

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Permanent Commission on the Status of Women**  
April 13, 2016, 12:00a – 2:00p  
Office of the Secretary of State, Nash School, Augusta

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

In person: Sarah Ruef-Lindquist, Regina Rooney, Amy Gallant  
Attending Remotely: Marianne Moore, Elizabeth Ward Saxl, Samantha Lott Hale, Marjorie Crowley, Jane Haskell  
Guest: Kelly Bentley, Consultant  
Absent: Vera Roberts, Fatuma Hussein, Rebekah Smith

**II. Review and Approve Minutes from February 10, 2016 Meeting**

Motion to approve minutes from February 10, 2016 - Regina, second – Amy, opposed – none, abstentions – none

**III. Governance: Membership Update – Elizabeth**

- Sarah will contact Barbara Schneider re: the disabilities seat. She is an attorney and Executive Director of Maine Adaptive Sports.
- All gubernatorial appointments were rejected. It will be later this month before we learn more.
- Marjorie was reappointed by the Senate President on 3/10/16. They are still considering Kelly's appointment.
- Will follow-up with Speaker's office a few weeks after adjournment.

**IV. NEWPI Conference Planning: Update – Sarah**

Sarah participated in planning call last week. They are still working on a keynote and have not figured out where it will be held. Would like a nationally recognized figure. Fatuma has been invited to participate. Anyone who is interested can join in the calls.

**V. Communications Committee: Update – Regina, Amy, Samantha**

- Maine Calling pitched for March did not happen.
- Facebook page is up under "Permanent Commission on the Status of Women in Maine". Sam and Amy will schedule out postings. Send them any feedback.
- Review logos - Image needs a connection to women, revise tag line  
Share any images you are interested in using.

**VI. Report – Regina**

The commission supports the committee's recommendation that a long-term research plan be developed and presented in the December report along with the commission's activities. Research should capture a mix of qualitative and quantitative data to present to the audience of Maine policy makers.

Survey legislators to find out what information they would like/tools they need, regardless of the topic area, to help them make policy decisions. Also invite senior policy staffers to meet with the commission this summer to discuss needs. Consider including results in 2016 report. Will use premium Survey Monkey as data can be dumped into Excel.

Would like to do this before sitting legislators leave office. Report committee will get to work on the survey questions. They will circulate them to the group to review.

The next report committee meeting is on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 from 3:00-4:30 pm. A GTM invite will be sent. Anyone who is interested can join in.

**VII. Retreat Planning** – Everyone

Plan a summer gathering after data collected from legislators.

**VIII. Other business**

- Sarah spoke at a Tuesday Forum in Bangor and also at the Maine Women's Network, Midcoast Chapter, referencing the report at both. People are very interested in the data.
- BDN cited the data in The Point blog last week. Post the article to the fb page and on the webpage.
- Sarah and Regina spoke with Jilda Ardone of the State Workforce Investment Board. They are working on setting their priorities. Regina will attend their meeting on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Jilda does not want to duplicate efforts. Anyone else interested may attend.

**IX. Next meeting:** June 8, 2016, 12:00p – 2:00p  
Meeting ended at 1:25pm