

Edward M. Augustus, Jr.  
City Manager



Heather Borelli  
Priscilla Elsass  
Amanda Gregoire  
Deborah Hall  
Ariel Lim  
Coretta McCarter, Chairperson  
Elisa Rosales, Vice Chair

## Advisory Committee on the Status of Women

### MEETING SUMMARY

**Tuesday December 3, 2019, 5:45 PM**  
Worcester City Hall, Levi Lincoln Chamber

**Present:** Heather Borelli, Priscilla Elsass, Deborah Hall, Ariel Lim, Coretta McCarter, Elisa Rosales  
**Absent:** Amanda Gregoire  
**Staff:** Jayna Turchek

**1. Call to order and introductions at 5:50pm.**

**2. Review and approval of November 11, 2019 meeting minutes:** Committeewoman Elsass motioned to approve as written, Committeewoman Hall seconded. Unanimously approved as written.

**3. Old Business- Discussion**

**A. Update on statue for Main Street**

Che Anderson from the City Manager's Office appeared to provide an update on a proposed statue on Main Street as part of the Main Street Reimagined Project. Main Street Worcester from the federal courthouse (Southbridge St) to the former courthouse (Highland St) is undergoing a redesign. With the new construction will come increased walkability and nodes created for gathering and art. There are three identified nodes with vague themes. The revolution node begins at Mechanic St and there is a space reserved there for a statue.

There has been work done to envision this space. The Worcester Women's History Project worked with Senator Chandler for state money to pay for part of a statue that will be for Abby Kelly Foster. Abby Kelly Foster is from Worcester and lobbied for all women and the right to vote. This is an opportunity to honor Abby Kelly Foster and use it to launch recognition of other women as well.

The pad space is approximately 5'x10'. The City agreed to place a pad to install a statue and additionally a fence was envisioned with a revolution theme. The idea is to tie the statue and fence with the women's revolution and the 1774 revolution.

The City's Public Art Working Group (PAWG) is taking lead and wants ACSW participation/involvement. If members of Committee (part of whole) want to be part of jury to select, let him know. They intend to put out a request for proposals to the community hopefully by the beginning of the new year. They want to be able to finish project in 2020.

Discussion:

Can we create a mural that represents more diverse women representation?

→Main Street lends itself better to physical form. Fence could be akin to a mural.

c/o Jayna Turchek, Director of Human Rights & Disabilities  
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**B. Plan for 2020 Woman and Young Woman of Consequence Awards**

o **Marketing and outreach:**

The applications are live on google forms accessible via the city’s webpage, City of Worcester official FB page (ACSW event has been set up), Health and Human Services FB page, circulated through constant contact community email distribution account, and over city and member emails.

Chairperson McCarter will attempt to spread word over Twitter and Instagram accounts.

All are encouraged to use social media platforms to post, share and tag.

o **Update program content (keynote, performers)**

Next month we will review roles and assignments for members at event so all are involved and prepared.

Director Turchek has not received a response from the list of suggestions last month and will follow up with the Mayor’s office who is assisting with the requests. Members brainstormed potential keynotes speakers. Could we tie in Worcester women who ran for office this last election? Keynote confirmation will drive theme.

If the new City of Worcester Poet Laureate and Youth Poet Laureate are women it was agreed it would be a great idea to have them perform in the program.

The event will include the presentation of the Wonder Women of Worcester posters and honorees and their family members should be invited.

The Committee discussed how to involve more young women in the event and a suggestion for a poetry contest was introduced. All agreed to further discuss as the next meeting.

**C. Finalize strategic plan and consensus on major agenda items for FY20 meetings**

- Agendas for meetings leading up to event are full.

**D. Update and finalize series 1 of Wonder Women of Worcester Poster Exhibit**

The Committee discussed and reviewed the list of women for series 1. There was disagreement about who were in the final series and when the votes took place. Committeewoman Elsass motioned to include Maritza Cruz and Sarai Rivera, Vice Chairperson Rosales seconded, all in favor.

Committeewoman Hall objected that Konstantina Lukes had been voted on previously so another vote for the entire list was conducted. Committeewoman Hall motioned to vote individually for each woman on list. Chairperson McCarter seconded and initiated voting.

	(yes, no, abstain)	
Sara Robertson	6-0-0	
Barbara Sinnott	6-0-0	
Mary Scano	6-0-0	
Elizabeth Price	6-0-0	
Maritza Cruz	6-0-0	
Stacey Luster	6-0-0	
Sarai Rivera	6-0-0	
Konstantina Lukes	5-1*-0	*= Committeewoman Hall

Committeewoman Elsass requested Committeewoman Hall send her pictures and bios of Ms. Cruz and Ms. Rivera. Priscilla’s intern will be extended an invite to attend event.

Committeewoman Hall will contact Maritza Cruz, Sarai Rivera, family of Betty Price, and Stacey Luster to extend invitations to event. Chairperson McCarter will extend invite to the remaining honorees.

**4. Meeting adjourned at 7:34pm** (Motioned by Committeewoman Rosales, seconded by Committeewoman Elsass)