



**Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women**  
**August 25, 2014**  
**Don Davis Room**

**Present:** Donna Kulda, Christen Luikart, Roshanda Jackson, Dr. Gail A. Patin Oleta Riggs, Sabrina Simmons, Dr. Ann Williams,

**Absent:** Ruth Ann Hepler, Dr. Shirley Leckie Reed, Patt Sher

**Staff:** Alaina Reaves

**Guests:** Phenessa Harris, Tangi Williams, Lori Evans, Carnell Oliver, Stephanie James, Claresa Bags, Yaima Coto

The meeting was called to order at 4:30, and at 5:03 pm with a full quorum was reached. Chairwoman Roshanda began the welcome and introductions.

The minutes were reviewed and corrections made. Dr. Williams made a motion to approve the minutes and Donna seconded. The minutes were approved with Gail abstaining from the vote because she was not present at the retreat.

A previous decision that all prospective Commissioners must attend a minimum of 3 meetings was reiterated.

The Commissioners discussed the events and went over the calendar. Phenessa Harris spoke about her event with the Women's Center of Jacksonville called Remission Rocks at River City Brewery Southbank on September 19.

September will be the month when the Commission will collect sweaters, coats, gloves, scarves and winter gear. Guest Lori Evans suggested naming the event the Winter Wardrobe Drive.

All I Know Incorporated, owned by Claresa Bags, will have a coat drive/winter gear beginning Sept. 27 with distribution in early November. All I Know Inc. provides workshops and seminars to women and children, and brings health programs into neighborhoods. They serve about 500 men, women, and children.

Dr. Ann Williams stated that gloves, hats and socks were in need last year. Commissioners will conduct their collections through their personal or professional relationships at their office. Sisters Inc. will have their distribution on their Hallelujah night on Oct. 31. New Commissioner Christen Luikart suggested having the distribution at the October meeting. Jaime, Lori Evans, and Donna Kulda suggested having a box at City Hall or at a central location. The Staff Liaison will coordinate getting collections at City Hall. Christen suggested having a coat drive and a drive for professional clothes.

Karnell Oliver suggested talking to the regional director of the supermarkets. Dr. Williams suggested using one supermarket per geographic area. Roshanda proposed utilizing the supermarkets for next year due to time constraints

Dr. Gail Patin spoke on the opportunities to donate at Hubbard House. Options included bringing items to the Hubbard House thrift shop on Beach Boulevard.

Donna Kuldau talked about having a grandparent's awareness event in September for Grandparents Day (Sept. 7).

The Commission is interested in partnering more with the media to promote events. The event in September will bring awareness to the work of the Commission. Christen suggested partnering with a small business, and Sabrina built on the idea of partnering with a community center.

Roshanda suggested having the Commissioner ALS Ice Bucket Challenge. MCSW will do the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge. Christen motioned to approve having the event, and Sabrina seconded. There were 5 yays and 2 nays. The ALS Ice Bucket Challenge was scheduled for Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6pm in front of City Hall. The group will donate in the spirit of the challenge. Each Commissioner should wear black or blue solid shirts with their Commission name badges. Each Commissioner will bring their own towels. There was a second vote on holding Commissioners Christen 1<sup>st</sup>. Donna 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1 nay, 6 yays.

In December, Sisters O.I.C.U. Inc. will have their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and there will be a celebratory event.

Florida Commission on the Status of Women is interested in having open conversation with the Women and the families of Florida to create the most up to date report on the status of women. The questions they want answered at each event they are holding across Florida are: What are the top 3 challenges facing women in the community. Do you have a solution? How do you feel about the challenges facing women?

The Florida Commission on the Status of Women (FCSW) plans to collect the data and have a report completed by January 2015 to present to the Florida Legislature. Florida Commission wants each region to have either sessions with 30 -40 attendees.

Donna Kuldau attended state-wide conference last year in the fall, and talked about the Women Up event. The Florida Commission discussed having a similar event during the conference last year.

Roshanda asked during the planning call with FCSW what would be done with the information following the forums.

For the October 2014 Women Up! event the 3 main topics are: Health, Employment and Families

Donna Kuldau inquired about the main purpose of the Women Up event in October. Donna will draft an email to see which Commissioners are interested in assisting planning the event. Planning for the event includes addressing the questions from the Florida Commission on the Status of Women. There were questions about who will be on the committee for the food, invitation, and logistics. Donna will write up what activities need to be done.

The goals for Women Up! is to provide an opportunity to answer the questions from FCSW. This is also an opportunity for a health fair and employment fair.

Sabrina Simmons reached out to Baptist, and will send them information on having a booth.

Dr. Ann Williams motioned to repeat the Women Up event for 2014 to include healthcare, employment, family, Sabrina Simmons seconded and the motion was approved.

Commissioners should reach out to healthcare professionals for instance: Baptist, Florida Department of Health. A Commissioner should also reach out to employers to include an employment fair during Women Up! There are additional vendors interested in participating.

On Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> 11:30 or Sept. 16 at 11:30 there will be a planning meeting for the Women Up! event. The meeting will be bring your own lunch. Donna motioned to hold a meeting at that time and Christen Luikart seconded, it was approved, but the exact date is still to be determined.

Dr. Ann motioned to call September clothes collection the Winter Gear Collection, Sabrina Simmons seconded. The motion passed unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 6:18 pm