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

May 13, 2021

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

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

Facebook Livestream: [Link](#)

Please contact hccswg@gmail.com for the meeting password

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call-Gabrielle called to order at 6:07PM
 - A. In attendance- Tara Marshall, Gabrielle Jackson, Pattie Hallberg, Shanique Spalding, Michelle Goncalves, Dawn Distefano
 - B. Not present- Jennifer Metsch, Lizzy Ortiz, Jacqueline Velez
- II. Discussion with our featured guest, Shaitia Spruell, Program Manager at The Office of Massachusetts State Treasurer and Receiver General
- III. Public Speak Out- no Public in attendance
- IV. Approval of minutes from April 8, 2021- Gabrielle called for a motion to approve, Dawn made a motion and Michelle seconded. All in favor. Patti and Shanique abstained
- V. Chair Report
 - A. Jill replacing Sascha with MA commission- no big updates other than advocacy day noted below.
 - B. Grant money ideas- The website may not be possible now, they have concerns now. There will be a meeting with regional chairs to discuss whether or not it will be allowed. Tara suggested waiting to make the website live until this meeting, Shanique and Pattie agreed. Shanique discussed a website that is needed so women have a resource to reach out to.
 1. Paying honorariums to our speakers is an idea
 2. Additional marketing materials
- VI. Vice-Chair Report
 - A. Nothing to report at this time
- VII. Old Business
 - A. Coffee Chat Winter Events Updates
 1. Spring/Summer Chats
 - a) Tara has an idea for a chat, needs to confirm with the woman for her availability
 - b) Shanique will plan for a legislative chat when her schedule allows- has a professional lobbyist in mind
- VIII. New Business
 - A. Policy Discussion
 1. Planning for events with legislators- July is very busy government-wise. June would probably be best. Or August.
 2. Legislation that we would like to support- we voted on bills that people would like to support
 - a) I Am bill- voted to support bill Gabrielle called for a

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discussion and made a motion. All in Favor.

- b) Common Start Bill- Gabrielle called for discussion at 7:19pm. Pattie made a motion to include our support. Shanique seconded. All in favor
- c) Healthy Youth Act- Gabrielle called for discussion. Shanique made a motion, Pattie seconded, all in favor.

- 3. Springfield Municipal Events
 - a) Nonpartisan
 - b) Partner with an org that is doing forums
 - c) Ready to Run-Training Series
 - d) Virtual Trainings

B. Internship Program- Internship Program Details

- 1. Connect with UMASS Amherst, STCC and AIC
- 2. Jen will help coordinate and we need one Commissioner to supervise
- 3. Tentative timeline-
 - a) May 13th- Approve and vote on internship description and identify supervisor.
 - b) May 14th - post internship opening
 - c) May 14-28th- collect applications
 - d) May 31 to June 3rd- interviews and decisions
 - e) June 4th- Special HCCSWG meeting convened to vote to hire intern
 - f) June 7th- intern possibly starts
- 4. May refer to the one woman that reached out to us to Shanique for PP until we build the program.
- 5. Dawn suggested creating subcommittees like a legislative subcommittee or internship program planning committee. They work in between meetings and then report at the monthly meeting. This conversation will continue in the next meeting.

C. Upcoming meeting dates

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

IX. MCSW Events

A. Advocacy Day- May 19th

- 1. Sign up to lead a breakout room-Advocacy Day Logistics and Sign Up
- 2. Semi-Annual Convening of the Regional Commissions (Action Item)
 - a) Two dates have been identified for the next Regional Commission Convening - Monday, May 24th and Tuesday, May 25th. Please complete the poll by Monday, March 8th 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 9th during the

Program and Planning Committee meeting

- X. Adjournment- Gabrielle called for a motion at 8:03 Patti second all approved

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