**Montgomery County Commission for Women**

Thursday, July 9, 2020

7:00 P.M.

On-line meeting via Zoom

**MINUTES**

|  |  |  |
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| **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  Ijeoma Enendu  Patti Maclay  Angela Whitehead Quigley  Diana Rubin  Tricia Swanson  Meredith Weisel  **Staff**  Jodi Finkelstein | Adrienne Prentice  Diana Rubin |  |

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

* Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm by President Drew, who proposed changing the sequencing of agenda: nominations committee first, followed by bylaws discussion, then suffrage and other reports to follow
* Commissioner Maclay moved a motion to approve agenda, Commissioner Rojas seconded.
* Commissioner Ahmad made motion to approve minutes, Commissioner Belizaire seconded

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

**III.        EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT Commissioner Drew**

1. Vision Zero: Feedback Needed

President Drew received a request from the county Vision Zero coordinator, which prioritizes road safety, to collect feedback and request input from the Commission in developing the next plan. President Drew will circulate the materials by email.

* Commissioner Weisel feels CFW should weigh in on this--road safety for pedestrians, runners, and bike riders is a real issue.
* The Executive Committee believed we should weigh in, but wanted all Commissioners to help make that determination.
* Feedback should go directly to Executive Director Finkelstein

1. Sponsorship: Women’s Equality Day

* President Drew moved that we participate as a sponsor; the flyer was distributed to all Commissioners in advance of the meeting.
* Commissioner Whitehead Quigley inquired about whether it was still an in person event? President Drew believed that it would not be, but was going to confirm. There was also a question about the actual day the event will be held, which will include parks around the state.
* The motion carried with unanimous support; Commissioner Maclay agreed to notify the sponsor.

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

1. Award:

* The County Executive and Chief Administrative Officer nominated CFW for a Special Populations Certificate award for exceptional work during Covid

1. **Donation**

* CFW received a $5000 donation from CareMetx which will go into the restricted fund.

1. **Interns**

* Claire and Vienna, high school interns, will be assisting with Suffrage 2020 and other projects through the end of August.

**V. ELECTIONS Commissioner Enendu/Executive Director Finkelstein**

a. Announcement of Candidates

* Commissioner Enendu announced the slate: Commissioner Drew, President; Commissioner Rojas, First Vice President; Commissioner Rubin, second Vice President; Commissioner Boiman, Recording Secretary
* President Drew explained we could forego a later vote because of uncontested slate; will appear on next agenda

b.Announcement of Floor Candidates: Only Commissioner Boiman volunteered from the floor.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS (Committees in BOLD to provide updates)**

a.   Policy and Legislation Commissioners Rubin/Boiman

b. Program Planning Commissioner Enendu

c. Budget (Chair needed)

      d.  Research and Evaluation Commissioner Prentice

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

* Per Commissioner Weisel, there were 46 entries for the Girl Power contest. She will send spreadsheets and submissions to volunteers with a roughly one-week turnaround. The County Executive will do a thank you, and winners will be announced at the S2020 event.

f.  **Public Relations** **Commissioner** **Argoti**

* Per Commissioner Argoti, CFW will move forward with the logo design contest, which will close on September 1st.
* She will also pull Status of Women report findings on women of color.
* Commissioner Argoti has tested google photos repository, which is working well.

g. WLB Commissioner Rojas/Ahmad

**LIAISON REPORTS** **(LIAISONS in BOLD to provide updates)**

1. **MLAW                                                                                      Commissioner Rubin**

* MLAW leadership is seeking input on the preferred approach for the fall conference.

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

* President Drew reported that over 86,000 cards have been distributed, with an uptick in DV calls since the campaign began
* A discussion is planned for tomorrow on domestic violence and Covid with the public libraries and Family Justice Center at 12 noon

1. Maryland Commission for Women                                           Executive Director Finkelstein
2. Choose Respect (Respectfest)                                              Commissioner Whitehead Quigley

**AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS (Only those with updates to report out)**

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

* Per Commissioner Bui, CFW has received two video submissions, musical submissions. Montgomery College and the producer will help put these together.
* Commissioner Maclay reported that Dr. Pollard will be the discussant, and they are still seeking sponsors. Event partners all helping to develop social media content.
* President Drew noted that a joint proclamation will go out.
* Per Commissioner Drew, the S2020 committee is asking for the Commission to approve its budget for the event.
* Commissioner Bui explained that the Committee is asking for funding for video production ($1000), paid social media ($150), thank you gifts for speakers ($200), partners and interns ($140 total, $10/ea and $20 ea, respectively), itemized in the screen-shared budget request.
* President Drew moved a motion to approve the budget; no one opposed, and the motion carried.
* Separately, Executive Director Finkelstein recommended it come out of restricted funds, and also that we add a donation button on the site to contribute directly to the event.

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

* President Drew thanked Commissioners Enendu, Maclay, Rojas, and Rubin and Whitehead Quigley for their help in updating the by-laws. The amendments document was shared with all Commissioners; anonymous voting will take place electronically.
* See Attachment #1 for proposed Amendments.
* Amendment #1 designates a Commissioner to oversee leadership nominations; Commissioner Bui asked a question about the fact that the Secretary cannot oversee the slate if he/she is also on the slate. Commissioner Whitehead Quigley recommended removing “Secretary” altogether and just specify that someone on the Commission will be nominated. **Amendment #1 passed with 11 yes, 1 no.**
* Amendment #2: adding additional language to provide clarity around the role of President. **Amendment #2 passed with 11 yes, 1 no.**
* Amendment #3: Amendment #3 clarifies that the Vice President can request a WLB co-chair. **Amendment #3 passed with 11 yes, 1 no.**
* Amendment #4: Amendment #4 codifies the Secretary’s duties. **Amendment #4 passed with 12 yes.**
* Amendment #5: Amendment #5 specifies official duties of the President, including first right of refusal for speaking engagements. Commissioner Weisel requested the language clarify which activities are subject to right of first refusal by the President. President Drew offered that she was hesitant to include specific examples because it becomes excessively restrictive, but the language was not intended to suggest that opportunities would not be widely shared with the full Commission or be extended to individuals outside of the Executive Committee; **Amendment #5 passed with 10 yes, 2 no.**
* Amendment #6a: Amendment #6a proposes to remove human trafficking task force apparatus since it has become a committee. **7 respondents (58%) voted to remove.**
* Amendment #6b: **6 respondents (50%) voted to retain.**
* Amendment #7: articulates ability to create Advisory Committees, as necessary. **Amendment #7 passed with 12 yes.**
* With regard to Amendment #7, Executive Finkelstein asked about the difference between an ad hoc and an advisory committee. President Drew explained advisory committees focus on a particular issue
* Amendment #8: codifies role of Selection Committee. **Amendment #8 passed with 11 yes, 1 abstain.**
* Amendment #9: to address remote meetings; intended to codify continuity of operations. Commissioner Weisel asked if this provision has to be approved by the County? President Drew explained that it does not supersede county directives, can be invoked in case of inclement weather and other circumstances, e.g. family member suffers from Covid, could create transmission risk to attend CFW meetings in person. Executive Director Finkelstein will seek county advice on this, and President Drew will temporarily table while seeking additional guidance.
* Amendment #10 covers absenteeism; **Amendment #10 passed with 12 yes.**
* Amendment #11 clarifies how votes may be taken. **Amendment #11 passed with 12 yes.**
* Amendment #12 is designed to make a global stylistic change to replace “staff liaison” with “Executive Director.” Executive Director Finkelstein recommended it read, “Executive Director or designee.”
* Commissioner Swanson asked if there were any issues with “emergency” not being explicitly defined. Discussion ensued about designated Executive Director title; Commissioner Whitehead Quigley recommended we table this element as well for further clarification.

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

* Commissioner Prentice will not re-apply, per President Drew.
* Nomination of Commissioner Ahmad and theUp2Us Foundation for MD CFW Sheroes nomination. Commissioner Bui developed the 15-word description and distributed for electronic vote. Tie for A and C language. Commissioner Ahmad recommended and adjustment to the language to “226,000 pounds of food.” President Drew recommended CFW adopt narrative option C, with the adjusted language to reflect current food distribution. The nomination is due July 17th.

**8:50 X. ADJOURN**

Upcoming Events:

* Suffrage 2020 Commemoration August 19
* Maryland Commission for Women Conference August 26