

**Commission for Women
General Meeting Minutes / Virtual
August 10, 2023 / 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.**



“It took me quite a long tie to develop a voice, and now that I have it, I am not going to be silent.”

Madeline Albright

Attendees

Arlinda Clark, Chair
Isabel Argoti Vice Chair
Betty Romero, 2nd Vice Chair

Jodi Danis	Ijeoma Enendu	Kathy Estrada	LaDonna King
Janet LaValle	Kimberly Mouzon	Tonya Paylor	Lindsey Turnbull
Liz Richards	Tondalayo Royster		

CFW Team Members

Jodi Finkelstein, Executive Director

Absent

Helene Meister

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS / CHAIR CLARK

Welcome and introductions – Guest Danielle Moxley, Department of Recreation

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA / CHAIR CLARK

- Approval of August 10, 2023 meeting agenda
Recommendation to change the following:

Item #3: To read: MoCo Age Friendly Work Group
Include: National Night Out
Include: Ama Tu Vida Health Fair
Item #9: To read: Standing Operations Procedures Committee

Commissioners adopted the agenda as corrected

- Approval of July 13, 2023 Meeting Minutes
Corrections to the minutes:

Item 4: To read: Secretary and Second Vice Chair / no intent to run submitted

Item 6: Committee Reports edits:

Nominations Committee Include:

Elections were held for Interim Vice Chair, Isabel Argoti was elected

Budget Committee Include:

Executive Director, Jodi Finkelstein provided an overview of the budget

Strategic Planning and Research Evaluation Committee Change:

To read: SPRE / Strategic Planning Annual Work Session

To read: Self -Assessment Survey forthcoming/ Commissioners to complete

Women's Legislative Briefing Include:

The Universities at Shady Grove

Item 10: To read: Strategic Planning Annual Work Session in September is not a general commission meeting

Commissioners accepted the minutes with corrections

3. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT / CHAIR CLARK

- CFW approached by MoCo Age Friendly Work Group /Employment 50+ Work Group
- Request to provide support and advocate for their mission and goals
- Request to help with data to determine what the workforce look like for women over 50+
- CFW Executive Committee recommendation is there isn't anything to do at this point
- MoCo Age Friendly Work Group needs to provide specific request for CFW to consider
- CFW Tabled at the National Night Out two locations simultaneously (Silver Spring/ Olney)
- CFW Tabled at Ama Tu Vida Health Fair (Montgomery College Campus/ Rockville)

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT / JODI FINKELSTEIN

- Diana, Summer RISE Intern graduated the end of July
- CFW attended and tabled the Summer RISE graduation
- During the Summer RISE tabling event, numerous emerging leaders were interested in volunteering and signed up for the newsletter.

- University of Maryland School of Social Work due to declining enrollments they do not have a placement for the CFW this year
- CFW reached out to the Universities at Shady Grove seeking placement
- Jodi will send the intern job description to the Commissioners to share with networks
- Commissioners are asked to help with the WLB since there is no intern to date
- Intern, Liam last day is next week and Intern Hannah will remain on board until the beginning of the school year

5. OFFICERS ELECTIONS / COMMISSIONER ENENDU

- Annual elections tonight / elections held every August (per By Laws)
- Reminder of special election at last meeting for Vice Chair Vacancy (Commissioner Argoti elected)
- Commissioners will vote on the particular position discussed
- Nominations can be made from the floor in addition to the slate from the last meeting
- **Should Read:**
- **Write-in candidates will be done via the google form. Google form link in chat.**

- Candidates have 90 seconds to present their speech
- Candidate must receive the majority of the votes to be declared the Chair
- Each position will be voted on one at a time
- Winners will be announced after the poll and write-ins are tallied
- No nominations made from the floor for the Chair's position / voting commenced

Should Read

- **Due to the poll being set up as one ballot for all positions, all candidates will give their speech, at the end, Commissioners will vote by the poll and the only things written are those added to the form**

- Chair Candidate (s): Commissioner's Arlinda Clark and Betty Romero
- Vice Chair Candidate (s): Commissioner Isabel Argoti
- 2nd Vice Chair Candidate (s): Commissioner Lindsey Turnbull / floor nomination
- Secretary Candidate (s): Commissioner Liz Richards / floor nomination
- At Large Candidate (s): Commissioner Ladonna King / floor nomination

- Commissioners agreed to continue the meeting while votes being are counted by Commissioner Enendu and Executive Director, Jodi Finkelstein.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy and Legislation / Co-Chairs, Commissioners Royster and Meister

- No Report

Program Planning / Chair, Commissioner Enendu

- Preparing for Fall Programming
Financial Wellness, Self-Defense and Separation and Divorce Seminars
- Potentially re-introduce the Career Series
- Issue with Self-Defense:
 - RAD/vendor eligible to submit RFP or close to limit?
 - RAD increasing price from \$12 to \$15 /only course members of the public pay to attend
- Calendar forthcoming with seminar dates / Commissioners encouraged to proctor seminars

Budget / Chair Clark

- No restricted funds used per Jodi Finkelstein, Executive Director
- Funds utilized for the MLAW membership
- Call out for Commissioner to Chair the Budget Committee

Strategic Planning and Research Evaluation Committee,/ 2nd Vice Chair, Romero

- Reminder /SPRE strategic planning annual work session
September 9, 2023 (8:30 am – 12:30 pm)
- Results for self-assessment survey will be shared by Commissioner Argoti

Emerging Leaders / Vice Chair Argoti and Commissioner Turnbull

- Commissioner Turnbull reported potentially creating a youth advisory panel
- Councilwoman Sayles currently has a youth advisory panel to review and possibly model from
- Seeking input from youth to assist plan emerging leader programming
- Vice Chair Argoti shared the push for more youth led initiatives

Public Relations / Commissioner Argoti

- Back to School Event / Wheaton Mall / August 26th (10 am – 1pm)

Women's Legislative Briefing / Vice Chair Argoti

- Location close to being confirmed
- Catering quotes close to being received
- Hope to have finalized by the end of the month

7. LIAISON REPORTS

MLAW / Commissioner Meister

No Report

Human Trafficking Prevention (HTP) / Executive Director, Jodi Finkelstein

- Commissioner Estrada will serve as liaison

Domestic Violence Coordinating Council (DVCC) / Commissioner Royster

- No Report

Maryland Commission for Women, Executive Director, Jodi Finkelstein

- CFW receive emails for quarterly meetings of the Women's Bureau/Department of Labor. Commissioners are invited to attend

Choose Respect / Commissioner Mouzon

- No Report

Community Health Initiative / Commissioner LaValle

- No Report

CFW Scholarship / Commissioner Argoti

- No report

***Elections counted and announced...**

Chair:	Elected Arlinda Clark (9 of 12 Votes) / Betty Romero (3 out of 12 Votes)
Vice Chair:	Elected Isabel Argoti (12 of 12 Votes)
2 nd Vice Chair:	Elected Lindsey Turnbull (12 of 12 Votes)
Secretary:	Elected Liz Richards (9 of 12 Votes / 4 Write-ins)
At Large:	Elected Ladonna King (9 of 12 Votes / 4 Write-ins)

8. AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

By-Laws / Chair Clark

- By-Laws can be revised twice per year

- Next revision scheduled in November / Look for email inviting comments

9. OLD BUSINESS

- Standing Operation Procedures Committee (SOPC)
 - Not official committee yet (3 member minimum)
 - Commissioner Enendu motioned to adopt the SOPC
 - Commissioner LaValle Second to adopt the SOPC
 - Commissioners voted and SOPC formally adopted
 - Commissioner LaValle expressed interest in Chairing

10. NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Back to School Event (Wheaton Mall / August 26th (10 am – 1pm)
- Safety Summit (September 7th (4:30 pm. – 7:00 pm)
- CFW In Person Meetings Scheduled:
October 12, 2023, March 14, 2024 and June 13, 2024

11. Meeting Adjourned