

Maine's Permanent Commission on the Status of Women
MINUTES
August 10, 2016

Members Attending:

Cara Courchesne, Regina Rooney, Holly Stover, Sarah Reuf Lindquist , Fatuma Hussein, Jane Haskell, Maryanne Moore, Samantha Lott Hale

Note Taker: Regina Rooney

Minutes:

Regina Rooney moves to accept the minutes from the July 13th meeting. Holly Stover seconds. The motion carries with one abstention (Cara Courchesne).

Debrief from July 13th Meeting with Legislative Staff:

No questions re: that meeting.

Planning for 2016 Report:

Regina Rooney presented a proposal to the Commission, based on feedback from the July 13th meeting with legislative staff.

Feedback on the proposal included:

Brevity seems good.

Could be useful structure if we are to go in front of committees; could easily bring whatever pagers apply.

Some of us may be able to use specific pagers in our own work.

Should include links to full report in the pagers.

Consider how to also use infographics and photos for sharing the information.

We lack a budget for printing, so most distribution would probably be digital.

Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault willing to donate design services.

The Commission was supportive of the proposal. The Report Committee will carry the implementation forward. Regina Rooney will convene a meeting .

Jane Haskell suggests that in March of 2017, we reconvene legislative staff for feedback on the new format and approach, to discern whether or not this was helpful.

Membership:

Cara Courchesne received her appointment letter to Seat 14.

Holly Stover received her reappointment letter to Seat 17.

Elizabeth Ward Saxl's resignation has left us needing a Membership Chair, who will follow the appointments process. Any interested members should let Sarah Reuf Linquist know. For the time being, Sarah will follow the appointments as Acting Chair.

Jane Haskell will be resigning from Seat 11 in the fall. She suggests Sara Trunzdo of Maine Farmland Trust for her seat.

There was no response from Jane Root re: Seat 7 (tribal seat). Regina Rooney will reach out to Sherri Mitchell this week re: that seat.

Discussion of Seat 4 (disabilities seat). Holly Stover suggests Becca Emmons, Director of Mobius in Damariscotta. She represents a large constituency of people with developmental disabilities. Holly will reach out to her and see if she is interested or if she has other ideas. If we are unable to fill that seat, Jane Haskell would qualify and offers to move into that seat temporarily, until someone else could be found to fill it on a long-term basis.

Discussion of Seat 3 (elders seat). Samantha Lott Hale and Jane Haskell recommend Diane Walsh of Eastern Area on Aging. Holly Stover recommends Maryann Pinkham. Samantha will reach out to Diane, and will report back so we can reach out to Maryann if needed.

The process for appointments has traditionally been that Commission members present ideas to the group for discussion, and then reach out to potential new members. The Commission then makes recommendations to the appointing body through the Governance Chair.

Eliza Townsend has also been suggested as a member and has expressed interest in the Commission.

Next Meeting:

Oct. 12, 2016 from 12:00-2:00.

Holly Stover moves to adjourn. Jane Haskell seconds. Motion carries unanimously.