

**City of Worcester
Advisory Committee on the Status of Women
Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, March 5, 2024

Levi Lincoln Chamber, City Hall, 455 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608

[Teams Meeting Link](#)

Meeting ID: 227 862 949 380 Passcode: aqf4iN

Call in: 469-998-7682 Access Code: 141 531 054

Spanish subtitles were made available over Teams

Attendance

Members Present: Amaris Gonzalez

Members Present Virtually: Esther Boama-Nyarko, Abby Doyle, Marcia Macri, Taylor Rich, Katie Roy

Staff: Samantha Sendrowski

Call to order

Chair Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 5:50 pm. Quorum was established on a roll call (6/0/0).

Review and approval of December 5, 2023 meeting minutes

Chair Gonzalez made a motion to approve the December 5, 2023 meeting minutes. Vice Chair Rich seconded the motion. Unanimously approved on roll call (6/0/0).

Planning for 2024 Women of Consequence Awards

- *Plan run of show:* Reviewed the draft Run of Show document (included as an exhibit to these minutes), and edited real-time. Decided to add in a performance by Ritmo's for an arts component. Committee Member Roy to reach out to Ritmo's to see if they are able to perform. For networking, discussed having a board in the back of the room with a prompt related to "What's Does Trailblazing through Mentorship Mean to You?". Chair Gonzalez motioned to approve the run-of-show. Committee Member Macri seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call (6/0/0). Committee Member Macri will not be able to attend the ceremony. Committee Member Doyle may not be able to attend the ceremony.
- *Review scoring and vote on this year's awardees:* Staff Liaison Sendrowski shared the scoring data. The Committee has been sent the candidate scoring for the Young Women of Consequence Award and the Women of Consequence is coming shortly. Because the awardee has to be present at the ceremony there should be a chosen candidate and an alternate. Staff Liaison Sendrowski noted that there were some candidates left blank. She requested that everyone verify whether they intended to leave them blank due to conflict of interest. Chair Gonzalez and Committee Member Doyle added in the score for the candidates they left blank by accident.

Based on the scoring, Chair Gonzalez moved to recommend candidate 7 as the Woman of Consequence with candidate 32 as the alternative, and candidate 9 as the Young Woman of Consequence with candidate 4 as the alternative. Committee Member Roy seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call (6/0/0).

- *Refreshments:* Water and soda. Wrapped cookies with the Committee name. Staff Liaison Sendrowski to get quotes from women-owned businesses in Worcester, including Taste Great

Cakes. Chair Gonzalez motioned to approve refreshments. Committee Member Roy seconded. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call (6/0/0).

Discussion on recruiting new committee members

- Committee Member Macri recommended starting by reaching out to individual networks. Chair Gonzalez offered to put together an email template that can be used to send to individuals after discussing joining the committee with them.
- Committee Member Macri discussed potentially reaching out to universities, or having Committee Members speak to local groups. The group discussed that they may require a time commitment they can't meet.
- The Committee would like to leverage social media more, and to post through the City's accounts. Committee Member Roy offered to put together a graphic that includes a QR code to share on social media.
- The Committee asked if there are any rules about speaking about the Committee in the community. Committee Member Boama-Nyarko shared that the onboarding process to become a committee member takes several months, and that may be a deterrent to recruiting. Chair Gonzalez recommended having a representation from the Citizen Advisory Council attend the next meeting to discuss how the Committee can partner on recruitment efforts.
- Committee Member Macri would like to more prominently feature women in the City, and suggested having banners on street poles near City Hall of past Women of Consequence. She mentioned the Wonder Women of Worcester poster project that was done in 2021 as a similar project, and wanted to know the budget. Staff Liaison Sendrowski to provide information at the next meeting.

Adjournment at 7:20pm

Next meeting Tuesday March 5, 2024, 5:45pm.

Lead topic: Finalize preparations for the Women of Consequence Awards Ceremony, and discuss recruiting