

Meeting Minutes
Permanent Commission on the Status of Women
February 8, 2017, 12:00 pm -2:00 pm
Office of the Secretary of State, Nash School, Augusta

I. Welcome and Introductions

In attendance: Sarah Ruef-Lindquist, Amy Gallant, Cara Courchesne, Kelly Bentley

Attending remotely: Guest- Meredith Strang Burgess, Burgess Advertising & Marketing

Absent: Jane Haskell, Holly Stover, Fatuma Hussein, Vera Roberts, Marjorie Crowley
Samantha Lott Hale, Regina Rooney, Marianne Moore, Rebekah Smith

II. Approve minutes from August 10, October 12, and December 14, 2016 meetings
No quorum to approve minutes.

III. Report

Cover letter is done. Regina looking for feedback before roll-out.

VI. Hall of Flags - Reserved for PCSW 9am-noon on 3/23/17 - session day.

- Discussion regarding preparations and plan of action for the day.
- Goal is to make legislators aware that the commission exists and is a resource to them in the development of policy and legislation regarding women and girls in Maine.
- Acoustics in HOF terrible. Considering Welcome Center for press conference.

V. Membership & Leadership:

- Four candidates to consider for membership: Ruth Kermish Allen, Meredith Strang Burgess, Jennifer Galipeau, and Jill Randall. Propose Jill fill the elderly seat through the Governor's Office. All others will be at large members through the President of Senate and Speaker's Office.
- Sarah will write a letter to governing authorities to submit with resumes electronically.
- Two vacant Governor seats - disabilities and the tribes.
- Leadership: Regina Rooney is willing to ascend to Acting Chair, and Cara Courchesne to Report Chair. Those in attendance agree to these two changes. No quorum to vote for it.

VI. Other Business

Meeting date/time - Interest in mornings, 9-11am. Sarah will send out a Doodle.

New England Women's Policy Institute Biennial conference in Boston - Amy

- Amy facilitated two sessions. She filled in for Holly on one as she was unable to attend. Held at the UMASS Student Center, multiple floors in same building. Parking was a little challenging. Used a shuttle system.
- Agenda was packed. Around 500 people attended. Expensive - tickets \$150. Eventually there were several price points available.

- Each state was responsible for two break-out sessions on a track. Our topics were Home Health Care/Workers. Both were panels and the rooms were full.
- The planning committee has already sent a doodle out for the next conference. Let Amy know if you would like to participate. Timing is right after the election which is challenging. Difficult to get legislators there. This year they had more financial support.

VII. Next Meeting

April 12, from 12:00 -2:00pm

Meeting ended at 1:37