

## Hampden County Commission on the Status of Women & Girls

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August 31, 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, September 9, 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=aDdCTEpPSlkwa2pxd29VZDRqZStkQT09>

**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



## Hampden County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls September Meeting Agenda

September 9, 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, Mayor Nicole LaChapelle, Easthampton

**III.** Public Speak Out (15 min.)

**IV.** Approval of minutes from July 8, 2021

**V.** Chair Report

**VI.** Vice-Chair Report

**VII.** Old Business

a. None

**VIII.** New Business

a. Social Media Training for Regional Convening

b. Strategic Planning and Priorities for the year

i. Calendar of events

c. Next Meeting- October 14, 2021

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**VIII.** Mass Commission Updates

a. MCSW September Regional Convening September 29th 5:30PM to 7PM

b. Collaboration with our Liaison for more events with elected leaders.

**About Our Featured Guest:**

HAMPDEN COUNTY COMMISSION ON THE  
STATUS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS PRESENTS:

**September  
Public Meeting**

Thursday September 9th  
6:00PM

33A

Re-elected to her second term in 2019, Mayor LaChapelle continues to reduce barriers to government and development while fostering an equitable community that sustains the local economy. The Mayor secured critical public infrastructure grants, creating more jobs and protecting Easthampton's most vulnerable environmental resources. In 2018, Mayor LaChapelle's administration leveraged millions of public infrastructure dollars for a mixed-use development with 76 housing units on a 300,000 sq foot former mill site. She unlocked a new retail project bringing 83 full-time union jobs using state and federal monies that opened in July 2021.

Identifying economic innovation as an equity tool, the Mayor launched BE: Blueprint Easthampton with a National League of Cities City Innovative Ecosystems grant. Established November 2020, the City now has an interactive resource map that allows residents, businesses, and regional partners to expand in Easthampton. During the pandemic, BE launched a hyper-local academy to help informal enterprises to join the formal economy. The academy provides technical, financial support, and executive coaching for each participant to take the next step in their business plans.

Putting fact to vision, the Mayor combines Smart Growth principles with publically lead strategic planning to strengthen the City's resources. She fights for both the needs and hopes of Easthampton - housing, downtown growth, arts, climate resiliency, and building reuse projects.

Serving on the Baker/Polito Reopening Advisory Board, Municipal Working Group, and the regional Metropolitan Planning Organization, Mayor LaChapelle advocates for Easthampton and surrounding communities. She is the proud member of the Commonwealth Heroine Class of 2011 and recipient of the North Atlantic States Carpenters Local 336, 2021 Above and Beyond Award for her support of labor during the COVID 19 pandemic. She is a graduate of Smith College and Western New England University School of Law.