

MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

**401 North Washington Street, Suite 100
Rockville, Maryland 20850**

MEETING MINUTES

April 28, 2010

6:00 p.m.

ATTENDING

Leila Aridi Afas
Vanessa E. Atterbeary
Jennifer Cryor Baldwin
Chandra Walker Holloway
Wilma K. Holmes
Resa Levy
Jaclyn Lichter Vincent
Leticia Mederos
Larniece McKoy Moore
Manar S. Morales
Regina L. Oldak
Jocelyn Samuels

STAFF

Ruby V. Marcelo
Paula S. Rodgers
Judith Vaughan-Prather

ABSENT

Ivonne C. Lindley
Sanjay Rai
Jane Smith

GUEST

Selena Mindy Singleton, District Director for
Congresswoman Donna Edwards
Jennifer Jones, Prince George's County CFW

I. NACW CONFERENCE AGENDA PLANNING.....Leila Aridi Afas

The Conference Agenda Planning Committee convened at 6:10 p.m. Chair Aridi Afas reported on the following matters:

A. Budget

The CAP Committee's goal was to raise \$20,000 for the conference and this was surpassed with a total of approximately \$34,315 in pledged and received funds. Commissioners and staff are following up on additional possible sponsors:

- Coca Cola - Commissioner Levy is applying for sponsorship on-line
- DOL Women's Bureau - Executive Director Vaughan-Prather has heard back from the Bureau
- SEIU - President Lichter Vincent is following up with the smaller locals

- The Delaware and Baltimore CFWs have requested invoices for their organizations for \$5,000 and \$2,000 respectively.

B. Capitol Hill/White House Briefing Plans

Letters of invitation have been sent to all of Montgomery County's representatives in Congress including Congressman Chris Van Hollen and Donna Edwards, as well as to Senators Barbara Mikulski and Ben Cardin, and D.C. Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton. Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro has also been invited. Congresswomen DeLauro, Edwards, and Senator Cardin and have all replied favorably. Commissioners Mederos and Samuels will help follow-up with the other representatives. Ms. Singleton, District Director for Congresswoman Edwards, offered to help reach out to Delegate Norton.

The County delegation to Congress and the State legislature will be invited to the Welcome Reception along with the County Executive and the County Council. Staff will send reminder letters to the sponsors of the Welcome Reception.

C. Keynote Speakers

An impressive schedule of Keynote Speakers has been confirmed:

- Sara Manzano-Diaz, Director of the Women's Bureau, Department of Labor
- Heather Boushey, Senior Economist, Center for American Progress
- Dr. Bernadette Loftus, Associate Executive Director for Mid Atlantic States, Kaiser Permanente Medical Group
- Mary McDonough, TV Star and National Center for Policy Research for Women and Families

D. Concurrent Sessions/Moderator Responsibilities

Staff will need to know if session and moderator participants are coming to the luncheon since these are meals that will have to be paid for during the conference.

E. Publicity/Call To Conference/Pre-Registrations

Call to Conference packets were mailed to over 200 CFWs and also emailed to the NACW Board of Director and MCCFW commissioners. To date, 16 registrations have been received, including four that registered on-line.

F. Pre and On-Site Registration

It is hoped that the on-site conference registration/check-in process may be handled by Counseling and Career Center summer Interns. Commissioner McKoy Moore is coordinating the registration process and Administrative Specialist Rodgers will supervise the workers.

Jennifer Jones, Prince George’s County CFW said that her group is asking its elected officials to sponsor conference attendees, and she suggested that there may be persons who will volunteer at the conference.

Commissioner Levy offered to help the CFW office staff in whatever way she can prior to the Conference.

G. Parliamentarian

Three of the conference business meetings will require the services of a certified Parliamentarian. Commissioner McKoy Moore agreed to make these arrangements.

H. Pre and Welcome Reception

Past and current commissioners and staff have donated \$5485 for the donors-only Pre Reception and the Welcome Reception for all conference participants and elected officials.

I. Conference Marketplace

Commissioner Atterbeary is coordinating this event and will decide whether to include vendors who are not affiliated with Empowered Women International.

J. SWAG/Totes/Gifts

Commissioner Cryor-Baldwin will work with Kaiser regarding items for the conference tote bag. Commissioners Lindley and Smith are working on other items.

II. BUSINESS MEETING CALL TO ORDER - APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES.....President Lichter Vincent

President Lichter Vincent officially called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m. She said that Commissioner Holmes had to leave the meeting early, but will first share her personal memories of Dr. Dorothy Height, the civil and women’s rights heroine, who passed away on April 20 at the age of 98. Commissioner Holmes said that she was just 21 years old when she first met Dr. Height who was not only a friend to her and her family, but also a role model who inspired women and men alike. Commissioner Holmes moved that the CFW meeting be dedicated in the memory of Dr. Dorothy Height. The motion was seconded by Commissioners Aridi Afas and Walker Holloway and unanimously approved.

There were no changes or additions to the agenda.

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Levy and seconded by Commissioner Cryor Baldwin, the Minutes of the March 24, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.

A. Legislative Activity Wrap-Up

A summary of the State bills from CFW's 2010 Legislative Agenda was distributed. Twelve bills were considered and the following seven moved in a positive direction:

- Earned Income Credit Information Act (H.B. 755/S.B. 638)
- Child Support Guidelines - Revision (H.B. 500/S.B. 252)*
- Labor and Employment - Unemployment Insurance - Modernization and Tax Relief Act (H.B. 91/S.B. 107)*
- Sex Crimes Definitions (H.B. 1310/ S.B. 667)
- Family Law Subsequent Act of Abuse During a Protective Order-Extension of Order (H.B. 534/ S.B. 867)*
- Collective Bargaining by Child Care Providers (H.B. 465/S.B. 284)*
- Civil Cases – Maryland Legal Services Corporation Fund Surcharges (H.B. 106/S.B. 248)*

* Bills awaiting the Governor's signature.

B. Introduction of Resolution on Healthy Families Act

NACW member commissions are invited to propose resolutions for vote at the national conference in July. MCCFW received a request to sign on to the Healthy Families Act and staff suggested that a Resolution be presented at the conference that NACW will urge the U.S. Congress to pass the Healthy Families Act (House Bill HR 2460) and will encourage NACW member commissions to urge their members of Congress to support the legislation.

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Aridi Afas and seconded by Commissioner Levy, the Healthy Families Act Resolution was approved for presentation to NACW's membership at the July 2010 Conference. Resolutions are due May 1; staff will forward this Resolution NACW's Public Policy Committee.

C. CFW Presidential Election

Intent to Run forms for CFW President for the 2010-2011 year are due back by the CFW meeting on May 26, 2010. Elections will take place at the Commission's June meeting.

D. Request for Collaboration from Alzheimer's Association

The National Capital Area Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association is launching a new initiative focusing on Alzheimer's disease and its impact on women. The initiative also will help women to find out about and have access to vital programs and services that can help them in their care giving journey and in their personal well-being. Staff will write to the Association offering the opportunity for an article in the MCCFW Newsletter and/or a workshop for CFW's Counseling Center on the issue.

D. U.S. Department of Labor Women's Bureau Strategic Plan

The Department of Labor is developing a strategic plan for the period FY 2010 through FY 2016. Individuals and women's organizations that play a key role in issues related to working women and their families were invited to participate in the process to provide feedback on proposed goals, strategies, outcomes, and performance measures. Commissioner Mederos offered to review the strategic plan and draft comments on behalf of the MCCFW.

F. MC Teen Dating Task Force Liaison

The Montgomery County Teen Dating Task Force is expanding its membership and has invited MCCFW to have additional representatives participate. Commissioners Atterbeary and Walker Holloway expressed an interest in serving on the Task Force.

Commissioner Walker Holloway also said that her endorsing organization, the Potomac Valley Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., as well as the Jack and Jill of America Foundation, both might be interested in representation on the Teen Dating Task Force. Executive Director Vaughan-Prather will let Judge Marielsa Bernard know.

G. WAWF Portrait Project Advisory Committee

WAWF is seeking representatives to serve on its Portrait Project Advisory Committee. This committee is going to update the 2003 report and provide the most recent data available on the status of women and girls throughout the Washington Metropolitan area. Commissioner Morales agreed to represent the MCCFW on this initiative.

IV. STAFF REPORTVaughan-Prather

A. Budget for FY11

Earlier today, the County Council's Health and Human Services Committee discussed the MC CFW FY11 Budget and approved the County Executive's recommended budget for MC CFW. It will be forwarded to the County Council for final approval. Throughout the week, the County Council's Management and Fiscal Policy Committee and the Public Health and Education Committee will discuss budgets for

various County departments. Executive Director Vaughan-Prather will monitor issues that could impact the MC CFW.

The County has issued a restriction on departments from making non-essential and discretionary direct purchases. The restriction is effective through at least the end of this fiscal year--June 30, 2010.

B. Relocation of CFW/Counseling Center Facilities

Due to budget cut-backs, the MC CFW will be moving on June 22, 2010 to 401 Hungerford Drive and will occupy space on the first floor currently in use by the County's Volunteer Center, which is moving out in June.

C. Summer Computer Camp ProgramRodgers

Publicity for the 2010 Summer Computer Camp program has been sent out and four applications for scholarships have already been received. Commissioners asked that staff resend them the 2010 Summer Camp information.

D. FY09 Annual Report

Copies of the MCCFW Annual Report were distributed to Commissioners. In the interest of saving paper and expense, only a limited number of copies of the Report were printed. It can be found online at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw.

E. Commissioner Reimbursements

Forms were given to commissioners for meeting reimbursements for the period February through April 2010. Executive Director Vaughan-Prather recommended that unless they are really needed, requests for reimbursements be temporarily suspended because of the County's freeze on spending.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Commissioner Recruitment

Commissioners Levy and Oldak's terms expire in June and, having served two full terms, they are not eligible for reappointment. Commissioners Lindley, McKoy Moore, and Rai are eligible for reappointment and were asked to inform Executive Director Vaughan-Prather and send a letter to the County Executive if they are interested in continuing to serve.

A committee comprised of President Lichter Vincent, Commissioner Atterbeary and Executive Director Vaughan-Prather will review applications and interview the CFW candidates. The deadline for applying to serve on the CFW is April 30, 2010.

B. Montgomery College Women's Studies Colloquium

Last year, the MC CFW wrote to Montgomery College and asked that the Women's Studies Program focus a colloquium on women and poverty. Since the regional colloquium will be held at the Takoma Park Campus this year, the MC Women's Studies program is not holding its own colloquium. MC CFW was invited to submit a paper or workshop proposal. However, given the upcoming office relocation and national conference, it will not be able to participate in the Women's Studies Colloquium this year.

C. Maryland Women's Heritage Center Liaison

The Maryland Commission for Women is seeking a liaison from MCCFW to serve on the Maryland Women's Heritage Center board of directors. This will be discussed at the Commission's 2010 Planning Meeting to see if new commissioners are interested.

V. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Commission for Women, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

**Minutes Submitted By
Paula S. Rodgers
Montgomery County Commission for Women**