

# Minutes for the Commission for Women

## Commission for Women Meeting – September 12, 2022

### Call to Order

A full-body meeting of the Commission for Women was held on September 12, 2022, virtually via Zoom. It was called to order at 7:16 p.m. and was presided over by Vice-Chair Helen Cole, 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); Mattie Palmore – At-Large, Underserved; Enjoli Ramsey – Braddock District; Jordan Tautges – Springfield District; Alesia Taylor-Boyd – Lee District; Lanita Thweatt – Mt. Vernon District.

**Absent:** Phylicia Woods – Providence District; Pamela Montesinos – Sully District; Carla Post – Dranesville District.

**Staff in attendance:** Toni Zollicoffer and Lois Kirkpatrick.

**Guest Speaker:** Fairfax County Department of Family Services Director Michael Becketts.

**Visitors:** Heaven Brown, Christine Cridland, Caley Nee.

**Start time:** 7:16 p.m.

**End Time:** 9:26 p.m.

### Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from the July and August meetings was made by Alyssa Batchelor and seconded by Jane Materna. None opposed; none abstained; the motion carried unanimously.

### Approval of Financial Report

A motion to approve the financial report was made by Helen Cole and seconded by Alyssa Batchelor. None opposed; none abstained; the motion carried unanimously. Lois Kirkpatrick asked the commission to consider approving up to \$2,500 per year in the budget for transportation related to commission meetings. Michael Becketts will look into budget options for the commission to consider at a future meeting.

### Guest Speaker

The Director of the Fairfax County Department of Family Services, Michael Becketts, suggested that the commission consider how it can contribute to the department's youth mental health efforts.

### Follow Up to Strategy Meeting

Helen Cole suggested that each commissioner make a list of projects and activities they would like the commission to take on. Toni Zollicoffer will provide a document outlining the parameters for DSVS staff support of the commission. At the commission's October meeting, the group will go through the annual calendar that Jane Materna drafted.

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## Old Business

**Adopt Public Meetings Policy** – When the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors ends the local state of emergency, county boards, authorities and commissions will have to go back to meeting in person. At that time, the Commission for Women will be able to meet virtually three times per year, but those meetings may not be held back-to-back. Alyssa Batchelor moved to adopt the county’s virtual meetings policy. Jane Materna seconded the motion. None opposed; none abstained; the motion passed unanimously.

The county’s revised remote participation policy allows commissioners to participate virtually – for reasons stated in the policy – when commission meetings go back to being held in person. Jane Materna moved to adopt the policy; Alesia Taylor-Boyd seconded the motion. None opposed; none abstained; the motion passed unanimously.

**Report on the Economic Impact of COVID-19 on Women in Fairfax County** – Commissioners reviewed the report. Alyssa Batchelor was commended for a job well done. Members asked for page numbers to be added to the report. Helen Cole made a motion to send the report to the Board of Supervisors. Mattie Palmore seconded the motion. None opposed; none abstained; the motion passed unanimously.

**Reappointments and Filling Commission Vacancies** – Lois Kirkpatrick reminded members whose terms are expiring to contact their member of the Board of Supervisors to be reappointed. She reported that 10 high school students have applied to serve on the commission; selected candidates will be interviewed next week.

**Update on Commission Logo Redesign** – Toni Zollicoffer showed the new logo. Members want to change the tagline “Removing Barriers for Women and Girls” and make the orange lettering more readable. The commission will chose a new tagline at a future meeting.

## New Business

**Commission for Women Social Media Accounts** – Lois Kirkpatrick reported on the commission’s past social media activity and presented a plan for reactivating their Facebook and Twitter accounts, leaving Instagram dormant for the time being. Helen Cole made a motion to reactivate Commission for Women social media accounts and have them focus on honoring Fairfax County women and girls. Alyssa Batchelor seconded the motion. Jane Materna was opposed; none abstained. The motion carried.

The accounts will be managed by the commission, and commissioners will create and post content and respond to comments. Jordan Tautges and Alesia Taylor-Boyd agreed to edit and post content. Toni Zollicoffer suggested having a county attorney discuss social media policy at the commission’s November meeting.

**Commissioner Community Updates** – None presented.

## Main Motions

Alyssa Batchelor moved to approve the minutes from the July and August meetings. Jane Materna seconded the motion. None opposed; none abstained; the motion passed unanimously.

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Helen Cole moved to approve the financial report. Alyssa Batchelor seconded the motion. None opposed; none abstained; the motion passed unanimously.

Alyssa Batchelor moved to adopt the county's all-virtual public meetings policy. Jane Materna seconded the motion. None opposed; none abstained; the motion passed unanimously.

Jane Materna moved to adopt the county's revised remote participation of members policy; Alesia Taylor-Boyd seconded the motion. None opposed; none abstained; the motion passed unanimously.

Helen Cole made a motion to send the report on "The Economic Impact of COVID-19 on Women in Fairfax County" to the Board of Supervisors. Mattie Palmore seconded the motion. None opposed; none abstained; the motion passed unanimously.

Helen Cole made a motion to reactivate Commission for Women social media accounts and have them focus on honoring Fairfax County women and girls. Alyssa Batchelor seconded the motion. Jane Materna opposed; none abstained. The motion carried.

## **Adjournment**

Helen Cole moved to adjourn the meeting; Mattie Palmore seconded the motion. None opposed; none abstained; the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 p.m.