



**Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women
January 27, 2014
Mayor's Large Conference Room
Notes**

Present: Pixie Larizza, Ruth Ann Hepler, Dr. Gail A. Patin, Sabrina Simmons, Oleta Riggs, Shirley Leckie Reed, Patt Sher, Dr. Ann Williams

Absent: K.C. Padgett, Dr. Shahla Masood, Liza Julao, Roshanda Jackson, Keri Kidder, Donna Kulda

Staff: Alaina Reaves

Guests: Kruzhander Scott, Mary Randall Helen Jackson, Ph.D.

I. Call to Order

- a. Meeting was called to order 4:34 pm; quorum was reached at 4:42 pm.

II. Welcome and introductions

III. Minutes October & November meetings

- a. Pixie noted that for reviewing minutes. Alaina will send out the original minutes, and within a set time frame commissioners will send edits.
- b. Sabrina Simmons suggested having Ruth Ann Hepler review minutes for formatting and content as a second set of eyes.

IV. Chair's Report

a. Malaysian Women

- i. On Tuesday Feb. 4 from 9:30 – 11:00am at JaxChamber a group of 10 Malaysian women will meet to hear about business and entrepreneurial experience from the MCSW, Women's Business Owners, and Women's Center.
 - 1. Attendees include Pat Blanchard (Women Business Owners) and Vicki Sudland. All Commissioners must RSVP to include names in roster prior to event. There will be an interpreter at the meeting.

b. Women UP Report

- i. Shirley Leckie Reed commented on the difficulty of unifying themes for the report based on comments from attendees.
- ii. Pixie commented In drafting the report from the comments, the focus was more about the issues and not the solutions. Solutions from the report will be vetted by City staff.

c. It's Her Business update

- i. The event will be March 7 instead of March 8th; from 8 am – 1:30 pm. Contact Pixie for additional information, or if you would like to attend.
 - 1. The event is sponsored by the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and Junior Achievement Girls. The Commission is sponsoring through support and in name only.

d. WHM donation letter approval & Nomination Form

- i. Pixie asked and the Commission agreed for the February Meeting to start at 4:00 pm to discuss Women's History Month preparations. Also, Christine Levine is coming at 3:00 pm for the Women's History Month subcommittee meeting.
- ii. Sabrina will chair the nomination process, Dr. Reed and Oleta Riggs are assisting, but Pixie is putting out a call for more Commissioners to participate.

e. Need committee for WHM Poster Honoree's

- i. Commissioners are meeting on February 11th from noon - 4pm to discuss and pick final honorees at City Hall. The meeting will be open to public.
- ii. As co-chair of WHM Committee, Sabrina asked each Commissioner to come to meeting with 10 people or groups in mind, and to rate their selections on a 1-10 scale, and be prepared to defend selections.
- iii. Answering the question of what is the criteria for selection; Pixie replied that in line with this year's theme, that the criteria be strong women in the community.

V. Committee Chair Reports

a. Advocacy and Education Committee

- i. After Dr. Reed asked how we are responding to Women Up! Comments, there was some discussion of having another meeting or requesting comments by e-mail, it was decided that the Education and Advocacy will give a 2 ½ minute update during WHM Breakfast. Attendees at the WHM Breakfast will leave their email and we will send them the report.
- ii. Dr. Reed suggested using the Women Up! Report as a baseline for the 2014 Mayor's Report.
- iii. Dr. Williams and Sabrina want clarification on the review process for documents before they are distributed outside of the group. In response, Pixie will set a deadline for comments from the Commissioners for documents, etc.
- iv. Dr. Reed will draft a blurb for the Women's History Month exhibit at the Library to be included in the e-mail invitation for the event.

b. Celebration Committee – Still in need of Chair

- i. Selecting a Chair has been tabled, for now the full commission will collectively contribute to celebration committee needs.

c. Communications Committee

- i. Ruth Ann Hepler called for bios and photos for the monthly bulletin.
 - 1. Alaina also needs bios and photos for the Commission website. Any changes that need to be made to the Commission page should go through Alaina.

d. WHM Committee report

- i. *Pixie* –WHM Breakfast is March 18, 8 am with a full breakfast at \$20/ a person. The Commission needs to raise \$1,200 to cover the event. 10 finalists will be selected, and 4 honorees will be named at the Breakfast. Finalists will receive a certificate. UNF is contributing the \$175 costs for the room.

- ii. Volunteers are welcome to assist at event; they should arrive at 7:30 am.

VI. Liaison's Report

a. Review of MCSW budget

- i. Funds in Trust Fund: \$1,575 General Fund:

b. FB page status

- i. Not completed, but will be up within the week.

c. Women UP Report distribution

- i. Commissioners should have received the final Women Up! Report and the report will also be sent to the Women Up! Forum attendee list.

VII. Old Business

- a. Dr. Williams will resend information on the Mother's Day event to Alaina.

b. Gen(eration) W event, April 4th, 2014

- i. Pixie attended the planning meeting this morning with Donna Orender. If the Commission is participating in the event, a Commissioner needs to lead the charge. There won't be a charge for sponsoring a table.

VIII. Visitor Comments

- a. Kruzhander Scott, President of local National Council Negro Women chapter – Ms. Scott is a federal enforcer and works with girl groups across Jacksonville. Alaina will re-send WHM information so that the NCNW chapter can discuss sponsoring a table at the WHM Breakfast. On the national level, NCNW can provide data, research, and information, should the Commission have need for it.
- b. *Mary Randall* – Ms. Randall wanted to learn more about the Commission and participate more in the community.
- c. *Helen Jackson, Ph.D.* – Dr. Jackson has a talk show every Thursday morning, and the deadline to submit information for the show is Tuesday.

IX. New Business

- a. Equal Pay Day scheduled for Tuesday, April 8th, 2014
- b. First meeting this morning with Sheila Spivey of UNF. Categories: Spirit of Rosie Award. Pixie is calling for another Commission to join the board. The next meeting is Feb. 24 from 9 – 10am

X. Chair's Closing Remarks

- a. *Gail Patin* – On Saturday April 5 at 8 am Hubbard House is having - Setting the Pace for Peace – to raise awareness about domestic violence. Gail will send more information to Alaina to distribute.

Adjourn Meeting was adjourned 5:49 pm

The Next Meeting is February 24 at 4:30 pm in the Mayor's Large Conference Room