

Edward M. Augustus, Jr.
City Manager



Donna Connolly
Priscilla Elsass
Amanda Gregoire, Vice Chair
Deborah Hall
Ariel Lim, Chairperson
Coretta McCarter
Krystal Vanhorne

City Manager's Advisory Committee on the Status of Women
Tuesday June 4th, 2019, 5:45 PM
Worcester City Hall, Levi Lincoln Chamber 3rd Floor

MEETING SUMMARY

Present: Donna Connolly, Amanda Gregoire, Deborah Hall, Ariel Lim, Coretta McCarter, Priscilla Elsass
Absent: Krystal Vanhorne
Staff: Jayna Turchek

1. Call to order and introductions

2. Review and approval of May 7th, 2019 meeting minutes: Committeewoman Hall motioned to accept as amended, Committeewoman Gregoire seconded, unanimously approved.

3. Old Business- Discussion

A. Discussion of Wonder Women of Worcester Posters

- Committeewoman Gregoire shared that when the mock ups were sent to the printer she was told that the image quality of the photos were inferior and that we may need to continue to search for original and/or higher quality images. The following archives have been searched: public library, city clerk, historical museum, Worcester Women's History Project and family members. Committeewoman Connolly will return to the library for leads on family members
- Committee members agreed to develop series of posters to be unveiled throughout the year. Chairperson Hall suggested approving poster groups of six to be voted on and have the exhibits travel twice a year or quarterly. Proposed locations include: City Hall basement, Women of Consequence Awards, Historical Museum, and public library.
- Criteria for selection. Committeewoman Hall suggested use similar criteria as women of consequence. Committeewoman McCarter offered that posters should not be of anyone under 16. Committeewoman Gregoire volunteered to draft criteria.
- Committeewoman Connolly will proofread and make edits to mock ups.
- All agreed to vote on the group for the first six months at the next meeting.
- Committeewoman Hall recommended preparing alternatives for the first round in case photos of the first list of women can not be located. She recommends Linda Cavaioli from the YWCA and she sent her bio sketch in advance of today's meeting. Committeewoman McCarter recommends Janice Weekes. She will prepare a bio sketch. Also seconds Committeewoman Hall's prior recommendation of Celia Blue. No bio sketch has been prepared for Ms. Blue yet. All agreed to consider Ms. Blue for a subsequent round.



c/o Jayna Turchek, Director of Human Rights & Disabilities
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- Committeewoman Gregoire shared reflection that first grouping came about because of the expressed desire to recognize women breaking the glass ceiling. She suggested that we pursue thematic groupings for wonder women posters.
- Committeewoman Hall agreed we started with women in government.
- Public comment: She would like to put forward a name of a woman in recovery
- Committee discussion that it is important to recognize how women are marginalized. Question posed: “Should we recognize how women are breaking their own glass ceiling?”

B. Planning for August 15th School Committee Candidates Forum

Format discussion:

- Invitations were emailed and mailed. 8 of 13 candidates have confirmed. (5 women and 3 men) . Director Turchek will send out a reminder e mail mid June.
- Director Turchek shared that the Commission on Disability is hosting a forum August 29th and will focus questions on issues of disability and accessibility.
- Format: Committeewoman McCarter will be moderator.
- Agreements of terms of participation will be sent out to candidates in advance along with questions so they can prepare (Director Turchek)
- All agree: It is a forum, not a debate. We want them to prepare their answers.
- Timekeepers. Propose 60-90 seconds answer for each candidate/question. Need very large visible time clock with countdown. Also hear gentle reminders 1 minute....No gotcha moments.
- Should we give each candidate 3 rebuttal cards? Moderator would be in charge of managing.
- Each sponsoring group will have one representative at the table asking questions. (4 sponsoring groups and 1 moderator).
- Will we have audience participation? Questions dropped in basket at the door when entering? No expectation to ask all the questions.
- If someone interrupts do they get their time back? Prepare rules with audience, moderator go over at beginning, no applauding, no cell phones, no taping, tell people who is co-sponsoring at the beginning. No distribution of campaign materials at forum. Share/plug ACSW. (Committeewoman Hall has the outline of guidelines from other organizations who hold forums)
- Do we ask everyone same question? Change order of who answers each question?
- Need to map out time and questions and how many candidates will be answering.
- Break up the questions in groups of 2. It will be boring to hear same/similar answer?
- Committeewoman Elsass suggested to divide questions into themes. First three candidates answer question 1 in each theme, so on and so forth.
- All asked to bring suggestions of themes to next meeting. No more than 3 themes will be decided at next meeting. 3 questions per theme. Diversity and inclusion, gender and race. Is discipline part of a theme?

Questions discussion:

- Committeewoman McCarter wants to ask how candidates will address diversity and equity in WPS that include timeline and follow through.
- Committeewoman Rosales wants to ask about the metrics for addressing diversity and equity; Also, what should the schools do to combat the confidence collapse of girls.

- Committeewoman McCarter will obtain the data from department of education website and share with Committeewomen at next meeting; plan to incorporate data with questions.
- When framing questions ensure it is not multiple questions in one.
- Could we ask audience participants to send in their questions in advance?
- State could be answering question about providing sexual education this summer. Of course it will take a little while for curriculum to be developed.
- Include sexual exploitation in category of questions under health and wellness?
- Agreed to review and decide on questions and then group questions into themes.
- Agreed need to meet twice in July so we are on top of this sooner than later. .
- All agreed next two meetings will have no new agenda items.
- Prior to meeting each member submit two to three clear concise questions. Deadline: June 21 to Director Turchek. Will request same of sponsor organizations so we can review all questions at the same time.

How are we advertising?

- A flyer will not be enough
- Could we create a FB event for this? Director Turchek will inquire
- Committeewoman Connolly brought drafts of the flyer.
- Draft a program booklet. Include bio blurb for each candidate and sponsoring organizations. Also include Malala quote.

4. New Business- Discussion

A. Discussion on Ending Child Marriage legislation

Committeewoman Hall requested item to be added to agenda but wishes to table. Senator Chandler is one of the sponsors. Hall motioned, Donna seconded.

- 5. Suggestions for upcoming agenda items-** Nothing to be added to agendas this summer until after forum.
- 6. Meeting adjourned at 7:20pm Hall, Connolly**