



**Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women  
City Hall Don Davis Room  
May 19, 2014**

Present: Ruth Ann Hepler, Roshanda Jackson, Donna Kulda, Pixie Larizza, Dr. Gail A. Patin, Oleta Riggs, Patt Sher, Sabrina Simmons

Absent: Dr. Shahla Masood, Dr. Ann Williams, Dr. Shirley Leckie Reed

Staff: Alaina Reaves

Guests: Phanessa Harris

The meeting was called to order at 4:37pm. Donna Kulda motioned and Sabrina Simmons seconded the April minutes, and they were approved unanimously

**Chair's Report** Pixie Larizza will send out 1<sup>st</sup> draft of End of Year reports, comments will be due by Wed. May 28 close of business, will the final draft from Pixie to be sent on Friday May 30<sup>th</sup>.

There were several votes for Women's History Month recommendations. Roshanda Jackson motioned that sitting Commissioners cannot be eligible as WHM Poster honorees. Gail seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Roshanda motioned that previous honorees are ineligible for, as the Women's History award is a Lifetime Achievement Award. Donna Kulda seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Regarding the end of year report, Pixie highlights the National Council on the Status of Women limits page numbers for the final report, and after the EOY reports lists the follow up items to discuss at the retreat. A major topic for the retreat should be the WHM Breakfast as it is the Commission's signature event. Roshanda made a point that we would have many WHM honorees. At the retreat review the list of past WHM honorees should be discussed. The 3 dates for the Women Up will also be discussed: October 2, 9 or 16. Additional Retreat topics include Bylaws review and if there is a specific requirement that needs to be addressed.

Regarding meeting attendance, Pixie will draft a letter specifically for Liza Julao and Dr. Shahla Masood to address their commitment to the Commission. The Commission will send a letter in June, inviting them to a meeting and then on the Commission. Oleta suggested setting a clear deadline – Friday June 13<sup>th</sup>. There was some disagreement from Commissioners on whether it is fair to petition members off the Commission.

Applicants for MCSW should be required to attend 2 or 3 meetings prior to their consideration for commissioner status. Roshanda asked if the Commission can have an advisory board. Pixie, Sabrina, and Gail Patin discussed having an adjunct committee, but the Commission would

need to strategically outline the role. Ruth Ann Hepler emphasized that expectations be clearly defined during the interview process. This may be another topic to be discussed at the Retreat. Gail Patin asked if Commissions generally have advisory board. Oleta Riggs made a point that Pixie includes a line saying in the letter asking if there is someone you would like to send in your place to attend the meetings, if you are unavailable.

**Liaison's Report** Budget MCSW is in the black, and a detailed budget handout was provided to all Commissioners. Alaina suggested moving the budget management role to a Commissioner, preferably an e-board member.

Pixie advised that Commissioners re-send the donation levels to their contacts, and Donna suggested that attendees from last year get a donation letter.

**Old Business** Commissioner Ruth Ann Hepler will attend The Professional Women's Council luncheon on June 18<sup>th</sup> to speak about MCSW. Documents that will be distributed are the Women Up! Reports.

**Visitor Comments** Phanesa Harris asked Women's History Month, should there be an emerging leader's category? There was some discussion about age inclusions, and whether young adults are being represented.

The Commissioners made a point to ask Daphne to request more young people on the Commission.

**New Business** Voting for 2014/2015 MCSW Executive Committee

Elections Results

Chair – Roshanda Jackson

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair – Sabrina Simmons

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair – Oleta Riggs

Secretary – Donna Kulda

**The meeting was adjourned at 6:00pm**