

Minutes for the Commission for Women

Call to Order

A full-body meeting for the Commission for Women was held on May 10, 2021, virtually via Zoom. It began at 7:20 pm and was presided over by Chair Lisa Sales, with Mery Juarez capturing minutes. FOIA script was read, and a screenshot of the attendees was captured.

Attendees

Voting members in attendance included: Chair Lisa Sales, Mt Vernon District; Vice-Chair Helen Cole, Hunter Mill District; Vice-Chair Phylcia Woods, Providence District; Emily McCoy, Lee District; Jane Materna, Mason District; Shafuq Naseem, Braddock District; Julie Waters, Dranesville District; Dena Bashri, Sully District; Annika Khandelwal, At-Large Student Representative. The Springfield District seat is currently vacant.

Staff in attendance included: Toni Zollicoffer, Mery Juarez, Stacy Ziebell, Michael Becketts

Guests in attendance included: Rebecca Connor, Sonel Cutler, Camille Gledhill, Kristina Hagen Mercedes (803-413-2053)

Members not in attendance included: Sondra Seba Hemenway, At-Large; Mattie Palmore, At-Large Minority

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes for the April 12 meeting, as amended, was made by Ms. Materna, and seconded by Ms. Woods. The motion carried unanimously.

Standing and Ad-hoc Committee Reports

Bylaws and Governance Subcommittee update was presented by Chair Sales. The Commission's bylaws and resolution were approved by the Board of Supervisors. There was a conversation about updating the Commissioner Guide and how it could be done. The Executive Committee will repurpose one of their scheduled meetings to do an initial review of the guide. Ms. McCoy and Ms. Zollicoffer will work on the policy statement to be included in the guide.

Projects Committee updates were presented by Ms. Waters. Friends of the Commission project is still trying to finalize the letter to send as informational pitch. The Stories of Incarcerated Women project is working on letter to send to the County Attorney to clarify the roles of Commissioners with the interviews. At the next meeting they will be discussing the flyer for the Friends, and the scope/goals for the Incarcerated Women project.

Other Reports

Department of Family Services (DFS)/Domestic & Sexual Violence Services (DSVS)/Council to End Domestic Violence (CEDV) updates were presented by Ms. Zollicoffer. Fairfax County has been working on the return-to-work service delivery model. DSVS's Strategic Plan has been finalized and they will start the operation plan after the summer. Ms. Zollicoffer will present the Strategic Plan at the Commission's June meeting. The ad for the Liaison to the Commission position was posted and interviews will be scheduled on May 20 and 24. Commissioners interested in being part of the panel were encouraged to contact Ms. Zollicoffer. The video for the Women's Warrior will be converted to a SoundCloud and then be uploaded to the Commission's website. Agendas and minutes for all committees need to be posted publicly. Minutes must include meeting title, date, minute taker, and attendance list. Ms. Zollicoffer will request County level specific data on women from Department of Human Resources (DHR) to share with the Commission.

Main Motions

Motion to approve Finance Report: Moved by Vice-Chair Cole and seconded by Ms. Materna that the Finance Report be approved, pending clarification on the 'Contributions' line item. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve 50th Anniversary logo: Moved by Ms. McCoy and seconded by Ms. Materna that the logo be approved with edits recommended. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion to establish a 50th Anniversary Committee: Moved by Ms. Waters and seconded by Vice Chair Cole that a committee be established to plan for the 50th-anniversary event in September. There was conversation and ideas were shared for what this event may look like or consist of. The motion carried unanimously. This item will be included in the June, possibly July, meeting agenda for further discussion.

Motion to approve OPN Door Communication facilitator for retreat: Moved by Vice Chair Cole and seconded by Ms. Woods that Vickie Williams from OPN Door Communications be approved to facilitate the retreat scheduled on June 19 from 10am – 2pm. There was conversation about how this facilitator was selected. Ms. Materna moved to table this motion; however, no one seconded her motion. The original motion carried unanimously.

Announcements

Kristina Hagen with the Campaign for a Family Friendly Economy presented updates on Paid Family Medical Leave.

Michael Becketts, DFS Director, began and led the conversation on thoughts and comments regarding the Groundwater presentation on racial disparities. He shared that two of the questions that tend to come up are 'what do we do next' and 'why do we lead with race when there are so many other elements of disparities, discriminations, marginalization'. There was conversation about parts of the presentation that stood out and how the Commission can utilize this information to support their work.

Stacy Ziebell, Countywide Domestic Violence Coordinator with DSVS, presented on Fairfax County's coordinated response to interpersonal violence. Background Information and an overview of the work of the CEDV was presented.

Chair Sales provided an overview of the National Association of Commissions for Women (NACW) Annual Conference agenda. Commissioners were encouraged to share ideas for time capsule with Chair Sales and this item will be up for discussion on the June meeting agenda.

Adjournment

Lisa Sales moved that the meeting be adjourned, and this was agreed upon at 9:40 pm.

Meeting Recording

SoundCloud link: <https://soundcloud.com/fairfaxcounty/commission-for-women-monthly-meeting-may-10-2021>

Secretary
Commission for Women

Date of Approval