

**Montgomery County Commission for Women  
21 Maryland Avenue, Suite 330, Rockville, MD 20850**

**Summary of Discussion**

May 23, 2012

7:00 p.m.

**Attending:**

Vanessa, Atterbeary, President  
Debra Bright Harris  
Chandra Walker Holloway  
Maliha Ilias  
Colleen Kelly  
Larniece McKoy Moore  
Liz Callihan  
Jaclyn Lichter Vincent  
Nick Martinez

Wilma Holmes  
Leila Aridi Afas

**Absent:**

Jennifer Cryor Baldwin  
Leticia Mederos

**Staff:**

Judith Vaughan-Prather, Executive Director  
Consuwella Carrington, Americorps Intern

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**I. Call to Order/Approval of Minutes and Agenda.....Atterbeary**

President Atterbeary called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m. President Atterbeary called for approval of the agenda and minutes from the April 25 Commission meeting. Commissioner Bright Harris moved, and Commissioner Callihan seconded the motion to approve the minutes as and the agenda as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

**II. Executive Committee Report.....Atterbeary**

**A. Harriet Tubman Legislation Bill Signing**

Commissioner Walker Holloway reported that the Harriet Tubman statue project had a major victory; the bill was signed by the Governor on May 22, 2012. This bill will enable the creation of a statue honoring Harriet Tubman to be presented as a gift from the people of Maryland for display in the U.S. Capitol building.

**B. Committee Evaluation and Review Board (CERB)**

President Atterbeary thanked everyone for their support and especially those who worked to complete the required report to the CERB: Commissioners McKoy Moore, Alvarado, Holloway, Callihan and Martinez. A copy of the report was included amongst the materials for tonight's meeting. Executive Director Vaughan-Prather is scheduled to meet with the CERB on June 12.

**C. U.S. House Obstetric Fistula Legislation**

Currently, there is a bill introduced in the House of Representatives by Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro regarding foreign aid for treatment centers for women who suffer from obstetric fistula. Commissioner Aridi Afas moved that the Committee write a letter to the Maryland delegation to Congress urging the members to co-sponsor this legislation. The

motion was seconded by Commissioner Lichter Vincent; and passed unanimously. Commissioner Lichter Vincent agreed to draft the letter to our Congressional delegation.

**D. Nominations for CFW President Election**

Commissioners Wilma Holmes and Chandra Walker Holloway are both candidates in the upcoming election for CFW president. The election will take place at the June CFW meeting. Nominations from the floor may be made, with the consent of the candidate, on the night of the election. Candidates will have the opportunity to present a five minute speech stating their vision for the CFW for the coming year.

**E. Annual Planning Meeting**

The Annual CFW Planning Meeting will take place August 29, 2012 at 6 p.m., focusing on goals and plans for the 2012 – 2013 year. The CFW will not meet July 25. The 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event on July 11 will replace the official meeting for this month.

**F. AWCAA Walk-A-Thon**

Executive Director Vaughan-Prather received an email announcing the annual AWCAA (African Women’s Cancer Awareness Association) Walk-A-Thon which will take place on September 15, 2012 at Wheaton Regional Park.

**III. Staff Report.....Executive Director Vaughan-Prather**

**A. FY 2013 Budget Proposal for the CFW**

County Executive Isiah Leggett proposed \$70,000 in the CEC budget for the CFW to contract for counseling services. The County Council added an additional \$70,000 bringing the total to \$140,000 to contract for counseling services in FY 13. This amount was approved at the Council’s budget work session on May 17, 2012.

**B. Requests for Service**

Americorps Intern Carrington reported that from the dates of April 25, 2012 – May 23, 2012, there have a total of 47 requests for assistance. The majority of the calls are in regards to Family Counseling, the Divorce Law Seminars, the Legal Call Back Program, and General Counseling. Since July 11, 2011, there have been a total of 376 calls.

**C. Summer Intern Assignments**

Two new interns, Meaghan Tarquinio and Luyang Liu, have joined the CFW staff for this summer. Both are currently working with volunteer Bev Thoms on the outreach and updating of the database for NACW. Meaghan will work in the office on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 9 – 3:30; Bev is in the office Monday and Wednesday afternoons, and Luyang will work Monday and Thursday afternoons for the month of July.

**D. The Power Conference (August 30, 2012)**

The CFW will be a “power partner” (co-sponsor) for this year’s Power Conference to be held at the Marriott Executive Conference Center on August 30, and will help with publicity for the event typically attended by 700 business women.

**IV. Committee Work**

**A. Program Planning Leadership Committee.....Kelly/Ilias**

Commissioners Kelly and Ilias reported that there will be a PPLC Wrap-Up Meeting on May 31, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. Although the divorce law seminars proved to be a great success, logistically it is difficult to manage without adequate funds and staff. A discussion was held regarding coordination of volunteers, creating a task list, reducing the size of the workshops, how often during the year to provide the workshops, and also advertising/outreach to the Spanish-speaking population. The committee is also working on updating the divorce law handbooks to post online and to print if funds permit.

**B. 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee.....Lichter Vincent/Aridi Afas**

Commissioners Aridi Afas and Lichter Vincent reported on the plans so far, noting additional tasks that need to be completed before the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event, including:

- o Complete the assigned biographies of the honorees which are due June 5.
- o Finish creating and send invitations through Eventbrite.
- o Check the capacity of the designated room at the Rockville Hilton Hotel.
- o Commissioners Bright-Harris and Martinez will find a female student musician to perform at the event.
- o Commissioner Callihan will design the program for the evening.

Commissioner Walker-Holloway suggested that there should be an increase to the ticket price, which would raise the initial price from \$40 to \$50 in order to cover processing charges from Eventbrite. Commissioner Martinez moved that the CFW charge \$50 for the dinner. Seconded by Commissioner Bright-Harris, the motion passed unanimously.

Having just learned that she is a graduate of Paint Branch High School in Montgomery County, Executive Director Vaughan-Prather suggested nominating Eun Yang, morning news anchor for NBC4/WRC-TV as one of the 10 honorees for the Archives, rather than Tori Amos. The Commissioners unanimously agreed.

**C. Women’s Legislative Briefing.....Bright Harris/Ilias**

Commissioner Ilias proposed a preliminary planning meeting with a few of the members from the 2012 WLB Planning Committee to discuss key goals for the 2013 year.

**V. Unfinished Business**

**A. Recruitment of New Commissioners**

The announcement of opportunities to serve on the CFW was sent out April 25, with a deadline for application of May 16. Commissioners Nick Martinez and Debra Bright Harris will serve on the Interview Committee along with Executive Director Judith Vaughan-Prather. The interviews will be conducted during the week of June 5. Confidential recommendations will be submitted to the County Executive. The decision regarding appointments belongs to the County Executive, and the appointments must be confirmed by the County Council. It is hoped that the new commissioners may be appointed and confirmed in time for the July 11 anniversary event. It is almost certain that they will not be confirmed before the CFW’s June meeting.

**VI. New Business**

No new business was brought before the Commission.

**VII. Liaison Reports**

**A. MLAW**

Commissioner Mederos’ term on the CFW will expire soon, and she has represented MC CFW on the Board of MLAW. A new liaison for MLAW will be needed to attend meetings in Columbia; this duty can also be shared with another commissioner if desired. A decision will be made at the CFW’s planning meeting in August, but the CFW will not be represented on the MLAW board this year since it MLAW is seeking nominations now.

**B. NACW**

The 2012 NACW 42nd Annual Business Meeting and Conference will take place July 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> in Charleston, West Virginia. Using donated funds in its Restricted Donations Account, the CFW can probably afford to send three people to the conference. Executive Director Vaughan-Prather is a member of the NACW board of directors so she will participate. Two commissioners could attend as well.

**VIII. Adjournment.....Atterbeary**

There being no further business brought before the CFW, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Minutes submitted by  
Consuwella Carrington  
Americorps Member  
Project Change

APPROVED 6/26/2012