

Meeting Minutes
Permanent Commission on the Status of Women
November 18, 2015, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
Nash School, Augusta

I. Welcome and Introductions

Attending in Person: Sarah Ruef-Lindquist, Regina Rooney, Cara Courchesne sitting in for Elizabeth Ward Saxl, Guest - Kelly Bentley of UMF
Attending remotely: Marianne Moore, Vera Roberts, Lori Parham
Absent: Elizabeth Ward Saxl, Fatuma Hussein, Samantha Lott hale, Rebekah Smith, Amy Gallant, Andrea Irwin, Jessica Maurer, Jennifer Burke, Gary Wolcott, Jane Haskell, Holly Stover

II. Review and approve minutes from 5/13/15 and 10/6/15 meetings - No quorum

III. Determine regularity of meetings

Have been meeting every second Wednesday. Next meeting is on 12/9/15 from 12:00-2:00. Should we consider meeting as a commission less frequently with working groups meeting as needed as well? TBD at December meeting as quorum needed.

IV. Identify issues for information and advocacy

Educating the public, providing advocacy, providing information for women and girls. Pick one or two things/issues that we could accomplish that everyone supports from the report. Needs to be discussed by the full group. Will be top item for agenda in December.

V. Membership

In flux, but in a place where we might have opportunities

Kelly Bentley (Seat 8) – Teaches at UMF, Community Health Education, background in women’s health, research in violence against women. Worked closely with educators at Safe Voices. She heard about commission through Gary Walcott. Looked at report and interested in elderly and their experience with violence, research, and representing a rural constituency. Attending today to learn more

How do we put in effect terminations? Sarah will discuss with Elizabeth. People may not know about the commission’s termination clause. Sarah will send out a communication.

VI. New England Woman’s Policy Conference – How will ME participate in 11/2016 event?

Holly still willing to be our delegate.

VII. Outreach/Communication Plan

Sub-group for Communication Committee: Regina, Marjorie, Lori, Sam (Kelly expressed interest). Meeting on 12/2/15 at 3:30. Regina will send info on how to attend remotely. Proposals to be shared at December commission meeting. Any issues this session that we want to get behind? Report a great starting point. Bill re: retirement savings accounts did not make it. There is flexibility in what form the report to the legislature can take. Regina would like to carry through the work of the survey, generating our own, Maine-based data.

Meeting closed at 12:50pm.