



**Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women Agenda
St. Vincent's Relaxation and Spirituality Room
August 2, 2014**

Present: Roshanda Jackson, Oleta Riggs, Sabrina Simmons, Dr. Ann Williams,

Absent: Ruth Ann Hepler, Dr. Shirley Leckie Reed, Donna Kulda, Patt Sher, Dr. Gail A. Patin

Staff: Alaina Reaves

Guests: Phanessa Harris, Tangi Williams, Deborah Thompson, Leila Gurchsensen, Linda Watson, Elaine Ginn, Fernanda Hernandez, Guita Carpenter, Margaret Johnston, Terri Troner, Gen Wilburn

Vision: "To create a city where women achieve social, economic and political equality."

The 2014 Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women Retreat began at 9:15am on Saturday August 2, 2014. The Retreat was held at the St. Vincent's Hospital Relaxation and Spirituality Room. Roshanda Jackson began the meeting by making introductions. Dr. Ann Williams spoke on the power of empowering women.

For the first team building exercise, executive coach Marsha Myers had each of the Commissioners and attendees draw what a "super" Commissioner on the Commission on the Status of Women would look like. Each drawing was to include 5 attributes for each Commissioner. Following the presentation of the drawings from the four groups, each attendee introduced herself. After the introductions, Roshanda asked each attendee, including Commissioners and guests, to discuss what brought them to the Commission. Each Commissioner was asked to complete a Board Assessment, and return to Roshanda for her review.

Roshanda laid out her goals for the 2014-15 Commission year. The first goal is to engage more in the community. The second goal was also a discussion about the new number of Commission subcommittees: Budget, Volunteers, Community Outreach (formerly Celebration), Advocacy and Education, and Advisory. Dr. Ann Williams suggested having a description for each committee. It was agreed upon that the Commissioner assigned to public relations will be the point person for the media. The position of the secretary will have more responsibility in the upcoming year. When the executive committee met they in June, they discussed increasing the Commission to have 25 Commissioners. Roshanda suggested having a uniform for the Commissioners when attending events for MCSW. The uniform would be a navy blue or black blazer with the MCSW name badge.

The third goal was to have Commissioners attend other Boards & Commissions Meetings and Outreach events. Before attending these events, Roshanda suggested having an action plan for the Commissioners to do more outreach; also proposing there should be mock session to train Commissioners to speak on behalf of MCSW. The action plan included the 5 purposes of the Commission as stated in the By-Laws.

Purpose: Empowering the Commission to empower the Women of Jacksonville

- 1) Develop a public consciousness of the talents of women, with special emphasis on the utilization of those talents as equal partners in the private, business, governmental and civic community
- 2) Encourage women to become actively involved in matters pertaining to the government and community
- 3) Work toward utilization of capable women in roles of leadership
- 4) Act as a source of information for women including, but not limited to, employment opportunities, education, harassment, and discrimination against women
- 5) Focus attention on the needs of underserved women and/or women with special needs.

The last discussion of the meeting was a discussion of events in Jacksonville that the Commissioners could attend. Below is a draft list of the ideas and events provided. Guests agreed to send future events to MCSW@coj.net.

August

Retreat
Back to School

January - National Mentor Month
MLK Breakfast

September - Grandparents/Caregiver Month
Family Day

February
Vagina Monologues

October - Domestic Violence Awareness,
Breast Cancer Awareness,
Anti-bullying

March - National Nutrition Month
Women's History Month Breakfast
Sister's Inc. – A Sister's Love
Summit
Honhers

Women Up! – October 9
Human Trafficking – Delores
Weaver
NAACP Freedom Fun Jam

April - Mental Health Counselor Month
Equal Pay Day
Gen W

November
Thanksgiving

June
Art in Soul with Women's Center

December
Christmas Toys for tots

July - National Ice Cream Month

Meeting Adjourned at 12:17pm