

**Montgomery County Commission for Women  
401 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, MD 20850**

July 25, 2011

7:15 p.m.

Attending:

Vanessa Atterbeary, President  
Maria Montserrat Alvarado  
Jennifer Cryor Baldwin  
Debra Bright Harris  
Maliha Ilias  
Colleen Kelly  
Nick Martinez  
Larniece McKoy Moore  
Leticia Mederos  
Manar Morales

Staff:

Judith Vaughan-Prather  
Paula Rodgers

Guest:

Selena Mendy Singleton, District  
Director, Office of Congresswoman  
Donna Edwards

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

President Atterbeary called to meeting to order at 7:20 p.m. Commissioner Morales moved and Commissioner McKoy Moore seconded approval of the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Baldwin moved and Commissioner Morales seconded approval of the minutes of the June 2011 Commission meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Introduction of New Commissioners

President Atterbeary welcomed the four newly appointed and confirmed commissioners to their first "official" meeting. Those in attendance introduced themselves to one another.

III. Executive Committee Report

A. Fall Meeting Schedule

After some discussion, it was decided that the CFW will not meet in August, but will meet for its annual planning meeting on Wednesday, September 7 at 6 p.m., location to be announced. At that meeting, it will be decided, depending on the outcome of the discussion and plans, whether to meet again on September 28. Commissioners are asked to keep both dates on their calendar for now. The Executive Committee will have to meet in August to plan the planning meeting.

B. Summer Study

In light of the recent cuts to the CFW's budget and programs, the commissioners want to talk with the County Councilwomen. President Atterbeary will request a meeting with Councilwomen Ervin and Navarro, and staff from Floreen's office as she is unavailable until September.

C. Nominations for CFW Officers

Elections for the Vice President officers are held at the second meeting after new commissioners come onboard each year, so the elections will be held at the September 7 meeting. Commissioner Morales agreed to run for First Vice President and Commissioner Baldwin agreed to run for Second Vice President. Intent to Run forms will be distributed via email to the entire Commission so that those commissioners not present at this meeting will also have an opportunity to submit their names as candidates.

D. Structure of Executive Committee

The CFW Executive Committee is typically made up of the three CFW officers (President, First and Second Vice Presidents) and the chairs of typically its three committees for any given year. However, since Second Vice President Atterbeary has been elected President, there are currently only two officers: President Atterbeary and First Vice President Holmes, who will also chair the Women's Legislative Briefing this year. It was recommended that the Chair of the Women's Legislative Briefing planning committee serve on the Executive Committee since that is the Commission's largest and most visible event. Any further initiatives and/or committees, and their chairs, will be decided at the September 7 planning meeting.

E. Women's Legislative Briefing 2012

Commissioner Holmes was unable to attend this evening's meeting but asked Commissioner Baldwin to report on plans for this event. Commissioner Baldwin has asked Kaiser Permante, her employer, to consider becoming a premier sponsor of the annual Women's Legislative Briefing, and although no final decision has been made, she has received very positive expressions of interest. She will continue working with Commissioner Holmes and Executive Director Vaughan-Prather in this regard.

IV. STAFF REPORT

A. Relocation Plans

Presently, the Executive Director and Administrative Specialist are still working out of the Commission's location at 401 Hungerford Drive. The plan is for the CFW's office to move to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Rockville Memorial Library, with the Rockville Team of the newly created Community Engagement Cluster, sharing the suite now occupied by the Office of Human Rights. It appears that the relocation will take place sometime over the summer months.

B. Staffing Issues

Administrative Specialist Paula Rodgers attended the early part of the CFW meeting to bring her farewell to the Commissioners and to thank them for all the wonderful opportunities and extraordinary team work she has enjoyed as staff to the CFW. As staff to the new Community Engagement Cluster, she will still have some involvement with Commission, but not at the same level as previously. The Commissioners thanked Ms. Rodgers for all she has contributed to the work of the Commission for Women.

C. Annual Report

The annual report for FY 11 is almost completely composed. When it is finished, it will be published online on the CFW's website.

D. CFW Rosters

Draft rosters of the CFW membership were distributed to those in attendance at tonight's meeting. The Commissioners were asked to carefully review their own information and to let the Director know if any errors are found. Corrected rosters will be distributed at the next CFW meeting on September 7.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. The Power Conference

The Commission has distributed publicity about the September 7 conference to its constituency through its electronic distribution lists. Commissioners Atterbeary, Morales, Aridi Afas and Mederos expressed interest in attending, along with Executive Director Vaughan-Prather. Commissioners will have to pay their own registration fee, but the conference organizers have agreed to permit them to register at half-price, since the CFW is sponsoring the event.

B. F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Conference

Celebrating the 115th birthday of the great American author, the Sixteenth Annual F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Conference will be held on October 22, 2011. The CFW was invited to co-sponsor the program and to help with publicity. This year's honoree will be Maxine Hong Kingston, author of *The Woman Warrior*, *China Men*, *Tripmaster Monkey*, *The Fifth Book of Peace*, and *I Love a Broad Margin to My Life*, among other works. The F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Conference has been held for the past fifteen years in Rockville, where Fitzgerald, his wife Zelda, and their daughter are buried. The Literary Conference began in 1996 as a celebration of the centennial of Fitzgerald's birth.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was brought before the Commission.

VII. LIAISON REPORTS

- A. Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women (MLAW).....Mederos  
Commissioner Mederos attended the MLAW meeting held earlier this week. Discussion centered on MLAW's need for fundraising, and plans for the fall conference where the agenda for 2012 will be developed. It was explained to the new commissioners that MLAW is a voluntary association of women's organizations across the state of Maryland who come together to create a common platform of legislation to support in the Maryland General Assembly. Limited staff support is provided by the Women's Law Center of Maryland.
  
- B. National Association of Commissions for Women (NACW).....Vaughan-Prather  
As there is no Commission for Women on the federal level, the state and local commissions for women banded together 42 years ago to form NACW to serve as their national voice and to provide information, technical and strategic support to each other. Other than the small amount of dues it is able to collect from its limited membership (only officially established CFWs may be members), NACW has no source of funds except for its annual conference. The MC CFW hosted the NACW office for five years, until 2010 when budget cuts forced the MC CFW to give up that role. MC CFW hosted the 2010 national conference as well. This year, the national conference was July 22 – 25 in Phoenix, AZ. Again because of severe budget constraints, the MC CFW was unable to send a representative. However, MC CFW's Executive Director is a member of the NACW board of directors and served on the conference planning committee, from a distance. At this conference, she was elected to the board again, in absentia. Cecelia Zamora or the Marin County, CA CFW was elected as the new NACW president.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Judith Vaughan-Prather  
Executive Director