

|City of Bloomington, IN

September 2017 CSW Minutes

THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Thursday, September 7, 2017 5:30PM

McCloskey Room, Suite 135

City Hall

401 N. Morton Street Bloomington, IN

Commissioners Present: Ashley Hazelrig, Zaira Hernandez, Beth Friedman Kirk, Sylvia Martinez, Regina Moore, Maqube Reese

Commissioners Absent: Jacqueline Fernette, Penny Githens, Debby Herbenick

County Commissioner Present: Yvonne Zhao

High School Adjunct Members Present: None

Staff Liaison Present: Sue Owens

Community Volunteer Recorder Present: Donna Goings

Community Guests present: Elizabeth Sweeney (teacher at Bloomington North H.S.); Lisi Skiba (student at Bloomington North H.S.), Nicole Bolden

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Ashley at 5:37 pm.

Additions to Agenda: None

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of August were reviewed and approved as corrected. Regina moved and Zaira seconded. Motion was approved.

Old Business-A. WHM Lunch—March 21, 2018

Sue indicated Billye Avery has been secured as the speaker and logistics are being worked out. IU is paying ½ of the honorarium and her travel expenses. A memo of understanding is being circulated for signatures to finalize. A press release went out last week and will go out again in a couple of weeks for the award nominations. Deadline is January 28, 2018. Nominations are coming in.

Ashley indicated one more commissioner is needed for the award committee. Zaira volunteered to serve on this committee.

Old Business—B. WLD Event

Beth gave a general description of the event for new members. She will set up the first meeting within the next few weeks. Community volunteers also serve on the committee. A date has not been set yet. Regina suggested the committee consider Ivy Tech as a possible site. A suggestion was made to put a request for volunteers on the Commission's Facebook page. Sue indicated other commissions also use newsletters for this kind of request.

Old Business-C. Leadership Scholarship Initiative

No report.

Report from Monroe County Women's Commission

Regina reported from the August meeting. Their members attend the Monroe County Health Initiative Think Tank meetings and report back. The Opioid Summit is being held by 2 members of the commission. 600 people have requested to attend. The Commission may do some legislative visiting and perhaps sponsor a day in February for women to attend a legislative session. They thought this would be a great project for both the City and the County Women Commissions to sponsor together.

A question was raised about the commission having any kind of response to the recent tweet by Kilroy's Restaurant. The challenge is to respond in a timely fashion. Middleway House was commended for their prompt response.

Report from High School Liaison

Abby Cannon was suggested as a candidate last month by Penny. Ashley clarified the role of the liaison. The position is a non-voting member role, helps the commission be aware of issues for young women in the community, and helps the commission be a resource to the school. Regular attendance is also needed. Lisi Skiba is also a candidate and expressed her interest in racial and social justice for women. Her background has increased her interest due to her being an adopted Latina growing up with two white parents. She is involved in a non-profit helping women in Guatemala with microloans.

Ashley indicated that the Commission will decide and will contact the candidates.

New Business-A. Liaison's Report

None

New Business-B. Strategic Planning Session

A need to have a longer meeting has been expressed. Dates are being considered. Regina suggested the meeting might include a grounding in the purpose and by-laws and background of the Commission. Extending the October or November or December meetings are possibilities. The date will be communicated to all.

New Business C. Possible Additional Events

Other possible days to celebrate and observe could be part of the Strategic Planning Meeting. Examples are the legislative day in February, Equal Pay Day for Black Women, or Hispanic Equal Pay Day, Women's Equality Day. Ashley shared Debby's reminder to be aware of the major events the Commission is already sponsoring and the resources needed to do them.

New Business D. BCSW Newsletter

Sue indicated most of the other Commissions do have a newsletter. Sue prepares the newsletters with the commissioners sending her the articles/info to be included. It can be an avenue to provide visibility of our work and a quick way to promote events/projects and communicate needs.

Community Input: Regina is co-partnering a project on Rise to Run which focuses on young women exploring running for office. A special program is scheduled for September 17 at 4pm in City Hall.

Ashley passed out flyers for the SW.A.G.G.E.R., a City of Bloomington award, for students who act generously, grow, and earn respect.

IU is working on a bicentennial project in which the contributions of IU women from the past 200 years are being researched. The info will be used to recognize the women in monuments, etc. on campus.

The commission discussed the candidates for the high school liaison. Regina moved that both Amanda Cannon and Lisi Skiba be approved. Lisi would be the senior high school liaison and Amanda Cannon be the junior high school liaison to the commission. The motion was approved.

Regina moved and Beth seconded for adjournment. The meeting concluded at 6:49pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Goings