

Meeting Minutes
Permanent Commission on the Status of Women
March 11, 2015, 12-1:00pm
Nash School, Augusta

I. Welcome and Introductions

Attending in Person: Andrea Irwin, Regina Rooney, Elizabeth Ward Saxl, Eloise Vitelli-guest
Attending remotely: Sarah Ruef-Lindquist, Samantha Lott Hale
Absent: Jennifer Burke, Marianne Moore, Rebekah Smith, Gary Wolcott, Amy Gallant, Fatuma Hussein, Jessica Maurer, Holly Stover

II. Review and Approve Minutes from February Meeting

Table until next month-no quorum

III. Discuss outreach plan for Report - Regina/Andrea

Report is final now. Draft work plan around Women's History Month. Eloise reviewed how the report was rolled out last time. Give to leadership for discussion before a media push. Ask the office contact who would be the best person to speak with. Plan is to mail the report to the leadership offices and follow-up with an email to set up a meeting. After meeting, email to the full legislature with a link to the report and contact your local rep to review.

Time frame – By the end of this week send snail mail and email to leadership. Next week, email out to the whole legislature. After that, commission members follow-up with their legislators.

Media - Regina spoke with Erin Rhoda at BDN. Regina will send the Commission a list of basic points of the report that she is providing Erin this week for review. BDN will have final editing. Return to Erin by the 23rd. Andrea will send the report to Steve Mistler leading by the 23rd. Sarah provided contacts at PPH. Andrea will reach out to her contacts.

Secretary Dunlap stopped in and suggested tightening up the links between the executive summary and the body of the report in regards to food insecurity. Ok to email to the Legislature from SOS. Consider sending to town libraries.

Tasks - Regina will work on food insecurity. Elizabeth will pull together some talking points. Sarah will draft a press release. Andrea will draft an op ed.

Hard copies – Lori will print 50. Most members can do 20-25 range of printed copies.

Coalition partners – Use the Outreach Committee's list. Regina suggested adding the Maine State Library. Women Work & Community should be on the list.

IV. Discuss Vermont Commission Letter

The Vermont Women's Commission is threatened with losing their funding. The New England Women's Policy Initiative group has asked all the New England commissions to sign on to a letter supporting them. All in attendance agreed to sign on to the letter.

V. Other Business

Governance - Elizabeth spoke with Esther Attean. She may attend a meeting and suggested contacting Liz Neptune. Liz told Elizabeth that she can't participate now, but will get back to her. Cheryl Denz may send in her paperwork for a future opening.

VI. Adjourn

a. Next Meeting is Wednesday, April 8, 2015, 12-1pm.