

Hampden County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls

Minutes DRAFT

January 10, 2019

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Brimfield Town Hall
21 Main Street, Brimfield, MA 01010



- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
 - a. DiStefano called the meeting to order at 6:21 PM
 - b. Roll Call:
 - i. Present: DiStefano, Goncalves, Hallberg, Metsch, Moorhouse, Ogulewicz, Spruell, Murray (arrives 6:25 PM)
 - ii. Absent: Spalding
- II. Public Speak Out (15 minutes)
 - a. No members of the public requested to speak
- III. Approval of minutes from December 13, 2018
 - a. Hallberg moves to accept minutes; Spruell seconds; all in favor; motion passes
- IV. Chair report
 - a. Equitable Coverage in Disability Insurance bill was signed by the Governor today
 - b. MCSW grant was funded in full for \$750.

Murray arrives

The grant funds a tablecloth with the HCCSWG logo, ballpoint pens, and the legislative breakfast catering (\$330.80)
 - c. MA Coalition for the Homeless is requesting HCCSWG support for a bill to create a fund to assist people in avoiding eviction. MCSW has not taken on the bill.
 - i. James Saucedo will be invited to speak for 15 minutes at the next HCCSWG meeting on the bill.
 - d. Moorhouse moves to accept chair report; Murray seconds. all in favor; passes unanimously
- V. Vice Chair report
 - a. Vice Chair was absent, but sent an email reminding commissioners of the Sexual Health Lobby Day on January 17. Commissioners are encouraged to participate.
 - b. Murray moves to accept vice chair report as reported by Moorhouse; Spruell seconds; all in favor; passes unanimously
- VI. Old Business
 - a. Fall HCCSWG Hearing and report to MCSW

- i. This report should be part of our annual report. MCSW does not want a separate report.
 - ii. Commissioners were asked to look at the video to determine top themes.
 - iii. Themes include: Sexual Health, School Dress Codes, School Safety (including lack of response by administrators and mandatory reporters), Leadership and Mentors, Nutrition and Health (including environment)
 - iv. Much of discussion at the hearing related to the Healthy Youth Bill, so we may want to raise this at the legislative breakfast.
 1. Additional information is needed on the requirements of public charter schools and private charter schools to adhere to public education laws.
 - a. DiStefano will reach out to DESI for additional information
 2. PVPC has data available that should help us to provide county-specific data
 3. We need to ensure that people with more authority and oversight than our commission can view the video.
 - v. Governor Baker's Chapter 70 bill will also be relevant to our discussions
 - vi. Commissioners discussed the implications of the video hearing being broadly circulated while containing personal, difficult and complex testimony, as well as members of the public providing advice to attendees that the commission may not support or agree with.
 1. Possible changes to future hearings include providing resources related to sexual assault and public reporting at sign in, using first names only, eliminating audience discussions (only testimony)
 - a. Identified best practices may want to be incorporated into the MCSW regional handbook
 - vii. Commissioners are asked to identify our legislative ask for the breakfast by the February meeting.
- b. Constituent/Community Survey
 - i. 141 people submitted responses
 - ii. Top concerns included health care, depression, education, workplace challenges
 - c. Legislative Breakfast
 - i. Commissioners discussed the benefits of moving the breakfast to April 26 from 8:30-10 AM at the Girl Scouts
 - ii. Metsch will look up sexual assault data, especially by age, from the YWCA, DAs office
 - iii. DiStefano will research charter schools
 - iv. Spalding may be interested in being the spokesperson for Healthy Youth Act
 - v. Moorhouse will create a save the date and include elected officials to invite
 - vi. Ogulewicz will research the top issues from survey - depression, health care
 - vii. Goncalves will summarize the survey data into a one pager

- viii. Spruell will research workplace data
- ix. Hallberg will research catering and space
- x. Murray will research affordable housing
- d. International Women's Day -- Commissioners are asked to research what events are happening on March 8 and report back at the February meeting
- e. Survey will be extended until Feb 11 (next meeting)
 - i. CHNA is still interested in using our data. Discussion will be tabled until February, after our survey closes.

VII. New Business

- a. Discussion of Subcommittee Structure
 - i. Commissioners discussed tabling or removing subcommittees
 - ii. Commissioners are asked to review bylaws and come to February meeting with decisions about how to manage bylaws:
 - 1. Bylaws stay as is and we add to them
 - 2. Remove subcommittees completely and add nothing
 - 3. Maintain language about how to break out into groups
 - iii. Moorhouse will maintain HCCSWG Facebook

VIII. Any Other Items that may Lawfully Come Before this Body

IX. Adjournment

Spruell moves to adjourn; Metsch seconds; all in favor; passes unanimously

Adjourns 7:52 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Goncalves

Secretary

