

Minutes

Commission for Women Executive Committee

September 25, 2023

Call to Order

The meeting of the Commission for Women's executive committee was held virtually via Zoom.

Attendees

Phylcia Woods – Providence District; Alyssa Batchelor – At-Large

Absent: None.

Staff in attendance: Toni Zollicoffer, Lois Kirkpatrick

Guests/Visitors: None.

Start time: 7:32 p.m.

End Time: 8:38 p.m.

Approval of Minutes – The minutes of the July 31, 2023 executive committee meeting were approved.

Ad-Hoc Committees – At the July commission meeting, members were asked to form ad-hoc committees to develop activities around the commission's two focus areas for FY24: (1) teen depression and mental health, and (2) violence against women. The executive committee agreed that it would be better for the whole commission to first decide on an activity and then form an ad-hoc committee to organize it.

Phylcia Woods suggested partnering with the library system during Mental Health Awareness Month in May. This would involve having commissioners do readings at libraries of books related to mental health topics. Alyssa Batchelor will propose this at the October 9 commission meeting.

Rise to Summit in Loudoun County – The committee reviewed Loudoun County Public Schools teacher Jessica Berg's email about the Women's History Month event she's organizing for March 2, 2024. The committee agreed to add it to the commission's events calendar for members to consider supporting individually.

Personnel Matter – Toni Zollicoffer suggested that at the October 9 commission meeting, the chair ask the members if they're going to enforce the group's bylaws that state: "any commissioner who misses three consecutive meetings ... may be subject to removal from the CFW." If yes, the meeting should go into closed session to discuss how to address the member who has missed four consecutive meetings this year.

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Toni Zollicoffer explained that members may not realize how highly the commission is esteemed. It has been lauded to the Board of Supervisors, and is a prestigious group in which to serve.

Agenda for the October 9, 2023 Commission for Women Meeting – Lois Kirkpatrick explained that county policy allows commissioners to participate remotely in up to three meetings per year for qualified reasons. However, at the beginning of each meeting, the commission must vote to confirm each remote participant's conformance to the policy.

Lois Kirkpatrick also explained that the county's Public Affairs Office is not planning to develop a social media policy for county boards, authorities and commissions. Jordan Tautges and Alesia Taylor-Boyd have been creating the commission's social media posts all year, and at the October 9 commission meeting Lois Kirkpatrick will ask whether to invite other members to serve in this role.

Items Not on Agenda – Phylcia Woods suggested inviting someone from the Fairfax County Commission on Aging to speak at a future commission meeting on women and aging.

Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.