

Regular Meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women

Thursday, November 5th, 2020, 5:30PM
Zoom Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present: A'ame Joslin, Shruti Rana, Jennifer Sims, Ashley Hazelrig, Debby Herbenick, Nicole Bennett

Guest: Meghan Meyer

Staff Liaison: Sue Owens

Volunteer Recorder: Meghan Meyer

1. Call to Order

- a. Ashley called to order the Regular Meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women at 5:38PM on November 5th, 2020; the meeting was held via Zoom

2. Request for Additional Agenda Items

- a. None

3. For the Good of the Cause

4. Approval of March Minutes

- a. Minutes from October will be reviewed at the December meeting

5. Old Business

- a. 2021 WHM Lunch – March 24, 2021
 - i. Debby reported the first meeting was held with Jenn and Shruti
 1. Date and time to be kept consistent with previous years
 2. Virtual meeting will keep cost down unless speaker or presentation service (Shruti shared platform options)
 3. Speakers will be discussed at next meeting
- b. 2021 WLD Event
 - i. Nana and Landry not present; nothing new to report since last meeting
- c. Legislative Subcommittee
 - i. Nic presented data prepared by Emily Baca compiled from the 2019 Quality of Life Survey
 1. Qualitative results, quantitative results TBD
 2. Results reported age and gender, not race: Emily broke data out further into race and income
 3. Data adjusted/weighted to represent population
 4. Debby state the survey results yielded minimal information and cannot be broken out in meaningful ways and the survey was standardized to compare quality of life across many cities
 5. Large gaps of useful information for commission purposes in survey; Debby suggested that we look for information

from other city departments, United Way, other targeted surveys to explore these issues as this survey wasn't intended to yield this information. Sue and Beverly will compile sources.

- a. Raising children: only 18% of respondents had children
- b. Affordable housing: most respondents rented their homes, most paying more than \$600 on housing
- c. Feelings of Safety: 100% Black, Asian, Indian and Pacific Islanders said they or a member of their family were a victim of crime and were the least likely to report crime to the police, white respondents reported prevention of crime was less important to them
- d. "In another way" respondents indicated that Bloomington is negatively livable
 - i. Nic challenged the wording of this population segment and urged more inclusivity and less offensive language
 - ii. A'ame stated the listening sessions will not be appropriate to plan until results from the survey can be reviewed
 - iii. Jenn said the CEDAW legislation can be a template for legislative change
 - iv. Next meeting November 11th
- d. Listening Session
 - i. Will broaden reach and close the gaps in the survey
 - ii. On hold until survey review is completed
 - iii. Nana provided notes on last meeting held October 30, 2020 at 4:30PM
- e. Jenn asked for feedback on topic: Shackling of incarcerated women during childbirth
 - i. Debby suggested commission reach out to Shelli Yoder and reach out to others who have challenged this legislation as they have the language already developed
 - ii. Shruti volunteered to review data and assist with legal language
 - iii. Jenn has additional resources that can assist with promotion
 - iv. This topic will be further discussed at the next subcommittee meeting

6. Reports from Commissioners

- a. Monroe County Women's Commission Report
 - i. Nicole volunteered to fill seat with additional volunteers to attend when she cannot
- b. High School Liaison
 - i. No update, position open
 - ii. Ashley asked for leads and Jenn will send some information to high school advisors

7. New Business

- a. Sue stated that the commission needs to submit the accomplishments in 2020 and goals for 2021 to the city by the end of the year; Ashley will compile presentation and submit to commission for review

8. Public Input

- a. Jenn asked if the public had access to the commission's Zoom meetings
 - i. The link to the meeting is on the city's calendar and public needs to register and the city staff liaison will monitor room to mitigate "Zoom bombing"

9. Adjournment

- a. Ashley adjourned the meeting at 6:51PM

Minutes submitted by Meghan Meyer