

City of Greensboro

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

MINUTES

May 27th, 2015

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) convened for its regular monthly meeting at 6:00 p.m. on the above date in the Orientation Room, 2nd floor of the Cultural Arts Center.

Present: Chair Felicia Angus, Vice Chair Linda Mabry, Commissioners Vickie Henry, Deborah Goddard, Lindsay Burkart

Excused Absences: Commissioner Viola Fuller, Commissioner Chalene Peterson

Human Relations Department Staff: Love Crossling-HRD Director, Allen Hunt-Supervisor

Visitors: Audrey Luck-Triad NOW-National Organization for Women, Madison Lowe-Intern with the HRD

MOMENT OF SILENCE AND CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Mabry called the meeting to order at approximately 6:05 p.m.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Vice Chair Mabry recognized and welcomed visitors.

GUEST SPEAKER- Audrey Luck

Audrey Luck is involved in Triad NOW (National Organization for Women) which has recently started a new chapter in Greensboro. The organization is trying to make connections, and Luck believes that the organization has connected missions with the CSW. Some of the main focuses of Triad NOW include reproductive justice, getting the ERA back in national dialogue, ending violence against women, racial and economic justice, and LGBT equality.

CHAIR REPORT- FELICIA ANGUS

The Women's Equality Day Breakfast is scheduled for August 29th. The breakfast is set up for 200-300 people, with ten persons per table. There is an effort to get more numbers to attend this year. The event has been placed on four different radio stations, and two community calendars on both WFMY and WXII's channels. There is a spreadsheet set up for email addresses, along with a Facebook event online. The commission recommended giving Marion's number as the direct resource to information about tickets and the breakfast. The commission decided to meet after the current meeting to further discuss details in planning the breakfast. It was also noted the there is a meeting with the Women of Guilford on the 28th of May.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education Committee – Report Given by Committee Member

The Education Committee has confirmed collaboration with the “Race for Girl’s Empowerment” in the month of July with Shakira Simmons. Chalene expressed a desire to do more with the young women in the community. The day will contain special sessions including a health session which could potentially include the involvement of the health committee. Another featured session is the “I’m Special, You’re Special” program, which attempts to diffuse the competition amongst women in order to teach women to pick each other up rather than put each other down. While this session is inclusive, there is a specific focus on African American girls.

Woman and Domestic Violence – Commissioner Mabry

The Women’s Writers of the Triad will be hosting the six week writing training, starting Monday, June 1st at the Warnersville Community Center. They want at least ten women to attend.

Allen Hunt has set up a meeting July 7th at 9 o’clock for those involved in the Purple Tree Lighting that will be held in October. Mabry expressed a desire to have involvement from the beginning until the end as a collaboration of both the CSW and everyone in the community involved in Domestic Violence issues. The Women and Domestic Violence meetings are still every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 1:00 pm.

Services to the Aging – Commissioner Henry

Commissioner Henry wants the commissioners to hand out flyers regarding the 50 + program. There are 35 vendors thus far. A concern was voiced about having enough sponsors for food was voiced. Commissioner Henry wants to feed all of the vendors. It was noted that last year Bojangles sponsored the event. There were suggestions to ask places like Harris Teeter, and Chick-fil-A. The program will have screenings regarding blood pressure, heart disease, cholesterol, diabetes, etc. There is a desire to get a dentist to attend along with a posture and hearing presentation. Other parts of the event will include activities such as exercising the seniors, line dancing, and interactions with therapy dogs.

Leadership Through Service – Commissioner Goddard

Currently the commission is working on program planning with the MWBE. There will be a meeting with staff later this week concerning the previously discussed format of this endeavor. There will be more specifics available at next executive meeting.

Staff Report:

Love Crossling updated the following:

- Love stressed the importance of meeting the deadlines for the upcoming work plan. The plan should be relayed to commissioners by the 8th of June, since the final deadline for the HRD is June 15th.
- The work plan should consist of a framework for subcommittee meetings and number of projects to take on, a tag-line theme, along with a number of projects the overall body will take on. The work plan helps with marketing, timing press meetings, equipping the staff, interns/externs.
- If you make suggestions, edit the document and then send it back.
- The MBWE was pleased with the outline specified by Commissioner Goddard and an appreciation was expressed for getting the ball rolling with this upcoming project.

- There was further encouragement to the commission to participate in the 3 minute speakers of the floor portion of the city council meeting to update the current objectives or successful projects of the CSW.
- In regard to committee support, maintaining subcommittee members outside of the commission is important. This can be implemented by making it easy to join a subcommittee and publicizing the time and location of the meetings.

Allen Hunt updated the following:

- Allen Hunt and Dr. Crossling met with Catherine Johnson regarding the June 15th grand opening of the Woman’s Justice Center. The center extended an invite to the commission.
- In the aspect of filling the roster, there is an outreach to the city clerk highlighting the sequence of roster members or overlaps in the commission. Hunt suggested that the CSW request city council to add appointments to diversify the body.
- Hunt highlighted the appointment and replacement process of the commission.

Additional Notes

- Commissioner Chalene Peterson will be turning in her resignation form and relocating to Florida. The co-chair of the education committee will take Peterson’s place as chair of the education committee
- Regarding the Women’s Equality Day Breakfast, Mrs. Walker has accepted the position of moderator. Barbara Harris has accepted position as a panelist as well.

Items for Discussion & Vote

- A motion was made by Chair Angus and seconded by Commissioner Goddard to continue membership with the National Association of the Commission for Women (NACW). The decision was unanimously approved.

ADJOURN

Chair Angus made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Commissioner Burkart, and unanimously approved at approximately 7:25 pm.

Chairperson

Approved: _____

Date

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