



Office of the County Administrator

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS / HUMAN RIGHTS SECTION

115 S. Andrews Avenue, Room 427 • Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301 • 954-357-6500 • FAX 954-357-7889

Meeting Record

Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) Advisory Board Meeting	Date: April 19, 2023 Call to Order: 6:02 PM
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Attendees

Elaine Blattner	Susan Buzzi	Julie Carson	Caroline Collette
Cathleen Dean	Toby Feuer	Nancy Fry	Linda Thompson Gonzalez
Gail Grahn	Jeanne Kacprzak	Jasmen Rogers	Udaya Thomas
Chad Zurko (Board Coord.)	Carol Powell (Prof. Stds.)		

Members Absent

Emma Collum	Alexandra Hershorn	Christiane Paulhus	
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Key Decisions

1.

Action Items

	Description	Resource	Status
1.	Obtain copy of 2023 Black Maternal Health proc	Chad	
2.	Letter to County Commissioners	Jasmen	
3.			

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL (9 minutes)

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm and quorum was established. As Mr. Zurko was unable to be physically present at the meeting, Ms. Powell-Phillips from the Professional Standards office was in attendance to conduct roll call and facilitate other actions. New Member Ms. Collette was introduced and provided some background info.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion to accept the Agenda as presented was made by Ms. Rogers, second by Ms. Grahn; unanimously carried.

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Tabled; minutes not available yet.

4. CHAIR'S REPORT (18 minutes)

Chair Rogers noted that a lot had happened since the last meeting in February, including Women's History Month and all the activities in which the CSW participated: proclamation at the March 14 Commission Meeting, lobby display of honorees and reception event at the YMCA on March 15 which was attended by approximately 80 people. She would like to continue to hold the County accountable for supporting and promoting these events. She also noted that April 11-17 was Black Maternal Health Week: Last year, Commissioner Alston had read a proclamation for this over Zoom and this year Commissioner Hazelle Rogers sponsored it after hearing the statistics that were presented during the WHM presentation. Chair Rogers asked Mr. Zurko/Ms. Powell if they could request a digital copy of this year's proc so we can post on social media, etc. She also reached out to the Commissioner's office to get clarification on how she would like to support this, what additional we can provide, etc. Finally, the latest CEDAW report was released and presented during the 3/14 meeting. She noted the report that the County has eliminated the pay equity gap for their employees, with women earning equal pay to their male counterparts. She would like to see this trend continued with other municipalities, contractors, etc. She thanked the Board for communicating in order to coordinate these events successfully. Dr. Thomas asked if maybe we should write a letter to the Commissioners thanking them for their support and detailing the funding that was required from Members and community partners, as well as highlighting everything that the Miami-Dade CSW has been able to do because of the budget they have, as this might encourage them to give our CSW more financial support. It was decided unanimously that Ms. Rogers should be in charge of this. On a related note, Ms. Kacprzak mentioned when she had gone to different Libraries to promote the Women's Voting display, she spoke with a Librarian at the Deerfield Beach branch, who told her they had a large meeting room available, and since it is a County facility this may be a good venue to have presentations for the community on the CEDAW report, etc. She also noted that Ms. Rogers to the Commission could be included in the Annual Report.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS (29 minutes)

CEDAW

Ms. Kacprzak reiterated that she felt it would be beneficial to present the report to those in the community who would have the most impact on the information and statistics being presented. She asked for everyone's thoughts on whether this could be done by individual members sharing the report around the County. Ms. Thompson-Gonzalez suggested requesting time at various City Commission meetings to present it using predetermined verbiage (printing costs, etc. must be considered). Ms. Grahn suggested sending it electronically instead and targeting NGOs/Not for Profits and Legislators from the County like Marie Woodson. It was also suggested that we send the PowerPoint presentation that was given at our Commission meeting my FIU staff; Mr. Zurko will contact the County Auditor to request a copy. Since new member Ms. Collette mentioned she had a background in art, Ms. Dean inquired as to whether she might be able to assist in creating additional promo materials- TBD further when Committee Chair Ms. Carson was present.

Communications

Chair Kacprzak reported that she had posted about National Denim Day, however she found conflicting information about what date it was. She said she has not had much time to make other posts and would like Ms. Collette to be a part of the committee if she was interested, due to her background (she said she would be happy to help). She will send out some proposed times for a committee meeting on Zoom so Mr. Zurko can schedule and sunshine it.

Women's Issues

Chair Rogers stated again that a lot had happened since the last meeting and that the Legislative Session had come and gone. She also noted the Governor's signing of a 6-week abortion ban last week; pending a Supreme Court decision, it remains legal up to 15 weeks of pregnancy. She then mentioned the other bills which had been quickly moved through the system, and draft calendar that was created so we can help educate and inform the public about them.

Women: VOTE!

Chair Paulhus was not present at this time.

Mindfulness

Chair Thomas reported they had met twice since the last regular meeting. She had attended a gun violence safety event sponsored by AAUW of Weston. Ms. Feuer, who is a member of AAUW and the Mindfulness Committee was also there. There were several other organizations present, including the League of Women who were handing out gun safety locks. Further to this an inquiry was conducted as to whether local law enforcement agencies had gun buy-back programs (City of Hollywood reported they had one in the past). She reported Ms. Feuer will be checking with BSO for further information about other cities and they have also contacted other organizations including the MBRC of Broward County. The issue is to figure out how these different entities can get out into the community to increase mindfulness activities. Finally, she announced that there will be another "mindful beach cleanup" this coming Sunday in Dania Beach, including instruction on a mindful walking meditation. Buckets will be used to collect items instead of plastic bags. Ms. Rogers asked if she could send the event flyer to Ms. Kacprzak for posting. Ms. Buzzi spoke up about her experience as a coach practitioner teaching mindfulness in the County and said she would like to attend the committee meetings if her schedule allows. She also noted she received another grant this year through the County for "The Kindness Project" and will forward the info to Mr. Zurko.

6. MEMBER REPORTS (2 minutes)

Ms. Kacprzak recapped what was said earlier about thinking about having meetings at the Deerfield Library and reported that she had covered CSW's booth at the "Parkland Days" event last month and was next to a booth with a group of women who run an animal rescue farm. She plans to contact them to find out more information. There were a lot of people walking by but there seemed to be limited interest as most of them were not aware of the CSW's existence. As previously discussed, she had a past Women's History Month display up in the booth and handed out a few of the old palm cards. She mentioned the Women's Voting display again and thought this year's WHM display should go up in a Library somewhere. She encouraged everyone to go to their local Library, introduce themselves and the CSW and say "We have stuff, would you like it?"

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (16 minutes)

Annual Report

Ms. Kacprzak asked if this had been sent to the Commissioners. Ms. Rogers said she was pretty sure she did since they asked her about it after it was brought up at the March 14 meeting. She will double check and was planning to send it anyway along with the previously mentioned letter she will be writing.

Updating Palm Cards

Ms. Rogers noted that we left off at finding out what information and organizations could/should be included. Again, Ms. Collette was asked if she could help in this area. Mr. Zurko opined that when it was discussed at the January meeting it seemed to be too overloaded with different things and he had included

in an e-mail to Jeanne (before unexpectedly being out on extended leave) the idea of ordering Business Cards with the CSW contact info and social media on them, along with a QR code to the website. That way it would be kept simple and “evergreen” as Ms. Rogers had suggested. Ms. Buzzi noted that she had offered to help with this and agreed that it had gotten too convoluted. She said she could bring what she had to the next meeting. Ms. Kacprzak mentioned the two of them, along with new member Ms. Collette doing something with this at their next Communication Committee meeting. In addition to this, Ms. Rogers said it would be great to have something eye-catching about the CSW for if we have a table at future events and for the Commissioners to keep in their offices as well. Ms. Blattner added that the infographics from the CEDAW report could be distributed as well. Ms. Rogers recapped the basic things which those present would like to have included and it was proposed the Communications committee work on creating both a business card and a larger palm card. Mr. Zurko noted that the Board does have an official e-mail address, csw@broward.org which goes to his Outlook inbox for work.

2023 Meeting Schedule

Mr. Zurko had e-mailed a proposed schedule to everyone. He noted during the facilitation in February, folks had indicated they wanted July and August as their “off” months, however since there was no meeting in March, he asked if they wanted to add one of those back to the schedule. Those present in the room were in favor of meeting in July, however others said they would out of town; Ms. Carson was concerned that that was a time when school was out and therefore families usually went on vacations. Ultimately it was decided that Mr. Zurko should add a July 12 meeting to the schedule and whoever can attend will do so. Ms. Kacprzak asked about the updated quorum requirements, which state: as long as the Chair OR 3 Board Members are present, we will have quorum. On that note, Mr. Zurko said there was still an issue with Members not letting him know if they will be attending by the established deadline of 2 days prior to the meeting. Also, some Members were replying that they could not attend in-person, so he assumed they would be attending virtually, however they did not. He requested that Members specify whether they are planning to attend in-person or virtually, and reiterated the attendance policy that Members are subject to removal from the Board if they have either 3 consecutive unexcused absences, or 4 total within a calendar year. He also confirmed that as long as the in-person quorum is met, all members whether there or virtual, have a vote.

8. NEW BUSINESS

None

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (6 minutes)

Ms. Rogers mentioned the facilitation that was conducted in February and all the great ideas that were brought up. She would like to see these discussed at the May meeting. There were no minutes taken for that meeting, however Mr. Zurko e-mailed the link of the recording to everyone, along with the final report from Lynette and Vonetta, which included what was discussed. Ms. Rogers added we should have received a reply from the Commissioners by the next meeting as to how they can engage with us further (framed around the CEDAW report), so be prepared to talk about that as well.

Ms. Thompson-Gonzalez mentioned the previous discussion of 3rd party/outside events. She thought that though we may not want to include these on our calendar or social media, we should see how we can get involved with those events as a Board, provided that it is discussed and all are in agreement (otherwise individuals are free to attend events but not representing the CSW).

10. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Thomas, second by Ms. Blattner; unanimously carried. Meeting

adjourned at 7:22 pm.

The next scheduled Board meeting will convene:

Wednesday, May 10, 2023, 6 PM

If a Board member or other party would like more detailed information about the contents of these summarized minutes, an audio/video recording of the meeting is available by contacting the Human Rights Section, 954-357-7800.