

Hampden County Commission on the Status of Women & Girls

Dawn Forbes DiStefano  
Michelle Goncalves  
Patricia Hallberg

Gabrielle Jackson  
Tara Marshall  
Jacqueline Velez

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Jennifer Metsch  
Lizzy Ortiz  
Shanique Spalding  
2021 MAY -6 P 2:31

TOWN OF LUDLOW

May 6, 2021

Dear Sir or Madam:

Let this serve as a notice pursuant to Open Meeting Law, M.G.L.c. 30A sections 18-25 of a meeting of the Hampden County Commission on the Status of Women & Girls (HCCSWG).

On April 25, 2017, the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women inaugurated nine commissioners to a newly formed regional commission created to study and report the status of women and girls in Hampden County. The Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women is "a state-established body charged with reviewing the status of women in Massachusetts and offering recommendations regarding policy that would improve access to opportunities and equality." The regional commissions have been created to target specific geographical regions to make sure that the needs of women across the state are met.

**Our next meeting will be Thursday, May 13, 2021, from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM. In light of current public health recommendations for social distancing and state restrictions around public gatherings, and in observance of the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Required Provisions of the Open Meeting Law (M.G.L. c.30A, §20 dated March 12, 2020), this meeting will take place online at:**

<https://zoom.us/j/6895726626?pwd=aDdCTEpPSlkwa2pxd29VZDRqZStkQT>

09

**Attendees are asked to contact [hccswg@gmail.com](mailto:hccswg@gmail.com) in advance of the meeting to receive the meeting password.**

This meeting is open to the public, and we encourage members of the community to attend. The first fifteen minutes of the meeting will be set aside for members of the public to present anything they wish the Commission to consider. Anyone who wishes to speak during this allotted time should email the HCCSWG Chairperson, Gabrielle Jackson, at [HCCSWG@gmail.com](mailto:HCCSWG@gmail.com) with their intention so the HCCSWG may plan accordingly. Members of the public will only be recognized by the Commission to speak during the opening public presentation segment, and only if prior notice is provided.

Sincerely,

Tara Marshall  
Secretary, HCCSWG



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

May 13, 2021

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Online via Zoom: [Zoom Meeting Link](#)

Facebook Livestream: [Link](#)

Please contact [hccswg@gmail.com](mailto:hccswg@gmail.com) for the meeting password

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Discussion with our featured guest, Shaitia Spruell, Program Manager at The Office of the Massachusetts State Treasurer and Receiver General
- III. Public Speak Out (15 min.)
- IV. Approval of minutes from April 8, 2021
- V. Chair Report
- VI. Vice-Chair Report
- VII. Old Business**
  - a. Coffee Chat Winter Events Updates**
    - i. Spring/Summer Coffee Chats

Commissioner	Gabrielle and Jen	Pattie	Tara	Michelle	Shanique	Jackie	Lizzy	Dawn
Topic:	"High Tea with the Commissioner"				Legislative Updates			C Suite with the CEO
Chat Date	May 11th							
Zoom Link								

**VIII. New Business**

**a. Policy Discussion**

- i. Planning for event with Legislator
- ii. Legislation that we would like to support
- iii. Springfield Municipal Events:
  - 1. Nonpartisan
  - 2. Partner with an organization that is doing forums.

- a. Partner with women.
- b. Candidate forum
- c. Ready to Run - Training series
- d. Virtual Trainings

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**b. Internship Program - Internship Program Details**

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- i. Connect with UMASS Amherst, STCC and AIC.
  - 1. Jen will help coordinate and we need one Commissioner to supervise.
  - 2. Tentative Timeline:
    - a. May 13th - Approve and vote on internship description. Identify supervisor.
    - b. May 14th - post internship opening
    - c. May 14-28th -collect applications
    - d. May 31- June 3rd = interviews and decisions
    - e. June 4th - Special HCCSWG meeting convened to vote to hire intern
    - f. June 7th - intern possibly starts

**c. Upcoming Meeting Dates**

- i. June 10th - Jynai McDonald
  - 1. Can use this meeting to close the session July 31st.
  - 2. Talk about Juneteenth - Uplift a person of color.
- ii. July 8th - TBD

**IX. MCSW Events**

**a. Advocacy Day - May 19th**

- i. Sign Up to lead a breakout room: [Advocacy Day Logistics and Sign Up](#)

**b. Semi-Annual Convening of the Regional Commissions (Action Item)**

- i. Two dates have been identified for the next Regional Commission Convening - Monday, May 24<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. Please complete the poll by Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 5pm: <https://www.when2meet.com/?11226761-GUmgT>. Based on the Regional Commissioner's responses, the date and time of the Convening will be confirmed on Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> during the Program and Planning Committee meeting.

**X. Adjournment**

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**About Our Featured Guest:**

HAMPDEN COUNTY COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS PRESENTS:  
**May Public Meeting**  
Thursday May 13th 6:00PM  
33A  
COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS  
Shaitia Spruell  
**Program Manager**  
Office of the Massachusetts  
State Treasurer & Receiver General  
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Shaitia Spruell, a proud young mom, has served as a Commissioner since 2019, appointed by the Massachusetts Caucus of Women Legislators. She currently serves as the Vice Chair for the Legislative & Public Policy Committee. Originally from Springfield, Shaitia lives in Clinton, MA and currently works for the Office of the State Treasurer & Receiver General as the Program Manager primarily overseeing Women's Economic Empowerment Programming and

Digital Financial Education Programs. Before joining the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women, Shaitia served as a regional commissioner on the Hampden County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls. Shaitia is passionate about financial literacy, empowering girls and working moms. Earning her B.S. from Bay Path University, Shaitia is now enrolled at Fitchburg State University pursuing her MBA in Business Management. Shaitia is also a member of the Massachusetts Women of Color Coalition (MAWOCC) and formerly sat as Board Chair of Neighbor to Neighbor Massachusetts.