

City of Worcester
Advisory Committee on the Status of Women
Meeting Summary
Date: October 7th, 2014
Worcester City Hall, 4th Floor

Members Present: Robin Currie, Sarah Gruhin, Karen Pelletier, Heidi Sue LeBoeuf, Kathy Linton, Jennifer Madson, Athena Haddon

Members Absent: Chantel Bethea, Liz Tomaszewski

Guests: Mr. Serge Mignanwande

Staff: Catherine Nash, Human Rights Specialist, Office of Human Rights and Disabilities

1. Call To Order:

There being a quorum the vice-chair called the meeting to order at 5:34pm

2. Welcome and Introduction:

New Member, Ms. Jennifer Madson spoke of her experience and background and interest in joining the ACSW.

3. Approval of the September 2nd 2014 Minutes:

A motion was made to accept the Minutes by Ms. Pelletier and seconded by Ms. Madson.

4. Guest Speaker – Marianne Sarkis of Clark University, Professor of Women's Studies was unable to make it to the meeting but rescheduled to speak at the next meeting.

5. Pay Equity Public Hearing: assignment of duties for the October public hearing.

The planning grid was reviewed and updates on outreach efforts were provided. The review of upcoming tasks included: Ms. Madson and Ms. Currie to set up, Ms. Bethea to cover audio taping with Ms. Gruhin assisting with the transcribing, Ms. Currie and Ms. Gruhin will review materials and compile packets. At sign in, the registration will capture contacts of attendees, in order to continue invitations to them for future ACSW events. The committee plans to collect the testimony, analyze and prepare recommendations for the City Manager and the State and Worcester County Advisory Committees on the Status of Women. All members will continue their outreach efforts. The Liaison was requested to re-send out all the pertinent Pay Equity Hearing documents to members.

6. Review of the Updated ACSW Brochure:

Committee members discussed updating the ACSW brochure with more recent accomplishments while removing some of the older activities currently listed. Among the additions discussed was to add: members' attendance at the Advocacy Day at the Statehouse, the Older Women's Roundtable event hosted in Worcester in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor Women's Bureau, and the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act focusing on the Pay

Equity issue which took place in July. With contributions from Ms. Madson, Ms. Haddon, and Ms. Pelletier, Ms. LeBoeuf will incorporate those newer statistics into the updated brochure. Members unanimously supported more frequent updates of the brochure, and plan to revise it soon after the Pay Equity public hearing.

7. Review of Young/Women of Consequence proposals/guidelines for the next event:

The compilation of proposed guidelines for the next Young/Women of consequence was reviewed and discussed by the committee members, and will be revised to reflect the committee's inputs along with adding the date the document was finalized.

There was a discussion about ACSW budget or fundraising capabilities. Liaison is to provide documentation showing the ruling that prohibits the committee from fundraising.

8. Commission member input for the next Agenda items:

Items suggested for next month's agenda included: a review of the public hearing proceedings, confirming Dr. Sarkis as guest speaker, and discussion of a budget for ACSW.

9. Announcements of upcoming events :

The End Demand Worcester rally was mentioned taking place at 875 Main Street, the CDC's parking lot at 5:00 on October 8th and is open to the public.

10. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:09pm.