



Minutes

August 23, 2016

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) convened for its regular monthly meeting at 6:00 p.m. on the above date in Room 203 at the Greensboro Cultural Center, with Chair Deborah Goddard presiding.

Present: Commissioners Goddard, Jimerson, Fuller, Lowe, White, Jasper-Morant, Hughes, Foster

Council Liaison: Marikay Abuzuaiter

HRC Liaison: Samuel Hawkins

Human Relations Department Staff: Jodie Stanley, Love Crossling

Visitor:

Absent:

I. Call to Order

Chair Goddard called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

II. Moment of Silent Meditation

Chair Goddard called for a moment of silent meditation.

III. Committee Reports

Chair Report

Chair Goddard began by encouraging commissioners to begin generating ideas to add to the commission annual work plan.

She identified a goal to put together a calendar in Outlook so that all could be on the same page to access scheduled events and allow for better planning. The deadline to put this calendar together was September 13.

Goddard reminded commissioners of the discussion held at the retreat around sending liaisons to the Human Relations Commission meetings. She asked for volunteers to attend in the hopes to have a calendar with liaisons set up for each meeting.

Goddard also reminded commissioners that the budget cycle for the department began in October. She asked committee chairs to consider compiling their reports and submitting requests for budgetary adjustments in advance of the deadlines. Dr. Crossling advised to have submissions in by the 15th of October, as staff was expected to submit a report by the first of November.

The Chair went on to encourage commissioners to continue to get the word out about the Commission, noting that the facebook page had 30 likes since the ground breaking event at Barber Park. It was very encouraging to see that people were interested in seeing what was going on with the Commission.

She concluded the Chair Report by stating that her report included conversations, phone calls, meetings, etc., as all of these items showed valid networking hours.

Domestic Violence Committee

Commissioner Foster had not yet arrived.

Education Committee

Commissioner Lowe stated that she was working with AAUW, National Association for Professional Women and Darlinda Finch with the GTCC Small Business Center to see what they could work on together. Community engagement was going well. Lowe added that she was actively networking to ensure that the community was aware of how active the CSW was.

Women and Equality Committee

Chair Goddard announced that Commissioner Jimerson was the new official Chair of the Equality Committee. Jimerson reported that volunteers would be able to enter the Terrace facility at 5:30 pm on Friday, August 26, and invited all to help prepare décor for 20 tables. Chair Goddard and Commissioners Lowe and White confirmed that they would volunteer. Jimerson also announced that she had gift bags prepared, adding that the breakfast would be buffet not plated, and that the stage would be set up along with the podium and microphones.

Chair Goddard announced that News 2 would announce the breakfast during the morning after the meeting. Commissioner Lowe shared that she made intentional contact with surrounding colleges and universities. All agreed that they were very excited and thankful and ready for a great event.

Health Committee

Chair position was currently vacant. Goddard explained that Commissioner Fuller was completing her final term with the Commission. Fuller shared that she had made efforts to make connections about creating a blood drive for the Latino Community Coalition, and had other efforts in mind, and committed to following up with staff and the chair to further explore her ideas. Goddard thanked her for her contributions.

Commissioner Hughes asked if they had discussed next steps as far as combining the Health Committee with Services to the Aging. Goddard responded that yes, they were not going to do away with the Health Committee, adding that the committee needed a chair.

Services to the Aging

Chair Goddard announced that Commissioner Jasper-Morant was the new chair for the committee. Jasper-Morant said she did not have a report yet. Goddard expressed her excitement that the 50+ event would keep going strong.

Leadership Through Service Committee

Chair Goddard announced that her committee had a great meeting to plan for the job readiness workshops on September 17, adding that News 2 was also interested in covering that event and was asking for the names of two people that could possibly be interviewed for a show.

Goddard went on to say that NC Works Career Center staff was also coordinating businesses for the event. Their planning meeting earlier in the day covered individual assignments and logistics. The first part of the two-part event was scheduled to take place on September 17 from 9 am-1pm with the option of taking different classes. Keynote Marlaina Guillaume from Atlanta was scheduled to speak to nationwide trends around women and employment. Belks was also helping out with a fashion show and professional make-up demo. Commissioners White and Jimerson had been helping. Goddard expressed that she was encouraged to see the collaboration. She had asked NC Works Career Center to get us some headshots so that we could publicly thank them on facebook.

The second part of the two-part event was the career fair, to take place on September 21.

IV. Staff Report

Dr. Crossling gave a report on ticket purchases that included a breakdown of rsvp, paid, and comp tickets, the total headcount given to the caterer, and then she asked Commissioners who would announce the Mayor and Council Member Abuzuaiter when they went up to the stage to speak. Goddard agreed to do the introduction for the Mayor and Council Member.

Crossling went on to add that several agencies asked to share their brochures at the event, so there would be a brochure table set up for that purpose. Set up was scheduled for August 26 at 5:30 pm at the Terrace. She then asked what time Commissioners would be arriving on the day of the event. Commissioners agreed to arrive between 7 and 7:15 am. Drinks would be provided for all starting at 8am, and panelists and program participants will be encouraged to eat at 8am. Catering staff would be on hand to ensure that only panelists and speakers were able to eat at 8am.

Commissioners held discussion around letting their guests eat when they arrived. Crossling suggested that the start of the program be moved back up to 8:15 am as opposed to 8:30 am. Commissioners agreed on moving the start time up.

Goddard asked if Titus could arrive early and play during the entire morning. Jodie Stanley stated that he was scheduled to arrive early and planned to stay for the entire event.

Crossling then emphasized the importance of articulating thank you's to sponsors like photographer Lugazy Atkins, Tom Lipscomb at Bennett College, and Lynn Donovan from O'Henry.

Commissioner Lowe shared that after last meeting's discussion about volunteers, commissioners decided to take a more active volunteer role. Crossling encouraged commissioners not to let guests hold them in conversation, to hold shorter conversations in an effort to stay available and identifiable to guests as someone that could provide support. Lowe suggested that the numbers on the tables were easier to see when they were slanted. Commissioner White asked how long they should stay at the registration table, and Crossling advised to stay until after the moment of silence.

Clarifying discussion was held around steps to take if someone arrived who had not rsvp'd and other registration details. Goddard asked if it was professional or appropriate etiquette to remind people to pay once the event was over. Crossling advised that most paid, that we would certainly follow up when possible.

Crossling offered that it may be helpful to have a sign up sheet at each table asking if they would like to receive an invitation to next year's Women's Equality Day Breakfast.

Crossling encouraged commissioners to send Stanley a list of people to thank. She also encouraged all to sit at their assigned tables, that it was important to minimize confusion.

Discussion of Elections

Chair Goddard explained that in 2015, there were a few months where they did not have quorum, then a period where there was not anyone that wanted to chair the commission. Goddard expressed her interest in serving the commission for another term as the chair. Hughes nominated Goddard. All agreed that voting could take place at the CSW meeting on September 27. Goddard called for additional feedback, clarifying that they would also need to vote for a vice chair. Crossling encouraged commissioners to either nominate today, or take the time to nominate before the next meeting, adding that nominees should be given the opportunity to accept the nomination so as not to skew the election. Crossling suggested that they could pass a motion to accept nominations electronically.

Commissioner Lowe expressed interest in serving another year as vice chair. Crossling added that nominations could be sent to Jodie electronically, names would be added to the ballot, again encouraging commissioners to check with nominees to verify their level of interest in serving. Hughes went on record nominating Lowe as candidate for vice chair. Crossling clarified that you could nominate yourself. Jimerson requested an absentee ballot. Council Member Abuzuaiter clarified that this was not an option according to boards and commissions guidelines. Goddard asked if the election could be held at the Executive Meeting as opposed to the monthly meeting. Crossling responded that yes they could always call a special meeting to hold the election.

Motion to Hold Elections at the Executive Meeting on September 13

Motion 1st: Commissioner Fuller

Motion 2nd: Commissioner Hughes

Unanimous approval

V. Approval of Minutes

Motion to Approve the July Minutes

Motion 1st: Commissioner Fuller

Motion 2nd: Commissioner Jimerson

Unanimous approval

VI. Announcements

Goddard asked if any more announcements needed to be shared. Commissioner Foster apologized for arriving late, explaining that she had an emergency at work. She suggested a fundraiser idea to raise money for domestic violence awareness programs. Crossling advised that staff would need to review potential program plans for safety/liability purposes, that it was possible to work out necessary details and then take the information back to the commission for additional feedback.

Goddard invited Foster to share any updates about the Domestic Violence committee. Foster shared that she had been communicating with Mt. Zion Baptist Church about working together. The Domestic Violence Committee planned to meet the following Thursday, and Guilford Family Justice Center Director Catherine Johnson agreed to join the committee. She thanked Stanley for crafting a memo inviting committee members to be part of the committee. Foster added that she was actively pursuing LGBT and Hispanic/Latino community members to serve on the committee.

Goddard invited Commissioner Hawkins to speak. He declined.

Council Member Abuzuaiter was invited to speak. She thanked the Commissioners for their work in planning the breakfast and shared a tip for increasing facebook likes to increase traffic.

VII. Recognition of Visitors and Presentations

No visitors to recognize.

VIII. Adjournment (7:11 pm)

Motion to adjourn

Motion 1st: Commissioner Fuller

Motion 2nd: Commissioner Hughes

Unanimous approval

Chairperson
COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Approved: _____
Date