

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN**

**401 Hungerford Drive, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Rockville, Maryland 20850**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**April 20, 2011**

**7:20 p.m.**

**ATTENDING**

Leila Aridi Afas  
Vanessa E. Atterbeary  
Miriam J. Carter  
Jennifer Cryor Baldwin  
Chandra Walker Holloway  
Ivonne C. Lindley  
Nick Martinez  
Leticia Mederos  
Manar S. Morales  
Jane Smith

**STAFF**

Judith Vaughan-Prather  
Paula Rodgers

**ABSENT**

Noha A. Bakr  
Wilma K. Holmes  
Jaclyn Lichter Vincent  
Larniece McKoy Moore  
Jocelyn Samuels

**GUEST**

Ruby Marcelo, Former CFW Staff

---

**I. CALL TO ORDER .....Vice President Atterbeary**  
**APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES**

Second Vice President Atterbeary called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m. and asked for review and approval of the agenda. Upon the motion of Commissioner Lindley, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, the agenda was approved with three additions.

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Lindley and seconded by Commissioner Aridi Afas, the Minutes of the March 2, 2011 meeting were approved as amended.

Appreciation was expressed to Vice President Atterbeary who provided the commissioners' dinner for the meeting.

## II. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- A. Congratulations to President Jackie Lichter Vincent on the birth of her daughter Natalie Morgan Vincent, born at 8:46 pm on Tuesday, April 12, 2011!
- B. Meetings with County Council

Commissioners Aridi Afas, Carter and Morales all attended meetings with County Councilmembers Andrews, Berliner, Floreen and Leventhal. Each council person asked for different information and Councilwoman Floreen suggested that the CFW provide alternative proposals that would still involve budget cuts.

The commissioners' position was that the MCCFW is a beacon for CFWs across the nation, and if it is eliminated, it will likely never be returned. Understanding the necessity for budget reductions in county government, the CFW is willing to develop a proposal to reduce services and increase fees, but believes it is critically important to keep the CFW and some dedicated staff intact. Keeping some program staff would also provide the opportunity to generate fees for service.

The commissioners discussed ideas for presentation at the joint Governmental Operations and Health and Human Services worksession on April 27. Staff abstained from the discussion.

- B. CFW Leadership Transition

At the June 22, 2011 CFW meeting, commissioners will elect a President for the 2010-11 year. CFW's Bylaws require that Intent to Run forms shall be submitted to each commissioner at least sixty days prior to the election meeting. The forms must be returned to the office at least thirty days prior to the election. Administrative Specialist Rodgers will email the forms to commissioners. Any commissioners intending to run for President should return the form by or before the May 25 CFW meeting. The slate of candidates will be announced at that May meeting. Persons may also be nominated from the floor (with the consent of the nominee) at that meeting.

- C. Endorsement request for national Day Of The Girl

MCCFW was asked to consider endorsing an initiative to build the national support to establish September 22 as the Day of the Girl. This initiative was proposed by a member of School Girls Unite, a nonprofit organization that aims to fight prejudice against girls worldwide through the power of education and advocacy. Day of the Girl would celebrate the importance of recognizing the full potential of all girls and to explore not only the human rights violations that plague girls worldwide, but also other forms of oppression faced by girls in America. India and Bangladesh have already established a national day and the U.N. is expected to consider designating September 22 as the International Day of the Girl. Upon the motion made by

Commissioner Aridi Afas, seconded by Commissioner Martinez and unanimously passed, the MCCFW endorsed the initiative.

D. Speakers Bureau Activity

On April 2, Commissioner Bakr addressed attendees at the *Women in Civic Engagement* event, sponsored by the Jafferia Islamic Center in Burtonsville, Maryland. The event was designed for women in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area Muslim community to engage in civic activity and career development.

F. 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Plans

The MCCFW celebrates its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in the year 2012. Commissioners might want to consider ideas for marking the occasion.

**III. WORKPLACE FLEXIBILITY CONFERENCE.....Morales**

The Department of Labor Women’s Bureau Workplace Flexibility Conference, hosted by MCCFW on March 31, was very successful. Approximately 100 people attended the event. The speakers were excellent and a productive dialogue among the attendees resulted. Commissioner Morales thanked Executive Director Vaughan-Prather, Budget/Legislative Specialist Marcelo and Administrative Specialist Rodgers for their hard work. Commissioner Morales also expressed her deep appreciation to those commissioners who participated as attendees, moderators and note takers.

Executive Director Vaughan-Prather still needs to obtain notes from some commissioners to submit with the final report.

**IV. STAFF REPORT.....Vaughan-Prather**

A. New Commissioner Recruitment

The terms of commissioners Cryor Baldwin, Walker Holloway, Holmes, Samuels and Smith expire in June. All are eligible for reappointment; however, Commissioners Samuels and Smith decided they will not request reappointment. Commissioners Cryor Baldwin, Holloway, and Holmes have each indicated their intent to apply and were asked to send a letter to the County Executive to indicate their interest in continuing to serve. Commissioner Lindley is expecting her second baby in June and intends to resign then, having served three full years. In total, there will be three vacancies to fill.

A committee comprised of Commissioner Martinez and Morales and Executive Director Vaughan-Prather will review applications and interview the CFW candidates. The deadline for applying to serve on the CFW is May 6, 2011.

B. Staffing Changes

Congratulations to Ruby Marcelo who accepted the position of Analyst with the Montgomery CountyStat Office. CountyStat is a process that works with departments to improve performance and accountability resulting in improved customer service. Executive Director Vaughan-Prather said that Ms. Marcelo has been wonderful about helping to transition her MCCFW legislative/budget duties and to attend her last CFW meeting. She has been an excellent employee to MCCFW and she will be very much missed.

C. New Guidance on Title IX, Sexual Assault

Executive Director Vaughan-Prather has made a request of the Department of Education Office of Civil Rights about its providing a speaker on the new guidance for Title IX for the 2011 conference of the National Association of Commissions for Women in July in Phoenix, Arizona.

**V. LIAISON REPORTS**

A. *Choose Respect* Conference

On April 9, 2011, Commissioner Walker Holloway attended the “*Choose Respect Montgomery*” teen dating violence prevention conference at Montgomery College’s Takoma Park Campus. Commissioners Atterbeary and Walker Holloway served as MCCFW’s representatives on the planning committee and helped to find sponsors and donors to support the conference.

The audience was mostly 8<sup>th</sup> grade middle school girls and the program reflected the diversity of the county. Keynote Speaker, Bill Mitchell, told a powerful story of his 21-year old daughter’s murder as the result of relationship violence. Commissioner Walker Holloway said the event was very informative and said it was a wonderful event for the MCCFW to continue its involvement.

**VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Annual Maryland NOW State Convention is May 14, 2011 in Annapolis, Maryland. Online registration is available after April 25 at [www.marylandnow.org](http://www.marylandnow.org).

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Commission for Women, the meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

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