

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN**

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

**MEETING MINUTES**

**March 2, 2011**

**7:07 p.m.**

**ATTENDING**

Vanessa E. Atterbeary  
Jennifer Cryor Baldwin  
Chandra Walker Holloway  
Wilma Holmes  
Jaclyn Lichter Vincent  
Ivonne C. Lindley  
Nick Martinez  
Larniece McKoy Moore  
Manar S. Morales

Jocelyn Samuels

**STAFF**

Ruby V. Marcelo  
Judith Vaughan-Prather

**ABSENT**

Leila Aridi Afas  
Noha A. Bakr  
Leticia Mederos  
Jane C. Smith  
Paula Rodgers

**GUESTS**

Lori Gillen  
Nancy Niswander  
Cindy Schelhorn  
Selena Singleton

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**I. CALL TO ORDER .....President Lichter Vincent**  
**APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES**

President Lichter Vincent called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. Upon the motion of Commissioner Manar Morales and seconded by Commissioner Ivonne Lindley, the agenda was unanimously approved.

Appreciation was expressed to President Lichter Vincent who arranged the commissioners' dinner for the meeting.

Upon the motion made by Commissioner Wilma Holmes and seconded by Commissioner Morales, the Minutes of the February 2, 2011 meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.

**II. SPECIAL BRIEFINGS**

- A. Alzheimer’s Association Women’s Initiative.Cindy Schelhorn and Nancy Niswander  
The Alzheimer’s Association presented their overall work and asked for support from the Commission for Women. In general the work of the Alzheimer’s Association is to provide a network of support for the caregivers (whom are predominately women) and family members of those afflicted with this disease. As this disease afflicts more in the population women will be adversely impacted. The Women’s Initiative is to help women as they are often forced out of the workplace to become caregivers, under go marital stress, and provide overall support in dealing with Alzheimer’s in the family. One of the goals of this program is to help inform employers of what to look out for employee’s who may be caregivers and expressing stress in the workplace as well as what to look for if employee’s may be developing Alzheimer’s themselves.

The presenters ask if the Commission for Women would be a partner to promote some of its events such as the upcoming May 3<sup>rd</sup> luncheon recognizing leading volunteers and philanthropists in the Metro-DC area supporting Alzheimer’s. The also asked for help fundraising, volunteering, sharing information about Alzheimer’s; as well as advocating for more programs to address Alzheimer’s treatment and research.

- B. Rockville Women’s Business Center..... Lori Gillen  
Ms. Gillen presented the history of the Rockville Women’s Business Center. A study was done to assess what business services start-up providers were in the Montgomery County area from the libraries to various non-profit organizations. The study concluded that business start-up services for women entrepreneurs would be of use in this region. The center has some grants from local governments; it has applied for a Small Business Administration grant and is also looking for more funding. The center’s range of services focuses on the pre-business start-up through to starting-up a business. There is no networking taking place in this center because various other organizations already engage in networking.

Ms. Gillen asks for support in volunteer and fundraising for the Rockville Women’s Business center.

**III. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT.....Lichter Vincent**

- A. Organizational Reform Commission Report (ORC Report)  
President Lichter Vincent discussed her conversations with the County Executive. His recommendations to the County Council would be very close to that of the ORC’s report, without any legislation changes to the Commission’s enacting law. However, there has been much public opposition to the elimination of the Commission for Women. Commissioners are encouraged to send requests of support to their nominating organizations for the Commission for Women. The final decisions remains in the hands of the County Council. Next steps will be meeting with County Council members.
- B. Boards/Commissions/Committee Meeting with County Executive

Commissioners Lichter, Atterbeary, Walker, and Bakr all attended this meeting where every Boards/Commissions/Committee was asked to give a short 2-3 minute presentation. The County Executive first spoke about his budget goals of maintaining education, public safety, and services to the most vulnerable. Therefore, the Executive spoke that this will be a very difficult budget year. Commissioner Lichter spoke about the need for the Commission for Women and Commissioner Atterbeary spoke about the Counseling and Career Center Services.

- C. Isabel Wilkerson Event Holmes/Atterbeary  
On Thursday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at the Rockville Public Library the Commission for Women hosted Isabel Wilkerson for a book reading and signing of her novel, *Warmth of Other Sun*. Commissioner Atterbeary was the emcee of the event and Commissioner Holmes provided refreshments. In a short week of advertising over 100 people attended this event.
  
- D. Maryland Women's Hall of Fame  
It was reported that the Maryland Commission for Women has selected the following individuals for inducted in its Hall of Fame:  
**(GET THE POST CARD LIST)**  
  
The Commission for Women will try again next year in submitting Jean Cryor in to the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame.
  
- E. MLAW Agenda  
The Commission did sign-on to the MLAW agenda.
  
- F. Reminder of CFW Meeting Schedule Changes  
The March 31<sup>st</sup>, Workplace Flexibility Conference will be the date of the regular Commission meeting for the month of March. Attendance at this event is mandatory.
  
- G. Women's History Month Display  
Please visit the Rockville Public Library and see the Commission's Women's History Month Display for March.

**IV. WORKPLACE FLEXIBILITY CONFERENCE..... Morales**

There was some progress on the conference. The Women's Bureau is vetting all speakers before invitations can go out, however one confirmed speaker is Joanne Williams. Please send any suggestions for invites to Commission staff invites will be going out next week.

Notetakers are needed for the opening, plenary, breakout sessions and the closing. These notes are to help write the final report for the Department of Labor.

The following Commissioners volunteered to be notetakers:

Opening Session:

Ivonne Lindley and Jocelyn Samuels

The Worker's Perspective:

Ivonne Lindley

How to Approach Flexibility: The Nuts and Bolts of Implementation

Jocelyn Samuels

Preparing for Change: The Role of Workplace Culture:  
Chandra Walker Holloway

The Business Case for Flexibility:  
Vanessa Atterbeary

Report Back/Closing:  
Vanessa Atterbeary and Chandra Walker Holloway

Commissioner Martinez, volunteered to staff the registration table.

**V. POLICY AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

The Commission signed on the MLAW Agenda which had 13 bills this year. Commissioner Atterbeary reminded everyone that at the August planning meeting it was agreed-upon that there would be limited PAL Committee activity given the current project commitments of the Commission.

**VI. LIAISON REPORTS**

**No report**

**VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Lindley thanked everyone for the flowers to her mother on the passing of her grandmother they were very heartfully welcomed. Additionally, Commissioner Lindley is pregnant with her second child.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Commission for Women, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

**Minutes Submitted By  
Ruby Marcelo  
Montgomery County Commission for Women**