

Hampden County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls

Minutes- DRAFT

**RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**

December 10, 2020

2021 JAN -6 A 9:14

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

TOWN OF LUDLOW

Online via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6895726626?pwd=aDdCTEpPSlkwa2pxd29VZDRqZStkQT09>

- I. Gabrielle wished everyone a Happy Hauneka and opened the meeting unofficially until we have a full quorum.
- II. We are starting the meeting with our featured guest Lakisha Coppedge before we officially call the meeting to order. Several members of the public were in attendance to listen to Lakisha.
 - A. Gabrielle introduced herself as the chair to the group and a bit of our history and the commission's history. Explained why we reached out to her as a speaker and our ideas for the commission.
 - B. Lakisha started speaking at 6:13 PM and did an exciting presentation discussing her work that she does in the community with women and girls. Discussed Coppedge Consulting and it's diverse and inclusive anti-racism mission.
 - C. Promoting small businesses in her newsletter next month. Will have a raffle and asking subscribers to recommend people, new and current will be entered into the raffle for a gift card. Newsletter will feature small business owners who will be offering discounted services. www.coppedgeconsulting.com
 - D. Shanique asked what specific types of training that Lakisha does. Critical self reflection, developing mutually beneficial relationships, holding institutions accountable. She provides training opportunities for whoever hires them. Each training is unique based on the organization that hires them
 - E. Jennifer introduced herself and asked if Lakisha has worked with young people younger than college students because she works with an agency that has 11-19 year olds that could benefit. Lakisha is also an adjunct professor. She created a syllabus for a cultural humility public speaking class and does work with high school students.
 - F. Victoria (joining from the Hampshire/Franklin Commission) asked for a deeper explanation of cultural humility and a little more about the work that Lakisha does.
 - G. Aundrea Paulk spoke to say how proud she is to have Lakisha as her mentor. She asked Lakisha to speak a bit more about her plan to help entrepreneurs and their businesses.
- III. After the featured guest speak out Gabrielle called the commission meeting to order at 7:09PM. Call to order and roll call. Shanique seconded. In attendance:
 - A. Gabrielle Jackson
 - B. Michelle Goncalves
 - C. Dawn Distefano
 - D. Tara Marshall
 - E. Shanique Spalding
 - F. Jennifer Metsch

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TOWN OF FULBROOK
- G. Future member-Jackie Velez
 - H. Absent- Lizzy Ortiz and Patricia Hallberg
 - IV. Public Speak Out-
 - A. Victoria spoke about her role at the Hampshire commission. She just started and wants to work with us for partnerships.
 - B. Jackie spoke briefly about joining us and gave us some of her background.
 - V. Jennifer moved to approve minutes from November, Dawn seconded, all approved and Shanique abstained because she wasn't in attendance.
 - VI. Chair Report
 - A. Gabrielle wants to get our information ready for the upcoming months due to the holidays to be prepared. Getting speakers booked etc. Next up is coffee with a comish-Tara on 12/21/20.
 - 1. Dawn got an email from someone in the Hampshire commission that wants to partner up on coffee chats. Suggested we may want to do that.
 - B. Coffee with a Commissioner
 - 1. Michelle 1/19/21
 - 2. Lizzy 1/27/21
 - C. Lizzy invited a speaker for January. Michelle invited Erica Slocum speaker in February. Dawn is working on someone for March from Dress for Success.
 - D. February is black history month and March women's history. Gabrielle thinks we should collaborate and plan something for this like a panel discussion for both months. Shanique discussed her new role and partnering with her organization for Feb because she can collaborate between us and them and would be able to compensate panel speakers. Might be best to plan in a separate subcommittee during our regular meeting and make sure to meet all open meeting laws.
 - 1. Dawn said due to open meeting law we cannot have a breakout room on zoom due to public meeting laws. Suggested we market it as a separate event. Interested parties could meet with Shanique during her work hours and then could report back to the meeting for the group to discuss and vote etc.
 - 2. Gabrielle asked who would be interested in working on this group. Jackie volunteered in the chat feature. Michelle volunteered to help but she may not know speakers. Gabrielle is also interested. Jen offered that she can make some phone calls. Victoria is interested possibly as well, wants to discuss with her commission before committing.
 - 3. Ashanta (guest) suggested speakers Stephanie Logan Springfield College, Anika Thrower Borough of Manhattan Community College, Janine Fondon Bay Path. Jackie suggested Andrea James. Gabrielle suggested Dr. Alice Farrell.
 - 4. Shanique suggested we should have a theme for the February panel so a panel of speakers could be built around the theme. Victoria suggested busting the barriers that hold us back. Jen suggested focus on women who have led and shined during the pandemic.
 - VII. New/Old Business
 - A. Dawn mentioned that Michelle did research on the trivia even for March and suggested to Victoria to mention to her commission to join up.

VIII. Adjournment. Gabrielle called to adjourn Dawn moved and Jen seconded at 7:54 PM


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HAMPDEN COUNTY COMMISSION ON THE
STATUS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS PRESENTS:

December Public Meeting

Thursday, December 10th
6:00PM

33A



Featured Guest
Lakisha Coppedge

Founder & Principal of Coppedge Consulting
Student Liaison/Advisor in the Early Childhood Education
Department at STCC

9:14
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