**Montgomery County Commission for Women**

 **General Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2022 / 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.**

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***“When women thrive, all of society benefits.”***

***Kofi Annan***

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Commissioner Attendees
Donna Rojas (Chair)
Arlinda Clark Janet Lavelle Kimberly Mouzon

Ijeoma Enendu Jan Molino Tondalayo Royster

Absent:

Chai Shenoy, Betty Romero, Isabel Argoti

CFW Staff:

Jodi Finkelstein, Executive Director

 **GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**I.       WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS / CHAIR ROJAS**

* Introduction by Commissioners in attendance

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA / CHAIR ROJAS**

* No vote for August 8, 2022 Minutes and Agenda (no quorum)

**III.       EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT / CHAIR ROJAS**

* CFW Onboarding Update
* Interviews are completed
* Names of recommended candidates were sent to County Executive for review
* After approval of County Executive, County Council will confirm selected candidates
* CFW Intern is Jennifer Escobar
* Program Manager position closed today (09.08.22)
* Executive Director, Jodi Finkelstein will begin interview process once applications are received
* Executive Director, Jodi Finkelstein will be on leave September 14-26, 2022

**IV.        COMMITTEE REPORTS**

* **Strategic Planning and Research Evaluation (SPRE) / Commissioner Molino**
* Reminder of upcoming strategic planning meeting on October 8th
* Preliminary work to be completed by Commissioners prior to October 8th session
* **Policy and Legislation (PALS) / Commissioner Molino**
* Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women (MLAW) is the resource utilized by the CFW to select what legislation the Commission will support
* Seeking members for committee
Members: Commissioners Betty Romero, Jan Molino and Tondalayo Royster
* Commissioner Janet Lavelle agreed to join the committee

* **Programming / Chair Rojas**
* No report. Currently in the process of completing fall programming schedule
* Commissioners are encouraged to proctor at least one session
* Commissioner Molino shared she has proctored the Separation and Divorce session
* Commissioner Molino suggested more time is needed for the Divorce and Separation seminar since there is a lot of important information shared during the session
* **Budget Committee / Chair Rojas**
* Committee has reconvened
* Committee reviewed the latest budget report to determine how organization and itemization should appear on future reports
* Budget reports will be displayed on one overall spreadsheet with categorized worksheets within to track funds
* Budget Committee and the Office of the Commission will be able to share how funds are spent with restricted and unrestricted funds
* Request for funds will go through the budget committee for approval and to the body for approval
* Chair Rojas will send request form to Committee Chairs / request comes from Chairs only
* Funding for each CFW committee will be discussed at future Budget Committee mtg.
* **Emerging Leaders / No Report (Chair Pending)**
* **Public Relations / No Report / Chair Rojas**
* **Women’s Legislative Briefing (WLB) / Commissioner Clark**
* One Chair this year
* Commissioners are encouraged to share talents and work together to plan WLB
* Seeking Commissioners to join planning committees with sponsors/volunteering

(Committees: Planning, Emerging Leaders, Publicity, Evaluation and Chairs Reception / Sign-up sheet will be emailed by Executive Director, Jodi Finkelstein)

WLB Details:
Theme: Empowered Women Protect Democracy

Date: Sunday, January 29, 2023 (virtual)
Registration: $23.00 (through Jan. 27th), $30.00 (Jan. 28th & 29th), $5.00 (Students)

\*Chairs Reception will be in person

V. **LIAISON REPORTS**

* **Human Trafficking Prevention (HTP) / Executive Director, Finkelstein**
* Upcoming meeting on 21st and will focus on upcoming legislative priorities
* **Domestic Violence Coordinating Council (DVCC) / Commissioner Royster**
* Planning for Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October 2023
* Theme: Walk in their Shoes
* Display shared stories of survivors or friends who helped survivors
* Stories will be displayed on small boards with shoes attached to represent their story
* Seeking to place stories throughout Montgomery County – whom ever is willing to display stories
* Apartment Initiative information forthcoming
* **Community Health Initiative / No Report / CFW Liaison Pending**
* Commissioner Lavelle agreed to represent the CFW
* **RespectFest / No Report / CFW Liaison Pending**- Commissioner Mouzon agreed to represent the CFW

 **VI.    AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT(S) – No Reports**

**IX. OLD BUSINESS**

* **None**

**X. NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- None**

**XI. GOOD NEWS**- Chair Rojas is a grandma!

**XII.      Meeting Adjourned (7:56 p.m.)**