

**City of Bloomington – Commission on the Status of Women
Minutes for January, 2016**

Commissioners Present: Cathi Crabtree, Penny Githens, Kristi McCann, Debra Vance, Regina Moore, Jacqueline Fernette, Toby Strout

Commissioners Absent: Debby Herbenick, Beth Kirk

High School Liaison Present: Yeeseon Chae

City Staff Present: Sue Owens

Public Present: Miriam Woods

Community Volunteer Present: Ashley Hazelrig

1. Call to Order
6:30 by Debra Vance

2. Request for Additional Agenda Items

Addition to New Business of C. Women’s Leadership Development Event Cathi moves to approve. Toby seconds. Motion approved to accept agenda with additional item

3. Approval of Minutes – December
Cathi motions to approve as amended and Kristi seconds

4. Old Business

A. WHM Luncheon

Jacqueline reports. The contract with the keynote has been signed. The Buskirk-Chumley box office has been working on ticket pricing. Sue will be able to monitor sales live. We were contacted by Bloom Magazine to put the event in the February issue. There were interviews with Jacqueline, Cathi and Deb. The article should cover the commission and the luncheon. The next meeting is January 12 (second Tuesday of every month). We will need a Woman of the Year selection committee. The committee guidelines for award selection are that the chair must be a commissioner, commissioners must make up more than 50% of the committee, and 3 seats are community members (1 former winner of an award and 1 former commissioner). No more than seven members total. Krisit and Jacqueline volunteer for the committee. Yeeseon volunteers for community position. The meeting of the committee happens about a week after the nominations are due. Penny wants to know how students in the local schools get to go to the luncheon. There have been programs in the past that have been relevant to getting students involved.

B. Monroe County Women’s Commission Report (Debby)

Regina reports. Mark Stoops came and spoke about what was going on the legislature. The funding for childcare at the federal level is being cut. The county commission’s studies reflected that childcare was a major concern for local women. They are having a work session to cover the studies they’ve had and move forward on their project for the year. Regina thinks that quarterly meetings with the County Commission could be beneficial. Jacqueline suggests that the old way of making rotations for the liaison may have been a better for making those connections. Regina wants to know if a County Commissioner came to the City Commission meetings. That used to be the plan, but it hasn’t been done recently.

C. High School Liaison check-in

Yeeseon reports. School just started on Monday. There is nothing else to report. Regina asks what her plans are for the feminist circle. Yeeseon says she will continue reaching out to English teachers. This is Yeeseon's final commission meeting as the liaison. We may need to be reaching out to get a new liaison. Yeeseon would be comfortable continuing her position until the end of the school year.

D. Leadership Scholarship Initiative-Danielle McClelland & Marcella Ettinger

Cathi reports. Kristi, Regina, and Cathi met to go over the two applications for the scholarship. The applicants each applied for \$500. Marcella's event has already passed. Cathi reached out to her and asked her if she was able to attend her event. Marcella paid for her event on her own, and she has her receipts. Regina asks if everyone was familiar with the applicants. Those were sent out earlier via email to the Commission. Toby asks if the applicants are willing to speak at the leadership event. Cathi says we haven't yet asked for their availability. Cathi moves to award both applicants \$500.00. Kristi seconds. The motion passed. The letter will reflect that they'll be obliged to speak at the Leadership event.

- New Business

- A. Local issues related to violence against women

- Cathi reports. Debby sent some information about repeat offenders. The second piece of information that the committee has is a recent article from the New Yorker on strangulation. The Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention is mentioned in the article. They offer training for community servants who would contact victims of domestic violence. The subcommittee will reach out and see if that training could be brought here. Toby points out that the article highlights the importance of training on strangulation so that the prosecutor knows that the strangulation occurred. There are studies showing that prosecutors are replacing strangulation with disorderly conduct. Penny wants to know how we make an event like this happen. Cathi says that the group is in San Diego and federally funded, so that would help with the expense.

- B. Liaison Report

- No report

- C. Women's Leadership Development Event

- Judge Sarah Evans Barker has been suggested as the keynote speaker. Still trying to contact her. Sue has reserved council chamber March 3 and March 10 for backup location of the event in case no other venue is secured.

- Public Input

- None

- Adjournment

- 6:33 by Debra Vance

Respectfully Submitted,
Ashley Hazelrig