



MePCSW Meeting Minutes

December 14, 2023, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Online Meeting

In Attendance: Kate Elmes, Jennifer Wilkey, Rebecca Austin, Anne Gass, Jill Randall, Fatuma Hussein, Maulian Bryant, Samantha Lott Hale, Sue Mackey Andrews, Jill Barkley Roy, Keita Whitten Foster, Dania Bowie, Meredith Strang Burgess

Absent: Ruth Kermish-Allen, Darylen Cote

Welcome, Kate

Membership Update

- Seats 3 & 4 still vacant.
- ED job should be posted today.

Staffing Update

- Kate hoping to transition out of Chair position mid-Jan.
- Anne submitted her name and recommendation sent to Governor's Office

Approve Minutes - Motion to approve October 2023 minutes, Anne, second Sue, all in favor.

Facebook Page Manager

- Anne has been managing the PCSW fb page for years. Would like to pass to someone else.
- Jen volunteered.

Gender Justice Day at the State House, Dania

- Jan 9, 2024, 9-12, Hosted by Maine Women's Lobby
- Several tables, tours, panel, post card station, meet your legislator
- PCSW table: Rebecca, Kate, Jill
- Nikki will print latest report, white paper, and copies of job announcement for table.

Spotlight Committee, Anne

Webinar debrief

- Went well. Dania facilitated.
- Topic-Women in Leadership and Women in STEM. Panelists passionate and knowledgeable. Less STEM content than expected.
- Not a lot of attendees, but now available online.

continued

- Thanks to Maine Resiliency Network and their Executive Director, Kini Tinkham. Great to work with. Would be helpful to be able to host our own webinar.

White Paper on Childcare

- Jen formatted. Anne waiting to hear back on fact-checking.
- Plan is to follow with Women in STEM white paper spearheaded by Ruth.

Announcements & Next Meeting

- Discussion of \$6m cut to Maine VOCA funding and its effect on Maine women and girls. Interest in exploring a response from Commission. Rebecca will convene a sub-committee of the Legislative Committee to discuss options. Jill, Sue, Meredith, Dania, Jen and Keita will participate.
- Next Commission meeting February 15, 2024, 9:30-11:00 am via zoom
- Nikki sent meeting dates for 2024.