

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

**DRAFT Minutes**

October 24, 2019

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

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Square One, 1095 Main Street, 2nd Floor, Springfield, MA

### I. Call to Order and Roll Call

a. DiStefano called the meeting to order at 6:17 PM

b. Roll Call:

i. Present: DiStefano (Westfield), Hallberg (Wilbraham), Metsch  
(Longmeadow), Spalding (Springfield), Goncalves (Ludlow)

ii. Absent: None

### II. Public Speak Out (15 Minutes)

a. No members of the public were present

### III. Presentation on the Invest in Girls Alliance

Speaker: Mary McRae

Conversation occurred around the feasibility of using the Invest in Girls Alliance as a model for Hampden County alliance, and the commission's role as a participant or convener in such an alliance. Obstacles discussed include paid staff and funding.

Data collection and sharing - In Western Ma, there are many organizations collecting and disseminating data, but there is little coordination. The Alliance

may offer examples for greater collaboration among those who collect data on women and girls.

Next steps -

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1. Cultivate buy in from WMass organizations.

For the next meeting, commissioners are asked to identify

girls-serving and gender-specific organizations who could possibly

be members of the WMass alliance, including a smaller cohort of

3-5 organizations who could serve as founding members.

2. Data collection, perhaps focused on the alliance members' experiences

#### IV. Approval of minutes from September 12, 2019

- a. Metsch moves to approve minutes, Hallberg seconds, all in favor. Motion passes

#### V. Discussion and approval of past executive session minutes: 5/2/19, 11/8/18, 12/14/17.

- a. Metsch moves to move to executive session to discuss minutes, Spalding seconds, all approve. HCCSWG moved into executive session at 7:07 PM.

HCCSWG moved out of executive session at 7:14 PM

#### VI. Review of the process for appointing regional commissioners

Speaker: Sasha Heggie-Jackson, Program Director, MCSW (via phone, est. 7:15PM)

Sasha Heggie-Jackson was not available

#### VII. Chair Report

- a. MCSW is holding a public hearing in Springfield on February 20. Since HCCSWG wants to do a public hearing as well, we will try to partner.
- b. MCSW grants (up to \$700) will open soon. Commissioners are asked to come to the next meeting with ideas for what to spend the \$700 on.
- c. Spalding moves to accept chair report. Hallberg seconds. Passes unanimously.

VIII. Vice Chair Report

- a. Vice Chair yields the floor

IX. Old Business

- a. Commission meeting locations and publicity
  - i. November 14 meeting has been booked at Holyoke Public Library, 2nd floor
  - ii. Notices need to be posted on social media and in local newspapers
  - iii. A rotation of 3 locations including Springfield, Palmer, Westfield was discussed

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X. New Business

- a. Review of new commissioner applications (executive session)
  - i. Hallberg moves to enter executive session. Spalding seconds. All in favor.
  - ii. HCCSWG moves into executive session at 7:31 PM.
  - iii. HCSSWG comes out of executive session at 7:57 PM.

XI. Any Other Items That May Come Before this Body

XII. Adjournment

Hallberg moves to adjourn. Metsch seconds. passes unanimously. Adjourns at 7:58 PM.