

THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

THURSDAY, February 2, 2017, 5:30 P.M
McCLOSKEY ROOM, SUITE #135
CITY HALL
401 N. MORTON STREET, BLOOMINGTON, IN

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Jacqueline Fernette, Penny Githens, Ashley Hazelrig, Beth Kirk, Regina Moore, Amanda Stephens

Commissioners Absent: Debby Herbenick, Kristi McCann, Toby Strout

City Liaison Present: Sue Owens, City of Bloomington Community & Family Resources Department

High School Liaison Present: Grace Bertsch, South High School

County Commissioner Present: Monica Dignam

Community Present: Emily Ernsberger and Adelina Jusef, Indiana Daily Student

1. Call to Order
 - Jacqueline acting as chair called to order at 5:40pm
2. Introductions
 - Emily and Adelina visit from the IDS reporting on how city commissions are responding to the Trump administration and transition. They will take pictures and be listening in on the meeting to add to their story.
3. Request for Additional Agenda Items
 - Amanda requests to add possible collaboration with Commission on Hispanic and Latino Affairs
 - Jacqueline requests to add a discussion on Amanda's letter to the editor
4. Approval of Minutes- January
 - Regina moves to approve the minutes with edits. Beth seconds the motion. Motion carries.

5. Old Business

A. WHM Lunch- Wednesday, March 22, 2017

- Jacqueline reports that the Peace Choir has been confirmed. Carolyn from WFHB will be sponsoring the chocolate truffles. There are two confirmed sponsors.
- The awards committee has decided that the Woman of the Year award will be given to Dr. Judy DeMuth and the Emerging Leader award will go to Cathy Fuentes-Rohwer. Toby has not been able to contact Judy, so there will be a delay in making the press release until her acceptance is confirmed. Regina will follow up on contacting Judy with Sue. Additional discussion on awards followed.

B. WLD Event- Thursday, March 30, 2017

- Beth reports. Four panelists have been confirmed. Frances Trix, Christie Popp, Sheila Kennedy, and Amrita C. Myers. Topics of discussion will include immigration, religious, misogyny, and intersectionality with women of color. The Emerging Leader award will be presented at the event. The program draft is almost finalized for summary in the press release. There will be no scholarship recipients to speak at this year's program. Cathi Crabtree will be talking about how to get involved. Refreshments will be served. Sue says that \$125 was the refreshment budget for 2016. Beth moved that \$125 be allotted for this year. Penny seconds the motion. Motion carries. Sue says there will be 5-6 tables that will require volunteers to work. Two are for food, two are for registration, and one will be put aside for community resources. Grace, Amanda, Sue, Jacqueline, Regina, and Penny volunteer to help with the event.

6. Reports from Commissioners:

A. Monroe County Women's Commission Report

- Regina reports. Christina Kemp from the Monroe Co. Health Department made a presentation on the pregnancy and tobacco cessation program. The commission also discussed its vacancies. More information was given on the keynote speaker for the WHM Luncheon. The County Commission is looking at how to help with more community events. They are trying to formalize a process for how to vet opportunities. The MCWC also discussed having a table at the WHM Lunch and have expressed interest in volunteering at the event.

B. High School Liaison check-in

- Grace reports that she is encouraged by participation in the Women's March which has promoted unity and given the movement a voice. Regina asks if there will be educational opportunities borne out of this participation. Grace says there is probably nothing formal or school sponsored, but there may be some after or outside of school organization.

7. New Business

A. Liaison Report

- Sue reports that our atrium display month is in March. She is willing to put it up. Regina says she will donate some materials. There may be someone taking half of the display, but we may have the entire window. Sue asks if anyone would want to plan or assist in planning the display. Regina volunteers.

B. Black Women's Health Conference

- Jacqueline would like to table the bulk of the conversation but did want to pass on that she learned about ways to encourage participation from black women at events. Two helpful resources would be to provide childcare and also to seek out professional healthcare resources that can speak to the unique health needs of the black community.

C. Vice Chair

- A vice chair is needed because Kristi McCann has stepped back from that position. Ashley volunteers. Penny makes a motion to appoint Ashley as Vice Chair. Amanda seconds. Motion passes.

D. Equal Pay Day- Sunday, April 2, 2017

- Penny reports and highlights that the selection of Dr. DeMuth for Woman of the Year has a very pertinent background with equal pay in this community. Jillian Kenzie will be the moderator. The panel will include Linda Lawson and Lynn Dugan. Amanda suggests speaking with Deborah Widiss who researches employment law at IU if another panelist is needed. There will be film clips and an open discussion at the event as well. Promotional material may be passed out at March events.
- Penny asks if anything can be sold or if contributions can be made. Sue says that it would not be allowed for the commission to sell items. Penny asks if other groups could. Sue says she will have to get input from the legal department. Penny says there was an idea to sell baked goods or something small and have a different price for different genders to demonstrate inequalities.

E. Leadership Scholarship Initiative- application review and award process

- Ashley begins discussion on streamlining the process so that the commission can give deserving applicants timely response. She suggests a subcommittee. Sue clarifies that there has been a subcommittee in the past, but with turnover it has dissolved. Ashley volunteers to be a member of a two or three member scholarship application subcommittee. Amanda volunteers. The subcommittee will meet and discuss the application prompts and review applications before making recommendations to the commission on awards.

F. Possible Collaboration with Commission on Hispanic and Latino Affairs

- Amanda reports. She attended the January meeting and learned about local oppression of interest to the Hispanic and Latino community. She says she heard that with the new administration, there are fears within the Bloomington community. Asks if there would be pertinent overlap in our purpose to collaborate in efforts or events. The Equal Pay Day event was suggested. Amanda will follow up with commission members to see if there is an interest in co-sponsorship.

G. Commission Letter to the Editor on Indiana Representatives Remarks regarding Women's March on Washington

- Amanda would like to be able to have the piece edited and submitted in time for the remarks to be timely and relevant. She asks for feedback by Wednesday, February 8th. Ashley makes a motion to accept and submit the edited piece. Penny seconds. Motion carries.

8. Public Input

- Jacqueline shares that there will be an art installation at the I Fell Building highlighting the Women's March on Washington. All items including t-shirts, journal entries, hats, signs and pictures from the Washington or other local marches can be submitted in the installation.
- Regina shares that Gladys Devane's show has been circulating locally and she believes that her appearance at a past Women's History Month Luncheon provided the her with a great deal of exposure. She encouraged anyone who could to go and support Gladys as she is presenting at the History Center.

9. Adjournment

- Jacqueline adjourns at 6:52pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Ashley Hazelrig