

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

I. Welcome and Introductions

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

II. Review and Approve Minutes from January

Motion to approve minutes from 1/14/15 meeting with changes pointed out to Nikki – Regina, second – Samantha, all in favor.

III. Discuss outreach plan from 1/26 Report/Outreach Committee meeting - Regina/Andrea

Report is finally complete. Report/Outreach met on the 26th. Sam will let us know by the end of the day if the new media student is available to assist. Would like to release the report in March to tie in to Women's History month. However, we must meet with leadership prior. First choice is to release on Friday, March 6 to tie to International Women's Day on Sunday, March 8.

If we meet with leadership prior to the completion of the graphic design, we could provide the report in draft form. The report will be posted to PCSW page on the SOS site. Jen, Regina, and possibly the SOS office will be able to provide resources/print some copies of the report in final form. If your organization has stock photography that can be used, please inform Regina.

We decided not to do a press conference. Individual members will pitch to reporters - Regina will reach out to Erin Rhoda at the BDN. Lori will contact Johnathan, MPBN Maine Calling producer. Sarah will contact Susan Kimball at PPH. Andrea will reach out to Steve Mistler.

Decision to write op eds to be released after the leadership meetings. The first will be authored by Andrea and talk about the full scope of the report. Amy will write a press release to follow, making sure the message is consistent with the op ed. The second op ed could come out in April to coincide with Equal Pay Day. A third op ed or some letters to the editor (LTEs) in the local weeklies could tie in a month later at Mother's Day.

If anyone else would like to prepare something, please do. Have anything sent to the weeklies in ready-to-print form. A summary sheet would be helpful for them as well. Jen and Lori have media lists to share.

A second Commission member should join Andrea at leadership/delegation meetings. Jen, Regina and Amy are available, depending on the date. Sarah can assist after the first week of April. Marianne, Sarah, and Regina will try to meet with their local/regional legislative delegations. A basic script is needed to help provide background on Commission, suggested next steps, etc. Once the meetings are scheduled, we should loop back with Bre to see if she would like to participate.

We will share the report with the PCSW interested parties distribution list and the chairs of State and Local. We are not supporting specific bills. When presenting the report, we will share that the Commission has reached consensus and that these topics are important to women and girls in Maine and that we would appreciate if they would think about the report when they see bills before them regarding these issues. Also, if there is a specific issue that they would like more information on, we would be happy to be a resource for them.

IV. Other Committee Reports/Updates

a. Governance – Elizabeth

Seat 7/Tribal – Contacted Esther Attean and Elizabeth Neptune.

Seat 10/Senate President - Motion to recommend that Kim Condon Lane fill seat 10 – Regina, second – Sarah, all in favor.

Seat 11/Senate President - Motion to recommend that Lori Parham fill seat 11 – Elizabeth, second – Jen, all in favor.

Seat 17/Speaker – Eloise Vitelli is considering it. Possibly Ed Cervone or Sue Bell.

Seat 4/Governor/People with disabilities – may be a need to fill this in the future. Still need to follow-up with reappointments.

Mention of a longer meeting for strategic planning after the release of the report is completed. Amy recommended that the Commission consider its involvement in the next New England Women’s Policy Conference in 2016.

b. Finance – Marianne

The committee has not met.

V. Other Business

VI. Adjourn

a. Next Meeting is Wednesday, March 11, 2015, 12-2pm