

Meeting Minutes
Permanent Commission on the Status of Women
July 9, 2014, 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM
Nash School, Augusta

Welcome

Present: Andrea Irwin, Holly Stover, Melissa Simones, Sarah Ruef-Lindquist, Regina Rooney
Participating via conference call or GTM: Amy Gallant, Jennifer Burke, Fatuma Hussein, Rebekah Smith, Bre Kidman
Absent: Jessica Laliberte, Elizabeth Ward Saxl, Marianne Moore, Samantha Lott Hale, Jessica Maurer, Gary Wolcott

Review and Approve Minutes from May Meeting

Correct spelling Ruef-Lindquist, list Melissa as absent.

Motion to accept minutes as amended from 05/14/14 – Regina, second - Melissa. All in favor.

Committee Reports/Updates:

Report (Regina) – Committee met on 6/30/14. Now meeting at 11:00 am on the last Monday of the month. Moving forward with revisions to report. Different members of the committee have assumed responsibility for different sections of report. A draft is planned by 8/18. The Committee will discuss and work through the edits. At the September 10th meeting of the full commission, we want to have a draft to present. Hope to begin a discussion about policy recommendations at that meeting. Welcome feedback.

Outreach (Jen)

Still have about 120 surveys that need to be entered in the system. Bre should have a rough draft for the committee in early August. We have more than double the surveys we had the last time. More challenging doing the analysis of open ended questions and putting it in format form.

Amy has 150 surveys from McAuley, 78 left to be inputted. Waiting to see if we're going to get any extra help for inputting. Colleges may not be able to pull something together quick enough during the summer. Need update from Jess. Suggest prioritizing McAuley as this is a data set we are missing. Regina and Andrea willing to help with input.

Regina will check to see if the survey needs to be opened again to input data.

Do any of the groups we represent have volunteers that can help out?

Finance – on hiatus until fall

Governance (Elizabeth) Elizabeth absent.

New England Women's Policy Commission Forum - (Update by Holly and Amy)
You should have received the Save the Date: Friday Nov. 7th 10:00-4:00 in Boston.

By our September meeting we need to decide:

Who will go? Currently, Holly and Amy plan to attend. Andrea, Regina and Rebekah would like to attend. Jen unable to attend. Who would like to come from those we sent the Save the Date to? We may need to make ride arrangements for them.

Do we want to carpool? Holly could try to get a van from Fleet Services. We could take the train. The bus is \$34 round trip. Enterprise rental is reasonable for a van. Charter a bus with a Maine Initiative grant?

Do people want to travel Thursday night? Where to stay?

All of the states have been asked to provide a breakout session. Amy and Holly would like to propose Woman in Poverty with nuances being geographical isolation/multigenerational poverty.

Maybe Marjorie Withers would be able to help us. She has worked in Washington County for 25-30 years. She is the co-founder and executive director of Community Caring Collaborative. She brings attention to Washington County poverty issues: lack of transportation, lack of medical care, lack of full-time employment, drug-affected babies, etc. Provides a lens to see the daily challenges of living in poverty.

Marjorie could facilitate or lead a discussion. Other possibilities: Robyn Merrill or Chris Hastedt at Maine Equal Justice Partners, Donna Yellen, Preble Street, a legislator for a policy perspective (Peggy Rotondo?), dee Clark for a personal perspective- fierce advocate of chronic poverty.

Maine is the poorest state in NE. Last year we were the 7th hungriest state in the nation, today we're the 3rd. Maine is in the top 5 in the nation for subsidized ACA plans.

Jen - We're also the oldest state in the nation. Should we get AARP or Jessica Maurer involved?

Donna Beegle, an anti-poverty activist, will be in Augusta to keynote a workshop hosted by the Maine Women's Health Campaign, the Community Caring Collaborative, and Maine CDC on July 25. 180 attending. Bring the save the date for the policy conference there with a sign-up sheet for those who wish to have more information. Will help determine who needs transportation to attend the forum. Andrea is in charge of registration for 7/25 event. She can send a follow-up email re: the forum.

The New England group would like to know what we choose for a topic, but we do not need their approval.

Holly will speak to Karen Heck about the expectation of how many people Maine will bring to the forum and approach the Bingham Foundation regarding transportation.

Holly, Amy, Andrea and Regina will meet with Marjorie at the conference on 7/25 to see if she is interested or available.

Amy will reach out to dee and Robyn Merrill

Andrea will reach out to Jess Maurer.

Do speakers have any per diem for travel? Check into this later.

Other Business

Adjourn

Next Meeting is Wednesday, Sept 10, 2014, 12-2pm (Sarah is not able to attend)

Propose an additional meeting for October 8, 2014, 12-2pm - Amy would not be able to participate. Group agreed to meet October 8th.

Motion to adjourn - Regina, second – Sarah. All in favor.