

|City of Bloomington, IN

January 2017 CSW Minutes

THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Thursday, January 5, 2017, 5:42pm

McCloskey Room, Suite 135

City Hall

401 N. Morton Street Bloomington, IN

Commissioners Present: Cathi Crabtree, Penny Githens, Ashley Hazelrig, Beth Friedman Kirk, Regina Moore

Commisioners Absent: Jacqueline Fernette, Debby Herbenick, Kristi McCann, Toby Strout

High School Adjunct Members Present: Emma Cannon, Bloomington North

Staff Liaison Present: Sue Owens

Community Volunteer Recorder Present: Donna Goings

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Cathi.

Addition to Agenda: Two items were added:

- 1) Add a vice-chair for the commission;
- 2) Consider working with Monroe County Women's Commission on program for Equal Pay Day on April 4

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of December 2016 were reviewed. The minutes were corrected to read Carol McCord was not present and Monica Dignam was present. Beth moved to accept corrected minutes, Penny seconded, and motion passed.

Old Business-WHM Luncheon

- Sue reported the suggested speaker is Nancy McCormick. She is recently retired, worked at United Way 19 years as a community specialist, and used to work for state AIL. She is described as an engaging speaker and was recommended by Liz Feitl. Penny moved that Nancy be asked to speak, and Ashley seconded. Motion was approved.\
- Toby is willing to be chair of the Women of the Year Selection Committee. Volunteer members are needed for the committee. Sue shared the guidelines for committee membership. Beth and Ashley volunteered. Debbie has also volunteered. Cathi

announced this is her last meeting, so she will volunteer to fill the spot of a former commissioner and as one of the women in the community.

- Sponsorships were discussed. Cathi indicated Betsy Green had agreed, and Cathi will follow up with her. Cathi indicated Hopscotch Coffee has also agreed. Emma indicated the Bloomington North Student Council has not decided yet but is thinking about it. Cathi asked if we could include a flyer in the invitation, and Sue said yes.

Old Business—WLD Event

- Beth identified speakers: Sheila Kennedy on misogyny; Francis Trix—a professor with expertise in religious and cultural issues; Christie Popp on immigration, race, religion issues. Regina will send the name of a climate change person to Cathi. The speaker sub-group will meet at 3PM Sunday at Beth's office if anyone wants to attend.
- The overall theme is social justice.
- The agenda is still being worked on. Speakers are asked to share about their topics but also to intersect with other topics and social justice. They are asked to include a 5-minute segment about specific action plans.
- The event is in the evening at City Hall—it usually starts around 5:30.

Report from Commissioners—Monroe County Women's Commission

Regina attended the County Commission meeting on 12/9.

- 7 commissioners and 4 guests attended.
- The Commission is sending thank you notes to women who ran in the election, whether they won or lost.
- Jacqueline and Regina are on the Commission's distribution list and are receiving the meeting minutes.
- The Commission has volunteered to help in any way with the WLD luncheon.
- Monica Dignam will be attending our meetings as their liaison with us.
- They discussed the letter to the State Health Department and are creating a draft.
- They are divided into sub-groups and are sitting on health committees and are offering their assistance to non-profits for grant writing, etc. CASA is one example—they are assisting CASA with writing a grant for children to be able to attend Boys' and Girls' Clubs.
- Lara Weaver is working on a letter about staffing for the women's department of the State Department of Health.

Report from High School Liaison

Emma reported about Bloomington North High School.

- She and two others are doing events for sexual assault awareness month. They are doing a positive body campaign—taking pictures of a variety of people and a short story of who they are.
- The confederate flag situation has seemed to die down.

- Cathi is writing a letter in relation to the confederate flag situation and the harassment issues. She raised the question about how much of the harassment was on social media and what is the control of the school over that. She is concerned about how to address what may be hearsay rather than actual data. Ashley suggested the letter address how things going on in the school impact things outside of school.
 - Emma shared the school has now put together a cultural sensitivity team with teachers from every department—there hasn't been enough time to determine effectiveness.
 - Emma is concerned that the concerns of harassers are taken more seriously than the concerns of victims. Each student is assigned a vice-principal and then all go through the social worker. She is also concerned the administration doesn't look at the history of harassers.
 - One idea suggested was to ask about a class or seminar to be offered in all schools on cultural sensitivity and sexual harassment.
 - Cathi will incorporate some of these ideas and will share with the commission members. Other resources for her are the Indiana Department of Education website for teachers and the school student handbook. Emma will send her a pdf of the handbook.
- The Commission can resource ideas for Emma.

New Business—Liaison Report

No report given.

New Business—Leadership Scholarship Initiative Application

- Ashley moved and Beth seconded that applicant Katie Richards be awarded a \$500 scholarship and receive an apology for the lateness of the response to her application. A question was raised about spending ½ of the budget for scholarships on one person. Regina amended the original motion to \$300 and Beth seconded. Discussion ensued. Questions raised were why not \$500 since no other applications have been received, should ½ be spent on just one person, and should we spend ½ in January. Other points of discussion were that the Commission can always ask for more funding for scholarships—the \$1000 budget is a self-imposed limit by the Commission; Katie's expenses may have risen due to our delay; and we typically only have one or two applications for the scholarship. The motion for the amendment was not approved, and the original motion was approved. Katie will need to send in her receipts within 60 days after the event, and she will then be reimbursed for her expenses.
- Commission members want to review the application process and wording of the application before continuing with the program.

New Business—Black Women's Conference

No report given.

New Business—Vice Chair position for Commission

Item tabled until next meeting.

New Business—Equal Pay Day

Penny reported that a combination of members from CSW and the Monroe County Women's Commission thought a movie for Equal Pay Day at Buskirk Chumley Theater would be a good program. The cost would be \$400. April 4 is the suggested date. Penny and Regina are working with Liz Feitl and others from the County Commission. Ideas include a speaker from the Chamber of Commerce, a couple of films such as the Earning Curve, and a labor attorney from Indianapolis as a moderator. Penny moved and Regina seconded that CSW cosponsor the program with the County Commission. Cosponsoring means agreeing to be part of it but not taking financial responsibility. Concerns were expressed about timing and logistics. The motion was approved. High school students will be encouraged to participate. A report about the program should be part of the agenda under Old Business at upcoming Commission meetings.

Other:

- The scholarship subcommittee should be an item on the February agenda.
- Sue will communicate with Katie Richards about her scholarship

Adjournment

Penny moved for adjournment and Regina seconded. The meeting concluded at 6:43pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Goings