



Meeting Minutes  
November 28, 2017

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) convened for its regular monthly meeting at 6:00 p.m. on the above date in Room 101H at the Greensboro Cultural Arts Center, with Chair Deborah Goddard presiding.

Present: Chair Deborah Goddard, Vice Chair Joyce Jasper-Morant, Commissioners Michelle Lucas-Patrick, Wendee Cutler, Lailani Bullock, Fanta Dorley

Absent: Commissioners Brenda White, Catherine Sevier

Council Liaison: Marikay Abuzuaiter

HRC Liaison:

Human Relations Department Staff: Love Crossling, Jodie Stanley

Visitors: Laura Tew, Karla Comer, Dahlia Ashford, Mica Bulliox

I. Call to Order

Chair Goddard called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

II. Moment of Silent Meditation

Chair Goddard called for a moment of silent meditation.

III. Introduction of Visitors and Speakers

Chair Goddard welcomed newest Commissioner Bullock and congratulated Council Member Abuzuaiter and thanked her for her support, adding that she was hopeful that Council Member Abuzuaiter would continue to support the work of CSW. Goddard welcomed Karla Comer with the YWCA and invited her to speak. Comer shared that YWCA stood for the Young Women's Christian Association, highlighting the work of the Passion to Purse program, a free 8 week program focused on women's entrepreneurship. The program included free childcare, free rental space in the building to host their business, use of the kitchen for bakery initiatives, mentorship and coaching, and a small interest-free loan program. To date,

they had success stories that had been featured in “Made in Greensboro” and other publications. While their program was successful, they were still looking for diversified candidates to apply. It was offered three times annually, and each candidate could apply online. Applications were reviewed by the committee and invited in for an interview. Once vetted, an offer was extended for the 8 week program. She distributed a flyer with more information about the program.

Goddard asked if there was a cap on attendance. Comer stated that yes, they tried to keep the class size to 12, although in the past, if they had uniquely qualified candidates, they had bumped it up to 15. Goddard shared that she had met Comer at the last CSW event at the Nussbaum Center and that she was looking forward to learning more about their work at the YWCA and partnering.

Goddard invited the members of the AAUW to share about their work. Laura introduced her associates, current AAUW president Libby Haile and Lena Murrill-Chapman. She shared a brief background and history of the AAUW, noting that it was their desire to collaborate with local initiatives to encourage pay equity for women. Based on 2016 data, NC ranked 18<sup>th</sup> in the nation in pay equity, with women on average making only 82% of what men made. She thanked CSW for their support of their work, sharing about the first pilot of their efforts to address the pay equity gap, hosted by NC Works, then a program hosted at the United Congregational Church of Christ, and a third hosted at the Women’s Resource Center. She noted that Commissioner Lucas Patrick was a certified trainer and congratulated her on this achievement.

She shared upcoming events, one to be held at Central Library. Goddard asked if there was any feedback received from participants. Tew responded with anecdotal evidence, sharing that one participant was employed by a local college or university. Because of the training, the participant learned that she did not have to disclose her former salary, which at times could be detrimental to obtaining a fair salary. Because of the knowledge she received, she was able to successfully negotiate a higher salary.

She also shared that the national AAUW administration had sent out a survey to those who had attended the trainings, but the results of that survey were not available yet. Tew went on to note that their upcoming program would be targeted towards Hispanic/Latino women. Goddard requested an electronic copy of the handout Tew had provided. Goddard thanked them for their hard work, partnership and research.

#### IV. Committee Reports

##### Chair Report

Chair Goddard thanked the commissioners for their hard work, and noted that their December meeting would be held December 19 instead of on the fourth Tuesday because of the holiday. She offered to support in planning any programs that they were working on.

Goddard shared that she had been asked how they could get a visitor on the agenda. She asked commissioners to simply share with her, by the Thursday before the meeting, the name of the person, their role and their intent.

##### Domestic Violence Committee:

Commissioner White was not in attendance.

Education Committee:

Commissioner Lucas-Patrick noted that she was committed to getting a date for the program, asking if a Saturday in April would work. Dr. Crossling responded that it would be important to determine the nature of the program in order to know what type of staff support was needed. Comer offered that the YWCA might be a good location and they would open for the program. Lucas-Patrick thanked Comer and agreed that it would be good to hold the event at the YWCA.

Women and Equality Committee

Chair Goddard announced that this committee chair position was still vacant.

Health Committee:

Commissioner Sevier was absent.

Services to the Aging

Commissioner Jasper-Morant noted that their committee was meeting very successfully and looking at an event for either March or April, they were working on speakers for the event, and would get in touch with Jodie Stanley when marketing was needed.

Leadership Through Service Committee

Chair Goddard shared that she had two pending projects, one with the YWCA at the Y the first week in May, and another on February 6 that was focused on leadership. Based on their activities and conversation they had about 12 programs on deck for the coming year.

Staff Report

Dr. Crossling thanked the commission for the incredible work they were doing, and their level of organization and productivity. She invited all to sit down with staff to help develop their programming. She welcomed new commissioners, and shared again that once ideation had taken place, that it was important to sit down and brief staff on plans.

Dr. Crossling shared the commission retreat feedback, covering the survey results gleaned from those who had chosen to provide it. She shared upcoming events, including the MLK event on January 15, the Housing Senior Populations event, as well as the Fair Housing Month Luncheon on Thursday, April 19, 2018, which based on HUD guidance, would be focused on victims of domestic violence.

VI. Approval of Minutes

Cutler offered two corrections: Under Chair Report, page two, BJH Foundation for Senior Services, and on page 4, under Approval of Minutes, there was a spelling error, there should only be one “m” in Emanuel.

Motion to Approve the October Minutes as Amended

Motion 1<sup>st</sup>: Commissioner Cutler

Motion 2<sup>nd</sup>: Commissioner Lucas-Patrick

Unanimous approval

Chair Goddard asked if there were any other announcements, noting that there was an upcoming United Way event on January 6. Goddard invited visitors to introduce themselves. Mica Bulliox introduced herself as intern with the Human Relations Department.

Goddard invited Council Member Abuzuaiter to share anything. Council Member Abuzuaiter thanked Goddard but declined, stating that she did not have any comments prepared, but she was thankful for their work.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

Motion 1<sup>st</sup>: Commissioner Lucas-Patrick

Motion 2<sup>nd</sup>: Commissioner Jasper-Morant

Unanimous approval

Chair Goddard adjourned the meeting at 6:59 pm.

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Chairperson  
COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date