



Frederick County Commission For Women

401 Sagner Avenue
Frederick, MD 21701
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CFW@FrederickCountyMD.gov

www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/fccfw

www.Facebook.com/fccfw



Public Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2021

6:15 p.m. – Virtual Meeting

COMMISSIONERS

Maura Page
President

Melissa Atherholt
Vice President

Shauna Mulcahy
Recorder

Valerie Dougherty
Treasurer

Rosario Campos
Member-at-Large

Karen Czapanskiy
Lakshmi Darbha
Lois Jarman
Carmen Kaarid
Chelsea Kadish
Lindsay Mickey
Kaitlin Moore
Cindy Shubin
Desiree Tucker
Marguerite Vacca-Kaye

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Government*

Commissioners Present: Shauna Mulcahy, Lakshmi Darbha, Cindy Shubin, Melissa Atherholt, Karen Czapanskiy, Valerie Dougherty, Lois Jarman, Kaitlin Moore, Chelsea Kadish, Maura Page, Rosario Campos, and Lindsay Mickey. Carmen Kaarid, Desiree Tucker and Marguerite Vacca-Kaye
Guests: Lindsay Burdette, Maigan Pechnik, Rich Campbell, and Zohreh Rezazadeh

President Maura Page called the meeting to order at 6:17 p.m., a quorum was present.

I. Executive Committee Report

- a. Approval of the November meeting minutes. Minutes were accepted.
- b. Approval of the December meeting minutes. Minutes were accepted.

II. Treasurer's Report

- a. Quarterly Financial Statement Presentation - Valerie discussed that there has been little activity in the account in the past quarter. There have been some checks cleared for MLAW dues and we are saving money on the Constant Contact monthly membership.
- b. Annual Budget Request – The budget request is due to the County by January 15, 2021. The County disclosed that they do not have flexible funding this year. The Commission agreed on moving forward with a \$3,500 request. Valerie will submit this request to the County.

III. Commission Business

- a. Outreach:
 - i. Lakshmi is developing a speaker list for upcoming meetings.
 - ii. Continuing to promote events on our Facebook page which is getting a lot of activity.
- b. Legislative:
 - i. Karen reported that sadly, our franchise proposal was not one of the top vote-getters, so it will not be on the advocacy list of the Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women this year.

Our Mission: To create a stronger community by addressing challenges and fostering unlimited opportunities for all women.

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- ii. The bills which received the majority of votes and were approved by the Board of Directors to comprise the Agenda were:
 - Family Law – Custody and Visitation (Best Interest of the Child Factors When there is Child Abuse or Domestic Violence)
 - Criminal Law – First Degree Child Abuse – Continuing Course of Child Abuse
 - Criminal Law – Repeal of Spousal Defense (Love is No Defense to Sexual Crimes)
 - Public Schools – Provision of Menstrual Hygiene Products – Requirement
 - Health Equity Resource Act
 - Labor and Employment – Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program – Establishment (Time to Care Act)
 - Maryland Essential Worker Protection Act
 - iii. Our four specific proposals for improving access to the ballot will be introduced as part of a bill sponsored by Sen. Cheryl Kagan, who serves as vice-chair of the pertinent committee in the Senate. Karen will have more details including bill number, house co-sponsor, hearing date, etc. in the near future.
 - iv. The Maryland League of Women Voters has issued what should be a highly influential report about improving access to the ballot by mail-in voting, better voter centers, etc. Karen can provide copies upon request.
 - v. The Women's Legislative Briefing is being held on Jan. 31, 12:30-4.
- c. SheLEADS – Maura shared that she is ensuring that we have releases for each student prior to the students publishing content on social media. Carmen shared that the student rate for the Women's Legislative Briefing is \$5.00. Carmen is presenting on the emerging leaders panel. Maura is sharing the Women's Legislative Briefing registration with the SheLEADS students.
 - d. Community Concerns and Special Populations Committee – Kaitlin shared that we will monitor the progress of Immigrant Affairs Commission. It received a lot of positive public comment.
 - e. Marketing - Lakshmi, Desiree and Lindsay will meet to discuss implementing the Social Media Engagement marketing plan. The original goal was to plan for a few months with a launch in the spring. Maura suggested that after they meet, we add items to the agenda to keep this project moving forward.

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f. RAW Event – Shauna will be sending the Save the Date and nomination information out soon. Carmen is developing the materials for the sponsorship package. Materials will be emailed to Commissioners.

g. New Business:

i. Bylaw Review - We voted unanimously to make the following change to the Bylaws:

Article VII. Executive Committee Members, Duties, Annual Elections, Terms, Vacancies, Resignations **Section 1. Executive**

Committee and Section 7. Executive Committee Annual Elections – Where it is stated the Executive Committee shall be elected “**at the first meeting of the calendar year**”, we intend to change the phrase to “**each year prior to the beginning of the new fiscal year**”.

Valerie will incorporate all of the changes discussed by both the Executive Committee and the full group into one document. Lakshmi is looking into whether we can increase the size of the Commission. After all information is received, Valerie will send one more document out for the Commission to review before submitting to the County.

ii. Resolution Discussion

Rich Campbell attended the meeting representing the IT department of the County. He said that the County uses WebEx because of the additional security measures put in place. He suggested that we continue to ask the County to look into other platforms as more security measures have been put in place on other platforms (i.e., Zoom) since the beginning of the pandemic in March 2020.

IV. Announcements:

- a. Karen asked that the Commission send a card offering our condolences to Jamie Raskin for the death of his son. Melissa is going to send this.
- b. Chelsea asked Maigan who would be a good guest speaker from the County’s legal team to come and present to us on how the County addresses concerns with County officials. Chelsea will look into coordinating someone to come to a future meeting.
- c. Lakshmi shared that Aavaneer will be offering IT programming for women.
- d. Zohreh shared that there will be a free virtual public performance program at 12:00 pm hosted by UNESCO BMW. This is in celebration of International Education Day.

V. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

The next public meeting will be held on February 9, 2021 at 6:15 p.m.

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