



Minutes

Calvert County Commission for Women Thursday, February 18th, 2021 at 7:00 pm Online Virtual Meeting via ZOOM

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order by Chair Joan Winship at 7:08 pm. Winship introduced observer, Sierra Mitchell who has applied for membership to the Commission.

Attendance: Commissioners Winship, Vice Chair Ariane Odom, Treasurer Kathryn Marsh, Anna Grabowska, Brenda Streat, Margaret Dunkle.

Associates: Susan Haynes.

Absent: Gloria Della, Lisa Stallings, Associates: Nadine Hunt, Crystal Jordan, Diane Bell

Approval of Agenda: A. Grabowska moved, B. Streat seconded approval of the agenda; motion passed.

Approval of January Minutes– K. Marsh moved, A. Grabowska seconded approval of the January minutes; motion passed.

Treasurer’s Report and Financial Report – Treasurer Marsh reported there had been one expenditure of \$135. for the Red Sand Project held in January. Reimbursement has not yet been submitted.

Chair’s Update Report – Winship indicated that updates would be noted in the other agenda items.

Current Programs

- **Human Trafficking Awareness Events in January** – Odom, Marsh reported that there were a series of 4 events held during January – 3 in collaboration with Dept. of Parks & Recreation in Dunkirk, Hallowing Point and Solomons parks. Unstoppable Ministries was a co-sponsor. A 4th event was held in the evening at the Court House in Prince Frederick. Each event had a different audience. The Calvert Recorder covered the event in Dunkirk with a follow up news article. Discussion was held on how to promote trafficking awareness throughout the year; Grabowska is following up using photography with postings online.
- **Safe Harbor and Crisis Intervention Center discussion/new event** – Winship indicated that discussions with Crisis Intervention Center was on hold as new resource developments were evolving with County staff. The group will meet this Spring for discussions with Safe Harbor board.
- **Communications, Media and Public Relations – Facebook** - Kathryn Marsh reported that she and Crystal Jordan have been posting articles focusing on February as Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month and Black History Month. March will focus on Women’s History Month.
- **MLAW Priorities Update** - Marsh has testified concerning several pieces of legislation. Odom moved and Haynes seconded that the Chair would write in support of repeal of the spousal defense of rape in marriage; motion carried.
- **WOW 2020/21** – Winship reported that WOW will be held virtually on Saturday, April 17th from 9:45-11:30 am. Plans are moving along smoothly with some parts of the program to be held live and some pre-recorded. The Calvert Library has agreed to be a partner and will provide the much needed technical support. Since the Library may not charge for events, those who already purchased tickets

for WOW will either become sponsors or be provided a refund. All are encouraged to register for free online. The CCCW will promote WOW via Facebook and other media releases.

- **Outstanding Achievement Awards** – Winship reminded that awardees were selected in the Spring of 2020 and those would be the persons honored and celebrated at WOW this spring, given the delays because of the pandemic.
- **Sextortion/Trafficking/Sexual Harassment/Bullying Forum** – Marsh reported a human trafficking forum will be held at yet to be determined date.

Updates for proposed programs delayed re: COVID

- **Clothes Closet** – Odom reported no new updates with St. Paul’s church still closed for the public.
- ***I CAN and I DID Forum*** - Marsh indicated no new updates.
- **Harriet Elizabeth Brown Campaign** – Dunkle updated concerning the master plan for the community center will be in the next county budget, with a goal for construction in FY2024. Names of supporters of the HEB Center are still being collected and a community group continues to work with the county on the effort.
- **Topical Webinars: DV Webinar; Title IX; New Advisory Partners, Cyber Bullying**
- **Networking event** – Winship reminded that WOW will be the networking event open to all this April.
- **Sexual Assault Awareness/Child Abuse Awareness Program** – Odom indicated that with changes in staffing and focus by the Health Department for the Crisis Intervention Center, the CCCW does not have a partner for events after April 17th. She is investigating how to conduct a Virtual Take Back the Night. Other CCCW indicated an interest in helping.

Future Programs 2021

- **Women’s Health Expo** – Haynes reported that she needs to check with past partners - Calvert Health and the Health Department - to see if it is possible to develop some form of Expo this year, including a virtual event. Haynes will explore this and report back to the Commission next month.
- **Strategic Planning Possible Programs for 2020/21 (not currently being planned)**
 - **Financial Literacy**
 - **Opioid/Drug program** – *Bell*
 - **Young Moms programs**

At 8:20 pm the Commission went into Executive Closed Session to discuss personnel issues.

Adjournment – Odom moved to adjourn and Grabowska seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:04pm. Motion passed.

Minutes by Marsh, Winship