



Meeting Minutes

June 26, 2018

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 Center, with Chair Deborah Goddard presiding.

Present: Commissioners Goddard, Lucas-Patrick, Jasper-Morant, Sevier, Dorley, Walston, Bullock

Absent: Commissioner Cutler

Council Liaison: Marikay Abuzuaiter

HRC Liaison: n/a

Human Relations Department Staff: Love Crossling, Mica Bailey (I), Itane Coleman (I)

Visitors: Laura O'Neal, Karen Rhodes (regular attendee), Joy Lough

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 addressed new faces in the room and allowed them to represent themselves. Laura O'Neal introduced herself to the committee as a clinical social worker working in Greensboro. Karen Rhodes presented herself. Itane Coleman introduced herself as a second time attendee but a current intern for the summer semester at the City of Greensboro's Human Relations Department. Joy Lough introduced herself to the committee as a participant of the Education form and states her invite today through Michelle.

IV. Committee Reports

Chair Reports

Chair Goddard gave a brief overview of potential programming models after speaking in a vision and forecasting meeting with Dr. Crossling. She also addressed a data set regarding the state of employment with women in our city. She further addressed the need to review the calendar and determine whether or not to have a July meeting. Chair Goddard stated when to get together with the entire group and how to attain topics by perhaps getting feedback from people participating in the Women's Equality day breakfast, allowing feedback for topics they may want to hear more about to be pulled in by survey. Based on what attendees say, they will try to accommodate and stick to some topics they suggest. Trends assessment to be facilitated by Dr. Crossling in the City to create programming around some trends. A series style approach may be appropriate as it has been done across the HRD.

Chair Goddard attended a meeting with the NC Women's Council in which she was made aware of a press release done by them surrounding four particular areas or trends being looked at on behalf of women in North Carolina. The press release specifically focused on employment for women. As details arise on trends, Chair Goddard will keep the commission updated. Chair Goddard stated that they may not meet in July as traveling occurs during that time and typically they do not meet, but that a decision can be made at the end of the meeting as things are being finalized with the W.E.D. She explained that the work done so far allows them to accomplish 10 programs with two programs upcoming, the health and wellness committee, the domestic violence committee and indeed the breakfast. She acknowledged the fall retreat to put on calendars referencing Dr. Crossling's advice to have programs that can be done with applicable resources for efficiency, not that programming cannot be done. Mentioned when doing requests for photos to be taken if it is possible to ensure photos are documented at events to allow others to see the work that is being done as well as show the community that attends the events. Stated to inform when someone has not been appointed to take photos so that someone can take photos at the events.

Chair goes on to state Ruth Ricker project contribute to women has been headed by parks and recreation. Ruth Ricker a woman who donated a million dollars to ensure a facility to be created in Barber Park for women to be recognized for the work they have done. A meeting will be forthcoming to decide who will be a part of it. States she has been going because Ruth Ricker loved CSW and she stated before her passing in reference to the funds she left if someone from CSW would be seated at the table of the planning process when the facility was to be built. She states she was unaware of course but that she just wanted to keep CSW updated on their role in it so far.

Domestic Violence Committee:

Commissioner Bullock had no new report. Stated she will be reaching out next week to possible speakers for the purple tree lighting in October in honor of domestic violence month. Chair Goddard made a note to remember that they have not narrowed down the date for the Purple Tree lighting as it is not always held in October. Chair Goddard went on to explain the Purple tree lighting and made note that Commissioner Bullock will be in charge of that event.

Education and Equality Committee:

No new update. Any programs that proceed will not occur until after the W.E.D. breakfast. Chair Goddard explains how the W.E.D. breakfast has been a part of CSW and that tasks were delegated to different Commissioners, therefore if Commissioner Sevier could give an update on the speaker for this year's breakfast.

Chair Goddard stated interest from people having asked her about tickets for the event. Jane Fernandes will be the speaker for this year's breakfast as stated by Commissioner Sevier. Commissioner Sevier states that Jane Fernandes the President of Guilford College is very excited to be chosen to speak at this year's breakfast. Her speech will be based on "Now is the time." Sevier stated Fernandes is on board with all of the logistics of the program. Sevier goes on to explain Fernandes' back story and various topics she has spoken on. Currently working on seating arrangements for the program for her as well. She has not asked for an honorarium for speaking at this program and that we should respond to that and also acknowledge her birthday as it is the same week of the program. Sevier sent Jodie, Deborah and Joyce her biography and picture for the program. Sevier mentions it was not clarified how long she will be speaking and that we should inform her of this. Chair Goddard and Dr. Crossling stated that the speech should be around twenty five minutes with a grace period to reach a maximum of 30 minutes. Sevier stated that she will inform Fernandes of the timeframe of the speech and acknowledged once more Jane's excitement for being asked. Chair Goddard stated that we should gather some form of a gift and at least do something kind for someone not asking for an honorarium.

Chair Goddard stated that she is gathering information on an individual to present a monologue, she referenced Dr. Crossling stating she may know of some young ladies that may be able to speak a monologue or Josephus for spoken word. Chair Goddard stated it was a goal to get some younger faces to perform. She mentioned that things need to be finalized for the event concerning the flyer with the title of the event primarily. Feedback was asked at this point to be given. A decision was put forth to determine the theme for the program this year. "Seize the moment, now is the time" was favorable to be determined as the title. Commissioners go back and forth at this time to discuss the theme. Dr. Crossling gives advice on the theme to be chosen stating a main theme to be chosen and then incorporating a theme for the year to be incorporated into the event. "Seize the moment now is the time" was chosen and will be implemented into the end of the program during closing remarks by Dr. Crossling. Chair Goddard discusses the time at which they decide to convene and decorate the event. Dr. Crossling mentions the logistics of décor for the program. Main colors were discussed by Chair Goddard as purple, silver, white, and cream concerning last year's program as well as helping set up and remove the décor after the event. Girl scouts were mentioned in order to service the event as one Commissioner mentioned seeing Gale Rose at a church service and she stated to that Commissioner that they planned to be engaged in the breakfast. Chair Goddard states that she did reply back insinuating an email, but she had been talking with Gale in order to confirm their presence. Commissioner stated that she was so excited to be invited again. Chair Goddard states that she also mentioned to Gale that there may be a new set of Girl Scouts chosen this year, but she will reach back out to her to confirm.

Chair Goddard discusses the breakfast concerning tickets that usually go out, she challenges each chair to get others to buy tables for the breakfast. An early bird special was discussed to be implemented. Dr. Crossling clarifies why tickets are not usually considered to be purchased in advance discussing Marion Davis as opening advance tickets for six weeks only in advance. Dr. Crossling discussed the table differences and to think of the sizing of tables for this year's breakfast concerning the audience being able to see and hear the speaker. Discusses her and Jodie will check out the venue for table positioning as it did get crowded last year. Commissioner Patrick asks about screens for this year's program and if it would incur a cost to have more. Dr. Crossling states that the facility does not have drop screens but concerning additional costs they brought their own equipment, however the equipment would need to be wired through the event space system in efforts to show the speaker on a screen as last year the screen

was only brought in effort to showcase a presentation. Dr. Crossling states they would also have to involve film crew from GTN if filming was to occur. She notated it as duly noted but they will inquire about putting her on a screen. Chair_Goddard discusses the success of having strategic planning put in place with a speaker and date being done in a timely manner. Chair Goddard motions to move forward as the Health and Wellness committee had an awesome program.

Health and Wellness Committee:

Commissioner Jasper states how they were pleased with the turn out of the event, “50 plus forum.” People gave feedback as to the comments that were made by participants. Some new suggestions were made concerning bringing awareness to or information on police concerning personal safety tips, Medicaid, and making the event more informative for the elderly as well as attaining more information on reverse mortgaging. States how committee support did help by working as a team. Looking forward to the event on September 27th. The topic at that event will be, “Stand sharp and Mentally Healthy.” Timeframe was asked by Chair Goddard, Commissioner Jasper responded that it be on a Thursday from 9am to 1pm. Commissioner Sevier discusses the vendor selection that came out to the event and the feedback that they received as vendors felt welcomed and are interested in coming back. A total of the attendees were over 130. Chair Goddard stated a former commissioner Vicki Henry mentioned to her how wonderful the event was as well.

Women Leading through Service Committee:

Chair Goddard heard back from Carla Kohmer with the YWCA and Carla responded via email that she did not want to pursue the “Passion of Purse” program at the moment because of so much she had going on. “Passion of the Purse” was described and some information on future events they have outside of the program was passed along. Although the YWCA is offering the “Passion of the Purse classes” in August, Carla reached out to Chair Goddard to inform her that she has become overwhelmed and therefore is reluctant to say the “Passion of Purse” program with CSW will not convene for the moment. Chair Goddard mentioned a conversation between her and Dr. Crossling to work with Volvo in which an event or program may take place concerning leadership and employment. Chair Goddard calls for Staff Report by Dr. Crossling as well as for her to discuss her role and position in Human Relations in connection to CSW. This was done to clarify for all guests in attendance.

V. Staff Report

Dr. Crossling states that they did not provide a written staff report as there were only two topics of discussion taking place and today would be an opportunity familiarize everyone with upcoming opportunities. The Women’s Leadership Board by way of Volvo headed by Blanca who Dr. Crossling met at the Women’s Leadership Summit where she was a guest speaker, opened a door for discussion between herself and Blanca about different topics that can be taken back to the body of CSW for partnering in programs to become more civically engaged and leave a footprint in the city. Women In nontraditional profession settings was a theme discussed. They discussed how to empower women in the local arena to concern themselves with engineering especially those on the collegiate level for business and science and engineering. Dr. Crossling recommended having conversations by way of CSW that may bridge into internships for colleges. A discussion of how a relationship could work for both bodies was

discussed in which both parties will discuss separately with their respective constituents any ideas in order to move forward collectively. She will be getting back to the CSW about getting everyone together.

A reference back to Chair Goddard and Dr. Crossling's meeting was discussed concerning themes that can turn into series forums for consistent branding for the commission outside of other regularly planned programming. Looking at the assessment of trends that impact women is one element in which she will look into to bring to Chair Goddard by which they will travel back to the CSW committees. Dr. Crossling asks if they can use the topics for inspiration or sparks of interest to build anything from themes that are liked. Chair Goddard asks about the retreat process and any updates. Crossling discusses a new process in which the chairs will be in charge of submitting timeframes through polling for which they can have the retreat. She states that July is usually the timeframe in which the retreat occurs and goes on to explain how the retreat process has been chosen. States she will be referring back to Jodie in order to determine the process and the date as the staff have to determine the official date respectively. Statements concerning last year's retreat and how it was made collectively among staff and the commission was due to relevance of events in the City such as the Folk Festival which takes one weekend off the calendar to plan. The retreat is deemed to be in October so far.

Dr. Crossling also stated a new practice to be put forth as old commissioners should try to assimilate any new program ideas to correlate with new commissioners coming aboard. As new commissioners roll in and out of the CSW, they need to be able to fold into existing program plans because they will feel pressures to come up with new ideas but in turn that may jumble the calendar. This is encouraged so as to also not put too much pressure on new members, but can be made aware of any programs to assist and help and join committees. Chair Goddard discusses the absence of calendars for CSW concerning other programming. Crossling discusses why calendars have not been necessarily implemented with other commissions as other commissions do not absolutely have a calendar in place due to a lack of events and programs but Staff have been working on a way to improve their programming as it has taken a slower pace this year. Crossling went on to discuss the changing staff placement within the Human Relations department and how offerings for meeting capacity does change due to limited staff, however Staff is moving forward with individuals now a part Staff to assist where necessary. Dr. Crossling mentions the IAC that has adopted a system of which to follow for meetings and engage the community concerning events.

Commissioner Jasper asks Crossling about protocol for asking for letters in relationship to giving a note to their boss. Commissioner Jasper explains the type of letter that she is referring to, from which Crossling asked this question. Crossling discusses that getting the letters in response to receiving service hours with employers is possible and goes on to explain this process is up to the Commissioners on who to get the letter from. It was deemed to be appropriate to get it with the CSW letterhead or Human Relations Department letterhead. Chair Goddard discusses that someone was working closely on a project however they were in need of the letter but did not know the process to get one. It was explained that the signature and letterhead was the main concern at hand because individuals were confused as to whether or not Jodie was a commissioner or Staff when signing of on some items as well as Marion being deemed to sign off on some items. Crossling discusses how the signature can be taken care of to "sign off" on any letter heads with Chair Goddard deemed to give the "approval" of it.

Chair Goddard asks if anyone has any remarks. Commissioner Sevier states if it would be possible for Blanca to be asked to purchase a table or chairs at the breakfast as a way for her to meet everyone. Chair Goddard says that if you want a table that Marion can put a table in your name. A discussion of how to fill tables at the breakfast was discussed in which Marion was referenced to be able to fill any chairs at tables that cannot be filled by Commissioners. It was asked how soon Blanca would be able to purchase a ticket in efforts for them all to meet her at the breakfast. Dr. Crossling stated she will be following up with Blanca to see how soon.

Council Liaison Mary-Kay Abuzuaiter mentioned the Ruth Ricker tribute explains people who have been active in the community or played a role in the process of the program will be present as the tribute is not just secluded to women seen every day but to other key players in the community that may be unknown but impactful. She thanks the commissioners for giving her the card after her mother passed away. Chair Goddard clarifies with Council Liaison Abuzuaiter the tribute as being individuals as well as groups that will be recognized. Chair Goddard says she put in a nomination for CSW as it has been a group of diverse women playing roles in their community for many years.

VI. Approval of Minutes

Motion to Approve the May Minutes

Motion 1st: Commissioner Lucas-Patrick

Motion 2nd: Commissioner Jasper-Morant

Unanimous approval

VII. Announcements

Commissioner Dorley asked about a follow-up concerning the quality of water not having fluoride. Crossling states that the Council will receive in about a week an actual request. It will be packaged a certain way as it is not on behalf of CSW and as to respect the two different bodies in their request as this topic was presented before them. She also states the Human Relations Commission as putting forth a motion to ask the Council to put forth responsibility of when and if to process water for fluoridation. There will be an assessment done if or when this goes forward. Chair Goddard states that Naples sent her an email stating a thank you for allowing her to present on fluoridation.

Commissioner Sevier discusses news about AARP researching dementia and investing in the topic thereof concerning the impact on whole families with 60 million dollars. States there is a new opportunity to start thinking about it now as the community becomes engaged with this new news. States that the commissioners should check out the AARP website in efforts to be informed. Commissioner Sevier asks about Commissioner Brenda White in which Chair Goddard addresses Brenda White as being a former Commissioner as she will not be a part of the commission due to a health challenge and to notate Commissioner Cutler's absence. Chair Goddard states that cards on behalf of the group were sent out to Commissioner White. Chair Goddard takes note to mention a vacancy to occur at some point and council will determine who will be appointed based on district needs. She reminded everyone that there is typically two individuals serving from two districts and therefore someone new may come aboard.

A motion by Chair Goddard to not have a July meeting was made, however she informed the commission as to many emails will be sent out to inform the commissioners of updates and any changes in absence of the July meeting. Chair Goddard states with everyone agreeing to no July meeting that there will be no meeting. Chair Goddard revisits the W.E.D. breakfast and asks if anyone knows of someone that can play an instrument for the opening of the breakfast, preferably female, as she is unsure if the current entertainment will come. She states if they can come for free if possible but can play for 30 minutes. No response from Commissioners, Chair Goddard moves forward with adjournment.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

Motion 1st: Commissioner Lucas-Patrick

Motion 2nd: Commissioner Jasper-Morant

Unanimous approval

Chair Goddard adjourned the meeting at 7:06 pm.

Chairperson
COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Approved: _____
Date