

Hampden County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls

Minutes DRAFT

June 14, 2018

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Conference Center, Western MA Hospital

91 East Mountain Road, Westfield, MA 01085

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- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
 - a. Chair Murray called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM
 - b. Present: Dawn Distefano, Ellen Moorhouse, Nicole Murray, Arlene Rodriguez, Michelle Goncalves, Shanique Spalding, Jennifer Metsch, Shaita Spruell
 - c. Absent: Pat Hallberg
- II. Public Speak Out (15 minutes)
 - a. No members of the public requested to speak.
- III. Subcommittee Meetings
 - a. Subcommittees were called to order at 6:07 PM and adjourned at 6:23 PM.
- IV. Approval of minutes from May 24, 2018 meeting
 - a. Rodriguez moves to approve minutes. Moorhouse seconds. Passes unanimously.
- V. Chair report
 - a. MCSW created a Commissioner Handbook and has circulated a draft to the regional commissions for feedback.
 - i. Commissioners are requested to look at the handbook prior to the next meeting and Chair Murray will submit all feedback from the commission.
 - b. Annual report was submitted to the state commission.
 - c. Moorhouse moves to accept chair report. Rodriguez seconds. Passes unanimously.
- VI. Vice Chair report
 - a. Healthy Youth Act moved out of House finance committee and sent to House Ways and Means. Next step is to get it out of House Ways and Means and to the floor for a vote. Conference committee would solidify language. The senate currently has the strongest issue of this bill. Session ends July 31.

- i. A number of op eds have been written about the bill. Spalding will send samples to Moorhouse for social media.
- ii. Planned Parenthood has been partnering with the Worcester Commission on the Status of Women for an event related to the bill, and it offers an example of how our commission may be able to partner with organizations moving forward.

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- b. Metsch moves to accept Vice Chair report. Spruell seconds. Passes unanimously.

VII. Committee Reports

a. Communications/Social Media

- a. Committee will make Facebook events for our meetings moving forward.
- b. Committee proposes to do a push to get more likes and then use Facebook to circulate a survey to get more information from the county.
 - i. Metsch will request a copy of the survey Cape Cod commission used to collect information from its county so we can replicate.
- c. Committee wants to promote more events that we are affiliated with, e.g. Through Her Eyes conference (October), Vote the Valley (September)
- d. Spruell moves to accept committee report. Metsch seconds. Passes unanimously.

b. Program & Planning

- a. Committee recommends that we request a Roca representative to speak at our next meeting (July). Metsch will invite.
 - i. It may be useful to have someone come speak about the legislative process at one of our hearings.
 - 1. Commissioners discussed possibility of partnering with other regional commissions to host a session about the process.
 - a. Suggested that we aim for January, but it will ultimately be dependent on the speaker.
 - 2. Metsch will contact the executive director of the Citizens Legislative Seminar.
- b. Committee needs commissioners to submit names/orgs of people to invite to the November hearing so they can continue to build a database.
- c. Committee discussed legislative breakfast in March, in connection with women's history month.

- i. In the future, we may want to aim for October to encourage bills
- d. Moorhouse moves to accept committee report. Rodriguez seconds. Passes unanimously.
- c. Legislative
 - a. Open Meadow Foundation (from last meeting) requires applicants to be a 501c3 and suggested that we find a fiscal sponsor willing to be a pass through organization -- e.g. Peace Development Fund in Amherst or Girl Scouts.
 - b. Moorhouse moves to accept committee report. Spruell seconds. Passes unanimously.

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VIII. Old Business

a. Officer elections

i. Chair

1. Moorhouse and DiStefano accepted the nomination.

2. Roll call vote:

- a. DiStefano - Moorhouse
- b. Rodriguez - Moorhouse
- c. Metsch - DiStefano
- d. Spalding - DiStefano
- e. Moorhouse - DiStefano
- f. Goncalves - DiStefano
- g. Spruell - DiStefano

3. DiStefano appointed chair

ii. Vice Chair

1. Spalding was nominated and accepted

iii. Recorder

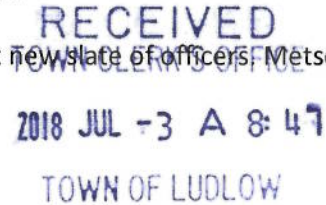
1. Goncalves and Spruell were nominated; Spruell withdrew her nomination.

- a. Request made for secretary to create a list of steps/guide for secretary responsibilities

b. Goncalves appointed Recorder

iv. Goncalves announced new executive officers: DiStefano, chair; Spalding, vice chair; Goncalves, recorder/clerk

1. Rodriguez moves to accept new slate of officers. Metsch seconds. Passes unanimously.



b. Subcommittees

i. Commissioners discussed a yearly rotation of subcommittee membership

c. Annual Report

d. Approval of past minutes

i. DiStefano moves to accept the minutes from May 2017.

1. Discussion: The minutes were not approved originally because June minutes noted changes needed.

2. DiStefano withdraws motion because she was not present at the May meeting.

ii. Metsch moves to approve the minutes from May 2017 with minor editorial revisions. Rodrigues seconds. Passes unanimously.

IX. New Business

a. Chair Murray requests that commissioners review the Commission Handbook distributed by the state commission and bring feedback to the July meeting.

X. Any Other Items that may Lawfully Come Before this Body

XI. Adjournment

a. Metsch moves to adjourn. Spruell seconds. Passes unanimously.

b. Meeting adjourns at 7:22 PM.