

Maryland Commission for Women

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 21, 2019

5 p.m.

45 Calvert Street, Annapolis, MD

Commissioners Attending:

Yun Jung Yang, Chair
Tawanda A. Bailey, First Vice Chair
Carole Jaar Sepe, Second Vice Chair
Deborah L. Cartee
Gloria Chang
Maureen G. Colburn
Melissa H. Curtin
Kristi S. Halford
Eugenia B. Henry
Lauren M. Lambert
Patricia M. Lambert
Brenda J. McChriston
Roberta Pardo
Corinna Yi-Yuan Kuo Shen

Evelyne S. Steward
Tamara E. Wilson
Marylou N. Yam

Commissioners Absent:

Tammy Bresnahan
Amanda L. Costley
Bonnie N. Luna
Ishrat N. Memon
April Nyman
Ummu Bradley Thomas

Staff Attending:

Judith Vaughan-Prather, Executive Director

I. Call to Order.....Yang

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by MCW Chair Yang. She welcomed everyone in attendance and thanked them for coming.

B. Approval of Agenda

Chair Yang called for approval of the agenda. Commissioner Cartee moved approval. Commissioner McChriston seconded the motion which passed unanimously

C. Approval of Minutes

Chair Yang called for approval of the minutes of the October 17 MCW meeting. Commissioner McChriston moved approval, seconded by Commissioner Henry. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Executive Committee Report.....Yang

A. Status of Women in Maryland (SWIM) Research Project

On October 23, MCW Chair Yang, First Vice Chair Bailey and the Executive Director met with the president of Psychometric Solutions to review the proposed Concept Paper, outlining the study which is to be complete and published in time to present at the 2020 Summit.

Psychometric Solutions will have Chapters 1 and 2 drafted for MCW review by the next meeting with Dr. Payton on Wednesday, December 4 at 1 p.m. Commissioners Yang, Sepe and Shen will attend. Any other interested commissioners will be most welcome

B. CFW Roundtable Meeting at the MLAW Conference

MLAW will hold its annual Fall Conference on November 23 at the Chesapeake Arts Center, in Brooklyn Park. MCW has invited all the county and city Commissions for Women in the state to send up to two representatives to the CFW Roundtable Meeting as our guests at this conference, as it has for the past several years. Twelve of the 15 CFWs in the state have registered their representatives. Some have indicated that they will send additional commissioners at their own expense.

III. Unfinished Business

A. Howard County CFW Invitation.....Curtin

The Howard County CFW invited the MCW commissioners who live in that county to attend its December 10 meeting at 7 p.m. in Columbia. Commissioners McChriston, Curtin and Memon plan to attend. The MCW officers and Executive Director were also invited.

B. WED2020 Proposal.....Steward

Commissioner Steward and Executive Director Vaughan-Prather met on November 20 with Christine Valeriann who proposed that the MCW join a coalition of organizations in the state planning a celebration of the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, by organizing events in public parks across the state on the weekend before Women’s Equality Day 2020.

Commissioner Steward moved that the MCW join as an “encouragement partner” meaning that the MCW will help publicize information about the events planned for that weekend. First Vice Chair Bailey seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

C. 2020 Events Calendar.....Sepe

The MCW agreed at its October meeting to develop and maintain a calendar of all the known scheduled events in Maryland related to the commemoration of the ratification of the 19th Amendment. Commissioner Sepe worked with the Executive Director to develop the following parameters for inclusion in the calendar:

- Include only events in the state sponsored by public or non-profit organizations
- No fund-raising events will be included
- Include only events focused specifically on the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th amendment
- Events must be non-partisan and non-political
- Events must be open to the public.

Executive Director Vaughan-Prather thanked both Commissioner Sepe and Commissioner Pat Lambert for their input in developing the criteria.

III. New Business

A. Women of Excellence Event

A number of Commissioners attended the Women of Excellence luncheon November 19 at Hunt Valley, and heard keynote speaker Valerie Jarrett at Martin’s West. It was an excellent opportunity for networking. The M.C. for the event was Denise Koch of WJZ TV. Commissioner Pat Lambert mentioned that Ms. Koch is planning to develop weekly

news stories about women’s issues and news and that the MCW might want to send her ideas for relevant stories.

B. January 2020 MCW Meeting Location

Chair Yang reminded Commissioners that there is **no MCW meeting in December** and that on **January 16**, the MCW will meet at the **Department of Natural Resources** office in the **Tawes State Office Building at 580 Taylor Avenue in Annapolis**. Parking is available across Taylor Avenue at Gate 6 of the Navy Stadium parking lot. Commissioners were asked to make note of this change on their calendars.

IV. Committee Reports

A. PAL (Policy and Legislation) Committee.....Colburn for Bresnahan

The PAL Committee met via conference call on November 5 to begin developing the MCW’s legislative agenda for the 2020 session of the Maryland General Assembly. At its April 2019 meeting, the MCW voted to support bills it supported in the 2019 Maryland General Assembly if they are introduced again in 2020, so the MCW’s initial legislative work is already begun. It was noted that a Maryland Senate President Mike Miller has announced that he will step down and a new Senate President will be elected when the Senate reconvenes in January 2020. Commissioner Curtin moved that the MCW write a letter of congratulations to the new President. Commissioner Pat Lambert seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

B. 2019 ARC (Achievement & Recognition Ceremony) Committee.....Cartee

The Induction and Awards Ceremony will be held on Thursday, March 19, 2020; program at 4 – 6 p.m. and reception at 6 – 7:30 p.m., in the Miller Senate Office Building. Nominations were open from September 30 to November 1 for the Hall of Fame, and until November 8 for the Women of Tomorrow. The Commission received 15 nominations for the Hall of Fame and 27 for the Women of Tomorrow. At last month’s meeting, three commissioners volunteered to serve on the Women of Tomorrow Selection Committee, but the nominations are few enough that the original panel of six representatives from state-wide women’s organizations will be sufficient. Both Selection Committees have been formed and are in the process of reviewing the nominations. They both meet on December 3 in Annapolis to make their final recommendations for induction into the Hall of Fame, and receipt of the Women of Tomorrow awards. The next meeting (conference call) of the ARC Committee is January 14. (*Editor’s note: Date is changed to January 15*)

C. 2020 Women’s Centennial Summit.....Henry

The Summit is scheduled for Wednesday, August 26, 2020. After visiting several venues, the Committee has decided to hold the event in the House Office Building (HOB). Speaker of the House Adrienne Jones has not only agreed to present the keynote address, but she has also agreed to sponsor the event in the HOB. Commissioner Henry thanked Commissioner Steward for all her hard work and numerous site visits.

The HOB is a beautiful and historic location for this event, but there are some limitations: no fee may be charged for registration, and space limits the number who may attend to 200 – 250. It is planned that there will be an opening plenary session with the keynote speaker, and then two breakout sessions featuring a total of eight seminars. One seminar in each session will focus on young women. Commissioner Steward and Executive Director Vaughan-Prather met with the Fellowship Program Director of Ignite National who has

agreed to provide a seminar on civic engagement for young women. Commissioner Wilson agreed to join the Steering Committee planning the Summit.

V. Liaison Reports

- A. The Foundation for the MCW.....Shen**
The Foundation for the Maryland Commission for Women is developing a fundraising campaign to support the 2020 Summit. The Foundation board met earlier today. Foundation President Shen shared the fundraising/sponsorship campaign materials with the Commissioners and encouraged everyone to support this work.
- B. Maryland Women’s Heritage Center.....Yang**
No report
- C. 19th Amendment Commemoration CommissionSteward**
An historic marker will be placed at the home of Augusta Chissell in Baltimore on Saturday, November 23 (the same date as the MLAW Conference and the CFW Roundtable Meeting). Ms. Chissell was inducted into the Maryland Women’s Hall of Fame in 2019. Commissioners and staff expressed their disappointment that the two dates coincided and their regret at not being able to attend the ceremony.
- D. MLAW.....Curtin**
As reported earlier, MLAW’s annual Fall Conference is planned for November 23 at the Chesapeake Arts Center. Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates, Adrienne Jones will be a featured speaker. At this conference, proposals for legislation the MLAW will support will be presented in the morning and the MCW will hold its CFW Roundtable meeting in the afternoon.
- E. 2020 Women Moving Forward Conference.....Curtin and Bailey**
Planning meetings continue for an April 11, 2020 conference in the Maryland Correctional Institute for Women.
- F. Maternal Mortality Review Board**
No report as Commissioner Costly is sick and unable to attend this evening’s meeting.
- G. Maryland Women’s History Museum.....Cartee**
No report.
- H. UMD SAFE Center**
No report.
- I. Women’s Legislative Briefing.....Colburn**
The Briefing will be held Sunday, January 26, 20-20 and will emphasize both the importance of the Census and voter registration. TV News Anchor Barbara Harrison will provide the keynote address.

VII. Staff Report.....Vaughan-Prather

A. National Association of Commissions for Women (NACW)

More than 2000 women have completed the on-line Voices of Women in America survey so far. Commissioners were encouraged to submit the survey this evening if they haven't already and to help with outreach to the many and various communities in which they participate.

B. MCW Annual Report

The report covering July 2018 – June 2019 was distributed to those in attendance. It will also be available on the MCW's website.

VIII. Announcements

A. Next Meeting Dates

NOTE: NO MCW MEETING IN DECEMBER

NOTE: CHANGE MEETING LOCATION FOR JANUARY

- Executive Committee: Conference call on December 12 at 4:30 p.m.
- Executive Committee: Conference Call on January 9 at 4:30 p.m.
- **MCW Meeting: January 16 at 5 p.m. DNR Tawes State Office Building; 580 Taylor Avenue, Room C-1, in Annapolis**

B. WomenSpeak

Commissioner Curtin announced that she has become the first WomenSpeak Circle leader in Maryland. WomenSpeak Circles teach women the “art and soul” of public speaking. Her introductory open house will be in Severna Park.

C. Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture

Commissioner Wilson has been elected chair of the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture. Prior to her election to Chair, she chaired that Commission's committee planning its 50th Anniversary Gala.

D. 2020 WOW Festival

Commissioner Yam announced that the Women of the World (WOW) Festival/Conference will be held on March 7 at the Columbus Center in Baltimore. Notre Dame of Maryland University is the major sponsor of this event and is partnering with the 19th Amendment Commemoration Commission in planning the conference.

IX. Adjournment.....Yang

The chair wished everyone wonderful and safe holidays and adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Judith Vaughan-Prather, Executive Director
Maryland Commission for Women

APPROVED: January 16, 2020