

# **Regular Meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women**

Thursday, September 3, 2020, 5:30PM  
Zoom Meeting

## **Meeting Minutes**

Commissioners Present: Landry Culp, A'ame Joslin, Nana Amoah-Ramey, Shruti Rana, Jennifer Sims, Ashley Hazelrig

Guest: Shatoyia Moss, Ariyonna Cousins, Kelly Clark, Lashe Hill, Lynne, Meghan Meyer

Staff Liaison: Sue Owens

Volunteer Recorder: Meghan Meyer

### **1. Shatoyia Moss Presentation**

- a. Shatoyia Moss, the Safe and Civil City Director for the City of Bloomington presented on the second annual Young Women's Leadership Summit (Virtual)
- b. Working title: Unapologetically Me
- c. Tentative date to be released in November
- d. Asking the commission to be a partner on the executive team
  - i. Secure speakers
  - ii. Information sharing
  - iii. Day of assistance
- e. Shruti asked for more clarification on the commission's role in the event and Shatoyia explained the Summit's desire to keep decision making as a women's role in the event.
  - i. Commission would have a formal role as the executive team
  - ii. Day of moderating the Zoom room to maintain a safe environment and maintaining the flow and engagement
- f. Sue stated the commission would review role and request and follow up with Shatoyia

### **2. Call to Order**

- a. Ashley called to order the Regular Meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women at 5:52PM on September 3, 2020, the meeting was held via Zoom

### **3. Request for Additional Agenda Items**

- a. Nana requested a discussion on revision of the commission's BLM statement

### **4. For the Good of the Cause**

### **5. Approval of March Minutes**

- a. Minutes from August meeting were approved

### **6. Old Business**

- a. 2021 WHM Lunch - March 24, 2021

- i. Sue reported the city is requesting the luncheon's "plan A" be a virtual format while a live even be "plan B"
    - ii. Shruti recommended that even if a live event is possible, we still consider offering a virtual format to be considerate of accessibility
  - b. 2021 WLD Event
    - i. Nana and Landry will schedule a meeting to discuss changes, updates, brainstorm
  - c. CEDAW
    - i. A'ame reported on the Legislative Task Force who met on August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
      - 1. Discussed the history and benefits of a community that has enacted CEDAW legislation
      - 2. Parameters of survey to community
      - 3. Research opportunity for IU students
    - ii. Jenn stated that Monroe county would be the community hub for implementing an action plan to involve additional organizations
      - 1. The Quality of Place Report will be a resource
      - 2. An attorney will be necessary to review the language
      - 3. Stated the initial hesitancy to create another project while we ought to be addressing the commission's BLM statement action items, however, CEDAW would be in line with the statement and our participation would demonstrate the commission's commitment to local Black women
    - iii. Shruti explained how CEDAW would work at the local level and it provides good templates for execution
      - 1. Legal concerns: how the state of Indiana controls local/city laws and ensuring use of local legislative language
      - 2. CEDAW takes into account minority groups and reproductive concerns which help us to shift and maintain our focus on women, particularly Black women, in the community

## **7. Reports from Commissioners**

- a. Monroe County Women's Commission Report
  - i. Jenn unable to attend last meeting, now holding two meetings a month to plan current activities (see August minutes: Girls Coding Week, Cooking Show Lunch-n-Learn, Anti-racist conversations)
    - 1. Resigning her role as liaison due to schedule constraints
    - 2. Asking for more direction and definition of role
    - 3. Ashley reminded the commission of the importance of the voting position role
- b. High School Liaison
  - i. No update, position open

## **8. New Business**

- a. BLM Statement
  - i. A'ame stated that CEDAW addresses the legislative commitment as it incorporates a needs assessment with a specific focus on women of color
  - ii. Jenn has documents that Sue will begin to post next Thursday (once an introductory statement is made) honoring previous award winners, to address the 3<sup>rd</sup> bullet point of statement - "providing history of Black women's lives in Bloomington"
  - iii. A'ame suggested a partnership with IU for students to do research projects on the history of Black women in Bloomington
  - iv. Jenn suggested linking historical Black women in Bloomington with present day local Black women doing similar or connected work
  - v. Nana suggested a listening session geared toward the audience of local Black women, a project committee was formed to discuss possible speakers
  - vi. Ashley stated that the partnership with Shatoyia Moss and the Young Women's Leadership Summit also demonstrates our commitment to the BLM statement

**9. Public Input**

- a. Shruti and Ashley shared that they have seen a positive and noted response to the commission's newsletter and awards from their social circles.
- b. A'ame shared the city's BLM plans (end of Sept/early Oct) and that this would be a great space to collect contacts, make connections, and start conversations

**10. Adjournment**

- a. Ashley adjourned the meeting at 6:35PM

Minutes submitted by Meghan Meyer