**Montgomery County Commission for Women**

Thursday, January 9, 2020

7:00 P.M.

**Minutes**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Attending** | **Not Attending** | **Guests** |
| Nicole Drew - President  Donna Rojas - 1st Vice President  Tiffany Boiman - Recording Secretary  Isabel Argoti  Mona-Lee Belizaire  Tonia Bui  Ijeoma Enendu  Patti Maclay  Giulia McPherson  Adrienne Prentice  Angela Whitehead Quigley  Meredith Weisel  **Staff**  Jodi Finkelstein  Lucy Font | Tazeen Ahmad  Diana Rubin - 2nd Vice President  Tricia Swanson |  |

**I.         WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

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

* Themeeting was called to order at 7:05 pm. President Drew moved a motion to adopt agenda; added a new business item, called “activity,” time permitting; Commissioner Maclay moved; and Commissioner McPherson seconded.
  + In the December 2019 minutes, “is there” needs to be removed at the top of the fourth page. Commissioner Whitehead Quigley moved as amended; Commissioner Bui seconded. There was a consent vote to move discussion of the Women’s Legislative Briefing (WLB) to the end of the meeting.

**III.        EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT Drew**

a.By-laws:

* President Drew would like to get the committee together to review policies and procedures.
* Commissioner Maclay would like to serve on that committee, as well as Commissioner Enendu and President Drew, but a third is needed
* There is a timeline for proposing changes to by-laws: changes need to be put forth by May, with the vote to follow in June. Everyone needs an electronic manual.

b. February meeting agenda:

* Per President Drew, a representative from the Budget Office may come and present at the February meeting and will also need to review bills for the legislative cycle.

**IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT Finkelstein**

a. Re-entry program:

* Executive Director Finkelstein held the first three interviews for re-entry program position and will continue to interview candidates. The initial start date was this weekend; will move to March.

b. CFW position update:

* The position was approved, so the practice of using contractors for the WLB and other work can be discontinued; The Executive Director is working with Human Resources and will keep everyone updated as the recruitment takes shape.

**V.        COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Only the committees in bold will be reporting out at the meeting.**

1. **Policy and Legislation**  **Rubin/Boiman**

* Commissioner Boiman reminded the group that the Lobby Day will take place on February 19th between 8:30 am and 1:00 pm in Annapolis and conducted an informal head count for the event; Commissioner Argoti indicated that she planned to attend.
* Per Prentice, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense is hosting a meeting on Saturday in Silver Spring to talk about their lobby day, and they will be doing a training on how to lobby

b.      Program Planning Enendu

c.      Budget **McPherson**

d.      **Research and Evaluation** **Prentice**

* Per Commissioner Prentice, the committee meeting focused on which of the SOW recommendations we should focus on and she asked that commissioners submit their preferences to the committee.
* President Drew clarified that the 4 priorities remain the same and that recommendations should feed into priority areas. For example, disconnected youth might not fit this year. Commissioners should share preferences with Commissioners Drew and Prentice this week.
* The committee will also host a discussion about how to measure as a next step.

e.       Emerging Leaders **Belizaire/Weisel**

f.         **Public Relations** Argoti

* Commissioner Argoti asked for edits to the brochure and is compiling in a google document, with a deadline of tomorrow, COB.
* Per Executive Director Finkelstein, the brochure won’t be ready in time for the WLB.
* Commissioner Rojas emphasized that she would like to have it in time for WLB.
* Commissioner Swanson suggested a linkable interactive version.
* Per Commissioner Argoti, the committee will also be compiling head shots for future activity.

**VI.       LIAISON REPORTS**

1. MLAW                                                                                **McPherson**

* Commissioner McPherson shared that on February 6th, MLAW is hosting their annual reception from 4:30 to 6:00 pm and reminded the group that the legislative session started this week.
* Executive Director Finkelstein signaled she planned to attend, as well as Commissioner Argoti.

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

* There was no meeting in December; the next meeting is coming up on January 15, from noon to 1:30 pm, on the Library’s second floor.
* There’s going to be a forthcoming bill sponsored by Councilmember Rice regarding businesses that are practicing body works services, that they must have same licensure as a massage therapist and will be discussed shortly in the County Council session.
* The bus campaign is still being finalized, but will update when ready to roll and Commissioner Rojas encouraged Commissioners to try and stay up to date on what’s happening locally and nationally. The meetings are open to Commissioners.
* The DV Committee meeting took place today, and included a presentation on strangulation.
* Key takeaways included: the weight of a handshake is about 80 lbs; only takes about 5 lbs to asphyxiate someone. also presented visual evidence; visible and non-visible signs of strangulation to look for; that presentations to physicians about the signs to look for might be helpful.
* New state legislation makes strangulation a felony. Maryland is 1 of only 3 states that doesn’t have strangulation as a felony.
* President Drew asked that the Commission sponsor a letter in support by next week; she agreed to get addressee info and Lucy agreed to draft the letter.
* Drew moved a motion to write a letter of support for DVCC on the proposed strangulation bill. The motion carried with unanimous approval.

1. Maryland Commission for Women                                    **Finkelstein**
2. Choose Respect Conference                                               **Whitehead Quigley**

* Commissioner Whitehead Quigley noted that the next meeting is next Tuesday, but will report the next time. They will take back or vote about doing the table on strangulation and will clarify if it’s a booth and a table or just one or the other.

**VII. AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. CFW Scholarship                                                                   **Maclay**
2. Social Committee:                                                                  **Rojas**
3. S2020  **Bui/Maclay**

d.      **WLB**  Rojas/Ahmad

* Per Commissioner Rojas, the role of the facilitator is to contact moderator and panelists, get all bios and cell phone info and then arrange a conference call. Executive Director Finkelstein will send session packets next week. Facilitators should arrange a conference call; discuss order and content; ask about AV needs; encourage panelists to promote within their networks.
* Advice from experienced commissioners: per Commissioner Whitehead Quigley, it’s helpful to have an outline prepared for speakers with breakdown of time, including bullets of what facilitators anticipate they’ll each be talking about.
* Per Commissioner McPherson, parameters that have been communicated would be helpful for facilitators to have, e.g., a letter is sent to panelists telling them what session they’re assigned to.
* Per Commissioner Bui, facilitators often can’t accommodate every panelist’s call availability and may need to scope the objectives of the session.
* Per Commissioner Rojas, facilitators may need to have a conversation with the moderator before the call. The moderator should develop the questions.
* Commissioner Argoti clarified that the facilitator’s role is to do the prep prior to the session; also check to make sure room is set up; make sure to distribute gifts. encourage panelists to bring own clickers.
* Per Commissioner Rojas, the committee will be doing assembly and prep on Saturday prior, from 10:30 am on and would welcome volunteers to stuff packets, etc.
* The committee is still seeking sponsors and will be doing a segment on WLB on Good Morning Washington program next week.
* Someone inquired about whether we could we all wear white for WLB? Consensus was no, but a possible uniform gold, white and purple ribbon. No outfit coordination.
* Executive Director Finkelstein will send an email next week about day-of logistics. Commissioners usually show up between 9:30 and 10:30, and the general session starts at 12:30 with the reception taking place tat 5:15 pm.
* Parking will be $5.00. Street parking allowed. Attendees will get a parking voucher, which facilitators should make sure to mention to their panels. They’ll be at the registration area.
* Per Commissioner Belizaire, she will be sharing an email to engage youth in the event, for a $10 entrance fee. Emerging Leaders’ sessions focus on “pathways to leadership” and “making your voice heard.”

**VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND/OR NEW BUSINESS**

a. Friends of the Commission for Women **Ahmad**

b. Activity  **Drew**

**IX. ADJOURN**

* President Drew made a motion to adjourn, moved by Commissioner Maclay and seconded by Commissioner Whitehead Quigley. The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 pm

Upcoming Events:

* Women’s Legislative Briefing: January 26, 2020, Universities at Shady Grove
* MLAW reception: February 6, 2020, Annapolis
* Lobby Day: February 19, 2020, Annapolis
* MD Women’s Hall of Fame: March 19, 2020, Annapolis
* RespectFest: March 29, 2020, Wheaton Community Recreation Center