

**Commission for Women
General Meeting Minutes / In Person
June 8, 2023 / 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.**



“I am not free while any woman is unfree, even when her shackles are very different from my own”

Audre Lorde

Attendees

Donna Rojas, Chair

Arlinda Clark, 1st Vice Chair

Isabel Argoti

Ijeoma Enendu

Kathy Estrada

LaDonna King

Janet Lavelle

Helene Meister

Kimberly Mouzon

Liz Richards

Tondalayo Royster

Lindsey Turnbull

CFW Team Members

Jodi Finkelstein, Executive Director

Carmen Kaarid, Program Manager

Guests

Council Member Marilyn Balcombe

Council Member Dawn Luedtke

Absent

Betty Romero

Jodi Danis

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS / CHAIR ROJAS

Welcome Councilmembers Marilyn Balcombe and Dawn Luedtke

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA / CHAIR ROJAS

- Approval of June 8, 2023 meeting agenda
Chair Rojas moved to change the order of the following agenda items:
 - Executive Report to the end of the agenda (after Ad Hoc Committee Report)
 - By Laws Committee Report after the Executive Committee ReportAgenda changes approved by Commissioners

- Approval of April 13, 2023 meeting minutes
Minutes approved by Commissioners

- Approval of May 11, 2023 meeting minutes
Commissioner Liz Richards noted to remove 2nd listing of her name
Change approved by Commissioners

III. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT / CHAIR ROJAS

- Maryland Commissioner for Women Roundtable
 - Commissions shared priorities and challenges
 - MC CFW is visible with newsletter reaching approximately 20K
 - MC CFW has social media presence
 - Commissions statewide face visibility and public relations challenges

IV. RE-ENTRY PROGRAM / VICE CHAIR CLARK

Commission Royster recommended on behalf of the Executive Committee:

- ratify the re-entry program (FY2023/2024)
- Encumber \$50K for education and outreach and to hire contractor to run the program
- 11 Commissioners ratified the recommendation regarding the re-entry program

V. BY-LAWS COMMITTEE / VICE CHAIR CLARK

- Vote to approve 14 amendments to the By-Laws
- Commissioners voted in favor of the 14 amendments to the By-Laws

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Policy and Legislation / Executive Director, Jodi Finkelstein
 - No Report / Chair Pending
- Program Planning / Chair, Commissioner Enendu
 - No Report
- Budget / Chair Rojas)
 - No Report
- Strategic Planning and Research Evaluation Committee, / 2nd Vice Chair, Romero
 - No Report

- Emerging Leaders / Commissioners Argoti and Turnbull
 - No Report

- Public Relations / Commissioner Argoti
 - No Report

- Women's Legislative Briefing / 1st Vice Chair, Clark
 - Next Planning Meeting is July 6th @ 7pm (virtual)

V. LIAISON REPORTS

- MLAW / Commissioner Meister
 - Seeking venue for upcoming MLAW Annual Event

- Human Trafficking Prevention (HTP) / Executive Director, Jodi Finkelstein
 - Partnering with HHS on Bus Campaign
 - Education and Outreach / Enhancing the pathways for clinical victims to receive service from Shady Grove
 - MCPS, Fire and Rescue and MoCo Police Department involved in outreach project
 - Work group gather to enhance body work bill
 - Received \$25K budget

- Domestic Violence Coordinating Council (DVCC) / Commissioner Royster
 - No report

- Maryland Commission for Women, Executive Director, Jodi Finkelstein
 - No additional reporting

- RespectFest / Commissioner Mouzon
 - No Report

- Community Health Initiative / Commissioner LaVelle
 - No report
- CFW Scholarship / Commissioner Argoti
 - No report

VI. AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT(S)

- Social Committee / Chair Rojas
 - Social gathering scheduled June 23, 2023 (details forthcoming)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT / EXEC DIR., FINKELSTEIN

- Internships
 - Carmen spearheading summer program internship
 - Three interns this summer (two from Walt Whitman HS)
 - Interviewing for another field placement position
- Commission for Women vacancies announced in June
- Vacancy Announcement will go out in approximately 2 weeks
- Commissioners up for re-appointments will be contacted individually
- Commissioners are needed to serve on the selection committee

IX. OLD BUSINESS

- N/A

X. NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- N/A

XI. GOOD NEWS

- N/A

XII. Meeting Adjourned

