In matters concerning the procedure for meetings not covered by this

chapter, the commission may establish its own rules, provided these are not contrary to the mandate or spirit of this chapter. The commission shall render each year by June 30, to the city council a written report of its activities under the provisions of this chapter along with any comments and recommendations as it may choose to make.

Section 3. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of law establishing the existing terms of their appointment, the terms of the members of the Commission for Women serving on May 31, 2001, shall be determined by drawing lots as follows: five members shall serve until May 31, 2002, five members shall serve until May 31, 2003 and five members shall serve until May 31, 2004.

Section 4. That this ordinance shall become effective upon the date and at the time of its final passage.

KERRY J. DONLEY
Mayor

Introduction: 3/27/01
First Reading: 3/27/01
Publication:
Public Hearing:
Second Reading:
Final Passage:

20
3-27-01

- CITY SEAL -

Public Hearing will be held by the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, City of Alexandria, Virginia, on Tuesday, April 10, 2001, at 7:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as may be heard, on the hereinafter described ordinance.

TITLE OF ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Section 12-6-2 (COMPOSITION; APPOINTMENT, TERMS AND COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS; FILLING VACANCIES; CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON), and Section 12-6-3 (MEETINGS--QUORUM; RULES OF PROCEDURE; ANNUAL REPORT TO COUNCIL) of Chapter 6 (COMMISSION FOR WOMEN), Title 12 (EDUCATION, SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELFARE) of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

The proposed ordinance increases the membership of the Commission for Women from eleven to fifteen members and implements for the members, staggered three-year terms, uniformly ending on May 31 of the applicable year. The number of members required for a quorum is increased from seven to eight members.

* * * * *

THE PUBLIC IS ADVISED THAT AMENDMENTS OR ADDITIONS MAY BE MADE TO PROPOSED ORDINANCES WITHOUT FURTHER PUBLICATION. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT PERSONS INTERESTED IN THIS ORDINANCE OBTAIN A FREE FULL-TEXT COPY FROM THE CITY CLERK AT CITY HALL. BEVERLY I. JETT, CMC, CITY CLERK

To be published in the:

Alexandria Journal on Thursday, March 29, 2001
Alexandria Gazette Packet on Thursday, March 29, 2001