

Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women

Commissioners Meeting called to order at 4:30p

Tangi K. Combs – CHAIR
 Jaynelle Pemberton - Member
 Donna Kuldau - Member
 Sabrina Edwards – Vice Chair
 Sheila Spivey - UNF – Ex-officio Member
 Eileen Rodden Women's Center – Ex-officio Member – Excused

City of Jacksonville Staff

Dr. Johnny Gaffney – Administration – Excused
 Barbara Florio – Liaison
 Tina M. Beals – Administrative Support

Guest Attendees

Juanita Powell-Williams – Guest Speaker
 Ashlyn Sparks – Guest – JU Equal Pay Ambassador

Approval of Minutes:

No changes to February , 2018 Meeting Minutes:

Motion: Commissioner Kuldau
 Seconded: Commissioner Pemberton

Approved Unanimously

Presentation: Juanita Powell-Williams, Attorney

Juanita is active with the Jacksonville Area Chapter of the National Organization for Woman (NOW) and is presently the Vice President. NOW is the largest organization of feminist activists in the United States with hundreds of thousands of contributing members and more than 500 local and campus affiliates in 50 states and the District of Columbia. NOW was founded in 1966 and has been a “take action group” about equality of all women. NOW is a principled and uncompromising leader, not a follower of public opinion, and is often ahead of their time in taking on issues that are before them.

NOW Mission: the purpose of the Jacksonville Chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW) is to take action to bring women into full participation in the mainstream of American society now, exercising all privileges and responsibilities thereof in truly equal partnership with men. This includes, but is not limited to equal rights and responsibilities in all aspects of citizenship, public services, employment, education and family life.

Further information was provided regarding NOW and the items they work on. Such as: House Bill 41/Senate Bill 444 re: Pregnancy Support Services; House Bill 937/Senate Bill 138 re: Perinatal Mental Health; Housing Bill 189/Senate Bill 320 re: Access to Clinics; House Bill 347/Senate Bill 698 re: prohibited discrimination; Housing Bill 335/Senate Bill 140 re: Marriage of Minors; House Bill 159 re: Control of

Human Trafficking; Senate Bill 4 re: Higher Education. This is just a few of the many bills NOW has voiced their opinions on and have noted a definite change within the legislative thought. NOW's goals nationally and statewide include recruiting, supporting and electing strong progressive women at the state and local level. Elections take money and many women feel at a disadvantage however NOW's PAC is fully functioning. Women today have an unlimited ability to make a change. "The best protection any woman can have is courage."

Liaison Report: Barbara Florio

Tina Beals provided some information on NCRC's National Equal Pay activities.

Barbara Florio has requested from the Mayor's office a photo opportunity to present the proclamation in the rotunda at City Hall. Barbara distributed a draft copy of the proclamation.

For the April Commission meeting, it was determined that Tangi Combs, Chair, will order the cake and provide the punch. The April meeting will be held in the Lynwood Roberts Room at City Hall. Barbara should have the names for all Equal Pay Ambassador's by April 13th. We will provide a draft of the certificate and the invitation by the first week of April. Certificates of Appreciation will be presented to the Ambassadors by the Commission – Family and friends will be invited.

Chair Report: Tangi Combs

Chair Combs welcomed Ashlyn Sparks, Jacksonville University Equal Pay Ambassador and the speaker, Juanita Powell-Williams, Attorney. Tangi thanked Ashlyn for all her hard work on the Equal Pay Event. Tangi also thanked all of the Commission members for the wonderful work they have put into the Commission and to making the upcoming event a success.

Public Comments:

NONE

Project Manager Report:

Donna provided an overview of the meeting that was held immediately preceding this meeting. The Equal Pay Day event will be added to the MCSW Facebook page, Commission's City website and the COJ Events Calendar. Tina will work with the Public Information Office (once the flyer is received in electronic format) to get the flyer uploaded to the City's website. Ashlyn will work on getting the flyer uploaded to the MCSW Facebook page.

Jaynelle is confirming that she has the correct EventBrite link before posting link to that. Donna, Jaynelle and Ashlyn will determine that all names will fit and make sure that everyone has electronic copies of the final version of the flyer. Donna and Anji will also meet at least one more time prior to the event so any additional information she receives will be passed on to Barbara and Tina to share as needed.

Donna suggested a signature cocktail on special at Moxie - "Equaltini" was suggested and everyone was in agreement that it would be a perfect name. Another idea was a 50/50 Raffle, so that interested individuals could also be added to the MCSW's mailing list and the Commissioners are to try to get donations for door prizes, etc. Donna states that they are not trying to raise money and Barbara stated that you cannot use the Mayor's name or MCSW on anything associated with fundraising. They are trying to make the event "fun" and interesting. Everyone is to look at getting donations for giveaways. Donna is also asking Moxie (event location) to hand out invites leading up to the event and to have it posted on their website. Intuition Brewery is giving 20% off and is having a full event in support of the initiative from 7p-9:30p and will have food trucks, vendors (exclusively woman-owned businesses/organizations) and a yoga class. They are doing an invitation and will forward to Ashlyn. Bold City Brewery is giving a 20% discount too in support of the initiative.

Melissa Ross has agreed to do a show on 4/4/18 and either Donna or Jaynelle will do the show with Melissa Ross along with Ashlyn and Pat Dewitt. The sub-committee is going to reach out to Mary Baer with Channel 4 and ask Dawn Lopez with Channel 30 for additional press exposure.

Tangi's daughter will take photos at the event. Jaynelle also indicated that everyone should include links to the event on their personal social media pages. Donna states that they will provide hand-outs with "take away action items" to keep the momentum going. Wear red every Tuesday and #Bold Women on your personal social media. Sheila states that they have a newsletter that goes out to over 1000 people so, if she can get the information by Thursday, it can go out the following week.

Research Coordinator:

NONE

Action Items:

Due to the Memorial Day Holiday on 5/28/18, it was determined that the May meeting will be moved from 5/28/18 to 5/21/18.

Motion: Commissioner Pemberton

Seconded: Commissioner Kuldau

Approved Unanimously

New Business:

NONE

Unfinished Business:

Barbara still has no resumes for new members and is asking the Commission to speak with people and actively recruit. She has updated the distribution list with multiple people who have contacted her for information regarding the MCSW. A couple of them were supposed to attend this meeting but, she received emails from a couple stating they could not make it after all. She is hoping that they show interest in joining the Commission and will reach out to them over the next couple of weeks to see if they are still interested.

Meeting adjourned at 6:13p


CERTIFICATION

Recorded and Transcribed by:



Tina M. Beals
MCSW Staff Support

Submitted by:



Barbara Florio
MCSW Board Liaison

Approved by:



Tangi Combs, Chair

COPY TO: Filed for public access