

Minutes for the Commission for Women

Commission for Women Meeting – April 11, 2022

Call to Order

A full-body meeting for the Commission for Women was held on April 11, 2022, virtually via Zoom. It was called to order at 7:19 pm and was presided over by Chair Phylcia Woods who read the FOIA script.

Attendees

In attendance: Jane Materna- Mason District, Helen Cole - Hunter Mill District, Emily McCoy - Lee District (ex- Officio), , Alyssa Batchelor – At large, Carla Post – Dranesville District; Mattie Palmore – At large; Lanita Thweatt- Mount Vernon District

Absent: Annika Khandelwal- Student representative; Enjoli Ramsey- Braddock District

Staff in attendance: Toni Zollicoffer

Start time: 7:19 pm

End Time: 9:24 pm

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes for the March meeting was made by Batchelor and seconded by Ms. Materna with a name change and amendments discussed. The motion carried. Ms. Palmore and Ms. Thweatt abstained because they were not present at the March meeting.

Approval of Financial Report

A motion to approve the April financial report, was made by Ms. Batchelor and seconded by Ms. Post. The motion carried unanimously.

Guest Speakers/ Visitors

No guest speakers or visitors were present

Standing and Ad-hoc Committee Reports

The Women's History Month Committee- Ms. Materna reported on the status of the Women's History Proclamation. She stated that Supervisor Gross rejected the proclamation because of late submission stating that proclamations need at least one month lead time.

CFW discussed the Policies and Procedures, the Commissioner's guide and an annual schedule of events as a part of the CFW's annual planning. Ms. Materna stated that Ms. McCoy's work on the policies and procedures was complete and CFW will now need to refine it before it becomes final. Ms. Batchelor agreed with the recommendation for CFW to finalize the policies and procedures.

There was no update on CEDAW.

Ms. Materna reported that the Projects Committee did a deeper dive into the data provided by Chmera to interpret the data and found significant gaps that made it difficult to draw inferences or reach conclusions that CFW could report to the BOS. The committee recommended that CFW not pay Chmera an additional \$1,000. The committee agreed to use national data and other publicly available information to amplify the issues of COVID already being discussed by women's rights advocates. Ms.

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Post agreed to contact a professor at GMU that received a grant to do research on purpose-based projects to possibly partner with CFW and provide a student to help with project. Ms. McCoy reminded the committee to include available resources and gaps in services in its final report.

Ms. Materna recommended that paid family medical leave be re-visited by the legislative committee and for CFW to have it included in the County's legislative packet. She suggested that the projects committee may take that on. Ms. Woods suggested that CFW discuss this at the next full body meeting.

Old Business

Ms. Batchelor showed several logo ideas to generate ideas of what CFW was looking for as a logo redesign. Ms. Zollicoffer agreed to send the power points to MS. Lee to put in the graphic designer's queue. Ms. Post suggested that CFW could contract with a graphic designer as another option.

Ms. Woods suggested that strategic planning be postponed until September and Commissioners focus on advertising and recruiting to fill vacancies over the summer. Ms. Post made a motion to postpone which was seconded by Ms. Cole. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Cole agreed to ask Ms. Lee to archive the March events on the CFW webpage.

New Business

Ms. Woods introduced new Mount Vernon Commissioner, Ms. Lanita Thweatt.

Main Motions

A motion to approve the minutes for the March meeting was made by Batchelor and seconded by Ms. Materna A motion to approve the April financial report, was made by Ms. Batchelor and seconded by Ms. Post.

A motion to postpone strategic planning until September was made by Ms. Post and seconded by Ms. Cole.

Follow- up needed

The Projects' committee agreed to meet to discuss next steps on the report and will bring back a recommendation to the full body on whether to increase the budget for more data analysis.

Ms. Zollicoffer agreed to include Ms. Cole on the workgroup that will be formed to look at the recommendations and report to the BOS.

HT/SV Coordinator is scheduled to attend May CFW meeting.

Adjournment

Chair Woods moved that the meeting to be adjourned, and this was agreed upon at 9:24 pm.