

**Hampden County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls**

**DRAFT Minutes**

March 14, 2019

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Square One  
1095 Main St., Springfield, MA 01103

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- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
  - a. Chair DiStefano called the meeting to order at 6:08 PM.
  - b. Present: DiStefano (West Springfield), Goncalves (Ludlow), Metsch (Longmeadow), Moorhouse (Springfield), Murray (Agawam), Spalding (Springfield), Spruell (Springfield)
  - c. Absent: Hallberg (Wilbraham), Ogulewicz (Westfield)
  
- II. Public Speak Out (15 minutes)
  - a. James Saucedo, Community Organizer, MA Coalition for the Homeless, spoke about a rental arrearage program bill (House Bill 1264 -- currently cosponsored by 71 legislators). The bill would direct the dept. of housing and community development to administer a rent arrearage assistant program, which would provide cash assistance for up to 4 months of back rent or mortgage payments. They are asking for \$7million in the budget as a pilot within the RAAP program. James is asking for the HCCSWG to endorse the bill.
  
- III. Approval of minutes from February 11, 2019
  - a. Moorhouse moves to approve the minutes. Spruell seconds. Spalding abstains. Passes unanimously.
  
- IV. Chair report
  - a. Chair DiStefano distributed 2019 MSCW meeting schedule and encouraged the Commission to consider reviewing and identifying meetings to attend.
  - b. PHIWM Status Report on the Women and Girls in Western Mass has completed its research and produced a draft. They are now open to individuals identifying information and data themselves.
  - c. Metsch moves to accept chairs report. Murray seconds. Passes unanimously.
  
- V. Vice Chair report
  - a. Spalding recapped Sexual Health Lobby Day
  - b. Moorhouse moves to accept vice chairs report. Metsch seconds. Passes unanimously.
  
- VI. Old Business

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- a. Subcommittee Structure (Vote)
    - i. Commissioners discussed changes to the subcommittee section of the bylaws as presented by Chair DiStefano. DiStefano will bring changes to the next meeting.
  - b. Constituent/Community Survey
    - i. Updates from the HCCSWG survey were distributed.
  - c. Legislative breakfast updates
    - i. DiStefano distributed a draft agenda for the breakfast
    - ii. DiStefano distributed the MCSW legislative committee meeting agenda for March 14 and asked Commissioners to review bills MCSW was reviewing.
    - iii. Commissioners identified several top bills to research further, under the following themes:
      - 1. healthcare (including Coalition for Choice, Diaper Bill, Menstrual Access),
      - 2. education (Promise Act, Healthy Youth Act, Campus Climate, Campus Sexual Assault),
      - 3. workplace (Fair Scheduling, Abuse Waivers, Vouchers),
      - 4. sexual assault and harassment (Healthy Youth Act, Sexual Harassment Training)
    - iv. Moorhouse will create a PPT template that commissioners can use for the legislative breakfast presentation.
    - v. Commissioners will review the following bills in preparation for the next meeting (including which committees the bills are in):
      - 1. Spruell - Diaper Bank, Fair Scheduling
      - 2. Spalding - Healthy Youth, Roe Bill, Fair Scheduling, Promise Act
      - 3. Murray - Roe, Menstrual Equity, Sexual Harassment Training
      - 4. Moorhouse - Campus bills
      - 5. Metsch - Promise Act, Campus Sexual Assault
      - 6. Goncalves - Campus Climate Survey and Campus Sexual Assault
      - 7. DiStefano - Childcare, Fair Scheduling, Abuse Waiver
    - v. Legislators and Hampden County MCSW were mailed a save the date

## VII. New Business

- a. Moorhouse moves to endorse RAAP campaign as presented in the materials presented by James Saucedo. Metsch seconds.
  - i. Commissioners discussed the process by which individuals can receive funding once in arrears and affordable housing concerns.

- ii. Vote: All in favor. Passes unanimously.
- b. Metsch moved to change the HCCSWG April meeting date to April 18. Spruell seconds. Passes unanimously.
- c. Spruell moved to add a new HCCSWG meeting on May 2 Spalding seconds. Passes unanimously.
  - i. Reminder that May 9 meeting will not occur since breakfast is May 6.
- d. HCCSWG annual report is due May 1, 2019
- e. Metsch moves to allow the chair to disseminate the initial survey results to the women's fund for use in their Status of Women and Girls Report, release to the community health needs assessment group doing the Community Health Needs Assessment. Murray seconds. Passes unanimously.

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

IX. Adjournment

- a. Spruell moves to adjourn. Metsch seconds. Passes unanimously.
- b. Meeting adjourns at 7:56 PM