

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

**Summary of Discussion**

**October 10, 2013**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Attending:**

Chandra Walker Holloway, President  
Maliha Ilias  
Katie Smith  
Debra Bright Harris  
Farah Nageer-Kanthor  
Karmen Rouland  
Nick Martinez  
Safia Qadri  
Linda Amendt  
Heather Reichardt  
Lorna Forde  
Natalia Farrar

**Absent:**

Maria Montserrat Alvarado  
Barbara Mintz  
Manar Morales

**Staff:**

Judith Vaughan-Prather, Executive Director  
Jamila Allouane  
Tania Arostegui  
Jeanine Lamb

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**I. Call to Order/Approval of Agenda and Minutes .....President Walker Holloway**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Ilias moved to approve the agenda as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Martinez and the agenda for the evening's meeting was adopted as presented. Corrections to the September meeting minutes were noted and the minutes were adapted as amended. The Commissioners thanked President Chandra Walker Holloway for providing dinner.

**II. CFW Counseling Services Briefing..... Jamila Allouane, Tania Arostegui, Jeanine Lamb**

Counseling Service Coordinator Jamila Allouane presented data and other information on the experiences at the Offices of the CFW since the CFW began offering counseling services again. The number and types of clients seen, the type of referrals made and the waiting list were some of the facts presented. After Ms. Allouane's presentation, Counselors Arostegui and Lamb each discussed a case study from their experiences at the CFW. The Commissioners were very impressed with the knowledge, expertise and passion of the newly appointed Counselors and thanked them for what they are doing for the women of Montgomery County.

**III. Executive Committee Report.....President Walker Holloway**

**A. September 30 meeting with County Executive**

President Walker Holloway, along with Commissioners Ilias and Forde and Executive Director Vaughan-Prather met with County Executive Ike Leggett, the Chief Administrative Officer, the Director of Management and Budget and several of their staff members on September 30<sup>th</sup>. The MCCFW discussed the important work being done at the newly reopened Counseling Services. President Walker Holloway highlighted how the Counselors who have been hired are part-time, temporary positions. This will be a problem as these positions will need to re-filled in April and July of 2014. The County Executive took the matter under advisement but indicated that he is not likely to create new permanent positions as there are still may fiscal and economic uncertainties. First Vice President Bright-Harris will draft a letter of thanks to the Executive to be sent in November.

**B. Confirm Committee Participation/Membership**

There were no changes noted to the roster of committee assignments as decided in the September Annual Planning Meeting.

**IV. Staff report.....Executive Director Judith Vaughan-Prather**

**A. Update the CFW Brochures**

There has been a delay with the MCPS Graphics department which is helping the CFW update its brochures online.

**B. Annual Report**

The Annual Report has been published online.

**C. Noon Diversity Seminars**

MCCFW is doing special noon seminars. These seminars are:

1. Special Issues Confronting Senior Women.....March 19, 2014
2. Special Issues Confronting Muslim Women.....April 8, 2014

**D. Travel Schedule**

Executive Director Judith Vaughan-Prather will be on official travel to Turkey from November 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup>.

**V. Committee Reports**

**A. Policy and Legislation Committee**

There was no report due to the federal government shutdown.

**B. 2014 Women’s Legislative Briefing**

The most recent planning meeting was on October the 3<sup>rd</sup>. MCCFW was very well-represented as many Commissioners attended the meeting. Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday November 13<sup>th</sup>. The Program Committee will meet at 5:30 that day for a pre-meeting. Committee Chair Bright-Harris informed the Commission of the latest draft of the Program. Commissioners were asked to be present at the Briefing by 9:30 am on the day of the event. There is considerable excitement about the new Teen/Tween track of the WLB which will focus on 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> graders. The ‘Mis-representation’ video will focus the sessions. A viewing party will be scheduled for the sub-committee and some teen volunteers to determine the most appropriate use of the video in the program.

**VI. Unfinished Business**

**A. Maryland Women’s Conference/Frederick County CFW**

This Conference is scheduled for October 26<sup>th</sup> at the Frederick Holiday Inn. Many Commissioners volunteered to attend the event.

**B. Prince George’s County Women’s Legislative Conference**

This Conference is scheduled for October 26<sup>th</sup> at the Prince George’s County Community College. Many Commissioners volunteered to attend the event.

**C. Community Service Day Project**

Commissioner Rouland visited the National Center for Children and Families and discussed a couple of opportunities for the CFW to help the Center as part of our Community Service Day project. The Commission decided to donate an amount to the organization’s Comfort Case drivet whereby suitcases and toiletry bags are provided to foster care children. Commissioner Rouland will collect the contributions and make the donation. Commissioner Rouland moved the motion to donate to the Comfort Case drive. Commissioner Forde seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**VII. New Business**

**A. Conference Call on Immigrant Women’s Health...Alvarado/Nageer-Kanthor/Rouland**

Commissioner Nageer-Kanthor briefed the Commission on the call which focused on a discussion of upcoming bills. The Commission can possibly help with a briefing, one-on-ones as well as sign-on letters.

**B. US DOL Event on Working Women.....Walker Holloway/Vaughan-Prather**

This event was cancelled due to the federal government shutdown.

**C. Maryland Women’s Hall of Fame Call for Nominations**

Commissioner Forde will check to see whether the CFW can nominate Henrietta Lacks. If that is possible, we will need to identify an organization which will support the nomination. Two letters of support are required. Commissioner Forde moved that the CFW

nominate Henrietta Lacks to the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame. Commissioner Bright-Harris seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**VIII. Liaison Reports**

**A. MLAW**.....Smith  
The MLAW Conference is scheduled for October 19<sup>th</sup>.

**B. Teen Dating Violence Task Force/Choose Respect Conference**.....Forde/Alvarado  
The Teen dating Conference is on February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2014 at Montgomery College Takoma Park. The theme is “Piecing together a healthy relationship”. The committee is currently working on promotion and advertising strategies.

**C. NACW Conference**.....Vaughan-Prather  
Nothing to report.

**IX. Adjournment**

The Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Minutes Submitted by  
Maliha Ilias  
Commissioner