

City of Worcester
Advisory Committee on the Status of Women

Virtual Meeting minutes – Tuesday, March 14, 2023

<https://cow.webex.com/cow/j.php?MTID=mec5f5ee5dbf88ebdea1960bf33c1f400>

Meeting number: 2311 267 6845 Password: G2TmSkhjA32
Call in: 415-655-0001 Access Code: 2311 267 6845
Spanish subtitles were made available over WebEx

Attendance:

Members Present: Esther Boama-Nyarko, Heather Borelli, Amaris Gonzalez, Jennifer Hernandez, Marcia Macri, Samantha Sendrowski

Staff: Jayna Turchek

Call to order

Committeewoman Sendrowski called the meeting to order at 5:50 pm. She welcomed Amaris Gonzalez a new member of the Committee. Quorum was established on a roll call (5/0/0). (Committeewoman Gonzalez arrived late)

Old Business:

Vote on replacement plaque and installation at University Park in advance of the Arbor Day plantings

Discussion about plaque wording:

Liked “In memory of women of violence” would include the plaques of 1993, 1993 and 1997. Leave off the years.

Type of Tree

Ms. Borelli is part native American. Two of the trees on the list have significant meaning for Native Americans: Vase Zelkova meaning protection of family and community and White Oak meaning-peace and calmness.

Location

1. Make every effort to locate the original trees (location)

Would be helpful to have the Committee review this item the agenda every two years in the event that a tree is damaged/dies and/or the plaque is damaged/removed that it can be replaced quicker.

Committeewoman Sendrowski moved to have the plaque read: “Remember the women” and then underneath “in memory of women victims of violence” with a tree type of Vase Zelkova or White Oak if not available and the location as close to the original as possible. Ms. Borelli seconded the motion. Motion approved by roll call (6/0/0).

Committeewoman Sendrowski moved if the tree type or location was not available the committee will authorize Ms. Turchek and Jennifer Hernandez to make alternate decisions if necessary given the quick time period. Ms. Borelli seconded the motion. Motion approved by roll call (6/0/0).

Director Turchek received the following update from Assistant Commissioner Antonelli: The Arbor Day Event will be held in one location, University Park, where the tree planting being discussed today is scheduled to take place. Save the dated have been sent out to city councilors. The mayor and city manager have confirmed attendance. National Grid, Mass. Dept. of Conservation and Recreation and Godard School have also replied affirmatively. She suggested Police Chief Sargent be invited given the given the nature of the tree planting purpose recognizing unsolved crimes against women as part of the program. The Committee agreed.

Hopefully the Committee can be in touch with the family members of the victims who were identified and memorialized in past years to invite them to this event. Committeewoman Hernandez will follow up.

Adjournment

At 6:10pm Committeewoman Sendrowski moved to adjourn. Ms. Borelli seconded the motion. Motion approved by roll call (6/0/0).