

Minutes for the Commission for Women

Commission for Women Meeting – June 13, 2022

Call to Order

A full-body meeting of the Commission for Women was held on June 13, 2022, virtually via Zoom. It was called to order at 7:20 p.m. and was presided over by Chair Phylcia Woods, who read the FOIA script.

Attendees

In attendance: Alyssa Batchelor – At-Large; Helen Cole – Hunter Mill District; Jane Materna – Mason District; Emily McCoy – Lee District (Ex- Officio); Pamela Montesinos – Sully District; Mattie Palmore – At-Large, Underserved; Carla Post – Dranesville District; Enjoli Ramsey – Braddock District; Jordan Samantha Tautges – Springfield District; Alesia Taylor-Boyd – Lee District; Lanita Thweatt – Mt. Vernon District; Phylcia Woods – Providence District.

Absent: None

Staff in attendance: Toni Zollicoffer and Lois Kirkpatrick

Guests/Visitors: Commonwealth’s Attorney Steve Descano; Office of the Commonwealth’s Attorney Chief of Staff Ben Shnider; Kas Ghobadi from the Center for Social Integration.

Start time: 7:20 p.m.

End Time: 9:35 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes for the April 11, 2022 meeting with the following amendment was made by Jane Materna and seconded by Alyssa Batchelor with the addition of “Ms.” In front of her name. None opposed; Enjoli Ramsey abstained; the motion carried.

A motion to approve the minutes for the May 9, 2022 meeting with the following two amendments was made by Alyssa Batchelor and seconded by Mattie Palmore. Both amendments will be reflected in the final version of the minutes and posted on the public website. First amendment: “Ms. Materna also said that two or three years ago the Commission voted to advocate for paid and family leave legislation and work has already been done. Ms. Materna stated that continuing that work could be better use of the CFW’s limited resources. Ms. Materna agreed to update CFW on the status of the work in other arenas.” The 2nd amendment: “Ms. Woods stated that a lot of discussion about Canva happened in the previous communications committee but never made it to the full Commission.” None opposed approval of the minutes with amendments; Lanita Thweatt abstained; the motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report

A motion to approve the May 2022 financial report was made by Alyssa Batchelor and seconded by Carla Post. None opposed; none abstained; the motion carried unanimously.

Guest Speakers

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Potential Impact on Fairfax County of Roe v. Wade Repeal – The Commonwealth’s Attorney Steve Descano briefed the Commission on his plan to exercise prosecutorial discretion if the expected U.S. Supreme Court repeal of Roe v. Wade results in Virginia also banning abortions.

Standing and Ad-Hoc Committee Reports

Women in the Workforce Impacted by COVID-19 Project – The decision was made to skip the discussion.

Old Business

Policy and Procedures Manual – The decision was made to hold the discussion until the July 11, 2022 meeting.

Update on the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women – Helen Cole reported that the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors is forming a committee of county staff to do an equity audit of Fairfax County government agencies.

Update on the Commission for Women Logo Redesign – Toni Zollicoffer presented two logo options for the Commission to consider. Members will vote to approve the design at the July 11, 2022 meeting.

Commissioner Community Updates – Mattie Palmore graduated from the eight-week Fairfax County Neighborhood College program, and she urged Commission members to take advantage of the program as an opportunity for networking and advocacy.

New Business

Girls’ Softball Fields – Alyssa Batchelor reported that she met with Board of Supervisors Chair Jeff McKay who, in a June 7, 2022 board matter, directed county staff to reconvene the Girls’ Fastpitch Softball Equity Action Plan Review Team, of which the Commission for Women was an original member. These three Commission members agreed to serve on the team: Alesia Taylor-Boyd, Carla Post and Chair Phylicia Woods. Emily McCoy, who served on the original team, asked to serve as an advisor and also be copied on committee related emails.

Introduction of New Commissioners – Two of the three newly appointed members, Jordan Samantha Tautges and Alesia Taylor-Boyd, introduced themselves to the Commission.

Election of New Officers – Phylicia Woods explained that at the May 9, 2022 meeting she thought she would have to resign as chair of the Commission since she was moving out of the Providence District. However, Supervisor Dalia Palchik asked her to continue representing Providence on the Commission for Women. Mattie Palmore moved that Phylicia Woods continue as Chair; the motion was seconded by Helen Cole. None opposed; none abstained; motion carried. Alyssa Batchelor moved to elect herself as second vice chair; the motion was seconded by Carla Post. None opposed; none abstained; the motion carried unanimously.

Plans for the August 27 Strategy Meeting – Toni Zollicoffer presented the proposal from Raven Freeborn to provide 5.25 hours of facilitation services at the Commission’s August 27 strategy meeting for \$3,643.75. Lois Kirkpatrick noted that the cost for breakfast and lunch at the meeting would total \$350 - \$500. A motion was made by Helen Cole to approve spending up to \$4,500 for the total cost of

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the August 27 strategy meeting. The motion was seconded by Mattie Palmore. None opposed; none abstained; the motion carried unanimously.

Main Motions

A motion to approve the minutes for the April 11, 2022 meeting with the following amendment was made by Jane Materna and seconded by Alyssa Batchelor: the addition of “Ms.” In front of Alyssa Batchelor’s name. None opposed; Enjoli Ramsey abstained; the motion carried.

A motion to approve the minutes for the May 9, 2022 meeting with the following two amendments was made by Alyssa Batchelor and seconded by Mattie Palmore: Both amendments will be reflected in the final version of the minutes and posted on the public website. First amendment: “Ms. Materna also said that two or three years ago the Commission voted to advocate for paid and family leave legislation and work has already been done. Ms. Materna stated that continuing that work could be better use of the CFW’s limited resources. Ms. Materna agreed to update CFW on the status of the work in other arenas.” The 2nd amendment: “Ms. Woods stated that a lot of discussion about Canva happened in the previous communications committee but never made it to the full Commission.” None opposed approval of the minutes with amendments; Lanita Thweatt abstained; the motion carried.

A motion to approve the May 2022 financial report was made by Alyssa Batchelor and seconded by Carla Post. None opposed; none abstained; the motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mattie Palmore to have Phylcia Woods continue as Chair; the motion was seconded by Helen Cole. None opposed; none abstained; the motion carried.

A motion was made by Alyssa Batchelor to elect herself as second vice chair; the motion was seconded by Carla Post. None opposed; none abstained; the motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Helen Cole to approve spending up to \$4,500 for the total cost of the August 27 strategy meeting and to contract with Raven Freeborn for facilitation as outlined in their proposal presented to the Commission. The motion was seconded by Mattie Palmore. None opposed; none abstained; the motion carried unanimously.

Tabled or For Future Consideration

Women in the Workforce Impacted by COVID-19 Project.
The Policy and Procedures manual.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Alyssa Batchelor to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Mattie Palmore. None opposed; none abstained; the motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.