**Montgomery County Commission for Women**

Thursday, November 12, 2020

7:00 P.M. ---On-line meeting via Zoom

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Attending** | **Not Attending** | **Guests** |
| Nicole Drew - President  Donna Rojas - 1st Vice President  Diana Rubin - 2nd Vice President  Tiffany Boiman - Recording Secretary  Tazeen Ahmad  Isabel Argoti  Mona-Lee Belizaire  Tonia Bui  Arlinda Clark  Ijeoma Enendu  Patti Maclay  Angela Whitehead Quigley  Diana Rubin  Tricia Swanson  Meredith Weisel  **Staff**  Jodi Finkelstein  **Intern**  Rose Allen | Mona-Lee Belizaire  Tonia Bui  Chai Shenoy  Tricia Swanson | Tondalayo Royster |

**MINUTES**

**I.         WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**  (Guests should introduce themselves)

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA Commissioner Drew**

* The Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm
* Edits to October minutes: Commissioner Maclay noted that the reference to Delegate Sara Love under Policy and Legislation should include a reference to Lobby Day; also, Chai Shenoy did not attend the last meeting. Under Program Planning, in bullet 4, should be a lower case “a”
* Commissioner Clark moved to amend the minutes and accept the agenda as presented.

**III.        EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT Commissioner Drew**

1. Listening Tour Update:

* Per President Drew, the final sessions will take place next week, and she asked commissioners to participate in some way. Next steps will include compiling the notes in a central location/report.

1. Advisory Committee:

* Commissioner Rubin offered the possibility of creating an Advisory Committee with CFW applicants who weren’t selected to serve on the Commission from the last two cycles. This group could be helpful with various volunteer activities and perhaps on the Health priority, per Commissioner Drew.
* Commissioner Maclay recommended having a separate youth advisory program.
* However, convening an Advisory Committee requires a designated Commissioner to serve as the official liaison to the group.
* Commissioner Whitehead Quigley reminded the group that Commissioners have been working to establish a Youth Advisory Group as an extension of the Emerging Leaders group.
* Commissioner Clark advocated for having a topical focus, which is a prerequisite for a traditional advisory group.
* Commissioner Clark and Maclay agreed to support the early legwork, alongside Commissioner Rubin.

1. MLAW complimentary ticket:

* President Drew sought interested commissioners for the complementary ticket to the MLAW convening over the weekend.

**IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT Executive Director Finkelstein**

1. Annual Report Reminder
2. Program Manager Position: Executive Director Finkelstein thanked Commissioner Argoti for her assistance and will be checking references before extending an offer
3. Diaper and Baby Formula Drive: HHS needs diapers and baby formula and before a procurement can be secured, ED Finkelstein suggested individuals could make donations at various service hubs. They are set up with appropriate social distancing and public health precautions. Executive Director Finkelstein will circulate to the Commission and will check to see if Commissioners can leverage social/social media networks to publicize with the broader community and find out the times the hubs are open. Commissioner Ahmad also offered her Wheaton food distribution location as an alternative to the hubs, and she could distribute supplies to the hubs from there.
4. Sock drive for women in the county correctional facility: Commissioner Rojas will provide her address so that Commissioners can send socks directly to her.
5. Commissioner Enendu will send out an email with the instructions for the Crisis Center donations for November. Per Commissioner Drew, it might be worth it to develop a google form to self-report donations for annual report, etc. Commissioner Clark advocated for this kind of tracking to document results. Per Commissioner Ahmad, using her organization as a hub might be a way to track donations from the public that come through CFW.

**V.        COMMITTEE REPORTS (All Committees to provide a brief report)**

a. Policy and Legislation **Commissioners Rubin/Boiman**

* Per Commissioner Rubin, after the MLAW conference, the committee will decide quickly on bills to present to the full Commission.

b. Program Planning **Commissioner** **Enendu**

* No report other than donations.

c. Budget **(Chair needed)**

* President Drew moved that the Commission ratify the $100 MLAW sponsorship. There were no objections; the motion carried.

      d. Research and Evaluation **(Chair needed)**

* President Drew noted need for members and chair

e. Emerging Leaders **Commissioners Belizaire/Weisel**

* No report

f. Public Relations **Commissioner Argoti**

* No report

g. WLB **Commissioner** **Rojas/Swanson**

* Commissioner Rojas shared that the theme is “Beyond 2020: Advocating with Strength for Equality and Justice”
* Executive Director Finkelstein explained that she issued a request for proposals to solicit a vendor to assist with this year’s WLB.
* The President’s Reception will run from 11:00 am to 12:15 pm, with the program beginning at 12:30 pm. The keynote speaker will hail from the response community on the Covid-19 pandemic.
* The running time will be four hours, and will include: panel plenary, and four breakout sessions: Economic and Social Justice, Safety and Security, Healthcare Impacts and Disparities and Education. The WLB will conclude with a panel/video on women breaking glass ceilings.
* Prince George’s County will host its first legislative briefing this year, and might serve as another forum to discuss items that the WLB isn’t able to cover.
* The ticket price for 2021 will be $20 until January 17 and will go up to $30 after January 17. Emerging Leaders tickets will be $5. Commissioner Drew recommended pushing out the early bird registration deadline. Even in the absence of food and other logistical concerns that recommend earlier registrations, there are log in and capacity considerations that make earlier registrations desirable.
* $15-20K has been budgeted for this year’s event.

**VI.       LIAISON REPORTS (All liaisons to provide a brief report)**

1. MLAW                                                                                      **Commissioner** **Rubin**

* No report

1. HTPC/DV                                                                                **Commissioners Rojas/Drew**

* No report for HTPC, per Commissioner Rojas.
* For DVCC, per Commissioner Drew, there are several different sub-committees, to include Respect Fest. They have talked about assimilating addiction services into the roster of services. They are considering the possibility of drafting anonymous notes of encouragement to affected children and issuing gift cards. The county has witnessed a decrease in DV reports, but an increase in strangulation incidents.
* Per Commissioner Whitehead Quigley, Respect Fest meeting took place this week with a recap of the IG Takeover to talk about DV in relationships, targeted to teens. The video contest is ongoing, and they are trying to schedule an event for the springtime, as well as something in February for Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month.

1. Maryland Commission for Women                                           **Executive Director Finkelstein**

* They are seeking nominations for Hall of Fame recipients.

1. Choose Respect (Respectfest)                                              **Commissioner** **Whitehead Quigley**

* See HTPC/DV notes above.

1. Community Health Needs Assessment Adv. Committee **Commissioner** **Maclay**

* The group met on October 30 and will meet monthly thereafter.

**VII. AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS (All ad hoc committees to provide a brief report)**

1. CFW Scholarship                                                                      **Commissioners** **Maclay/Argoti**

* CFW didn’t generate enough money this year to put money in the fund; Commissioner Maclay will clarify the details.

1. Social Committee                                                                     **Commissioner** **Rojas**

* No report.

1. By-Laws **Commissioner** **Drew**

* No report.

**VIII. Old Business**

a. Strategic Planning

**IX. New Business/Announcements**

* Executive Director Finkelstein would like to resurrect routine birthday greetings and asked commissioners to send her the month and day of their respective birthdays; no year
* The County Executive revised the Executive Order regarding pandemic related activity, and the governor held a pandemic-related press conference today but didn’t announce any changes.

**X. Adjourn**

* Commissioner Weisel moved a motion to adjourn; Commissioner Rojas seconded.
* The meeting adjourned at 8:19 pm