



Council for Women & Youth Involvement
Department of Administration

N.C Governor's Council for Women Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2020

This Meeting was Conducted Remotely by Microsoft Teams: Hosted by Catherine Rivera

Members Present: Jenny Black, Candance Gingles, Robin Robinson, Elsa Jimenez-Salgado, Adrienne Spinner, Annette Taylor, Lyric Thompson, Kimberly Moore, Crystal Moore, Andreina Hall, Catherine McDowell, Joyce Payne, Mindy Oakley, Dana O'Donovan, Carrie Stewart

Members Absent: Emily Kirby, Del Mattioli, Settle Monroe, Kate Woodbury

Member on call: Patricia Parker

NC Council for Women & Youth Involvement Staff Present: Mary Williams- Stover, CFW&YI Executive Director, Candace Hackney (Intern)

Guests Present: Kristen Coates, NC Census Outreach, NC Representative Alison Dahle -Member, NCGA Committee on Covid-19, Betty Marrow-Taylor, DOA Deputy Secretary, Elyse Shaw, IWPR, Catherine Rivera, DOA Boards and Commissions Coordinator

Meeting was called to order by Advisory Board Chairperson, Jenny Black at 10:00 a.m.

Welcome/Member Roll Call: Chair Jenny Black welcomed everyone. Ms. Black read the minutes and Ethics Statement. No conflicts of interest were stated. Executive Director, Mary Williams-Stover conducted the roll call and members stated as names were called (presented)

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Crystal Moore to approve the minutes as written. Second by Annette Taylor. Unanimous Approval for February 20, 2020 minutes. Executive Director, Mary Williams-Stover conducted another roll call of the members for approval of February 20, 2020 minutes by asking every member by name, unanimous approval.

Presentation: Elyse Shaw, IWPR

NC Status of Women Report: Political Participation Update:

- *Status of Women in the States* publications use data from the U.S. government and other sources to analyze women's status across multiple issue areas. These reports have been used to highlight women's progress and the obstacles they continue to face and to encourage policy and programmatic changes that can improve women's opportunities.
- Elected and Appointed Women Leaders and Organizational Advocates who shared their experiences to help bring meaning to the data contained in the report

- Women engage with the political process in a number of ways, from registering, volunteering and voting, to running for local office like city council or county commissioner, to supporting and working for campaigns, to running for a seat in the U.S. Congress or the Presidency
- Women constitute a powerful force in the electorate today and inform policymaking at all levels of government, women continue to be under-represented in governments at all levels and face barriers that often make it difficult for them to exercise political power and assume leadership positions in the public sphere.
- Voter registration and turnout, female state and federal elected and appointed representation, and state-based institutional resources for women are highlighted. Report examines how women fare on these indicators of women's status, the progress women have made and where it has stalled, and how racial and ethnic disparities compound gender disparities in specific forms of political participation.

Discussion

- Overall, women in North Carolina hold smaller shares of the seats in both the state house and senate compared to the United States. In the U.S. women hold 26 percent of state senate seats and 30 percent of state house seats. Parity for women will not be achieved until 2084.

Executive Director's Report: Mary Williams-Stover reported:

- CFW team are tracking the impact of Covid-19 on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault service providers and the people they serve; demand for services has increased.
- Introduction of Candace Hackney, State of NC Summer Intern. NCCFW manages the summer program for state agencies to provide workplace learning. This year the program will be held virtually with every intern teleworking due to COVID-19 and the state of emergency order.
- Work underway to complete marketing plans and roll out events for the Status of Women: Political Participation Report in August 2020. Final report will focus on Poverty and Opportunity for women and roll out in Spring, 2021.
- Status of Women in NC Report 2020 will utilize stories and profiles of women engaged in political service, advocacy, leadership. Interviews have been completed with the following women for use in the Status of Women report, social media, newsletters, and virtual events:

Elected Officials:

1. Valerie P. Foushee, North Carolina Senator (D-District 23)
2. Sarah Stevens, House Speaker Pro Tempore- NC General Assembly (R-District 90)
3. Marikay Abuzuaiter, At-large Council Member
4. Nida Allam, Durham County Board of Commissioners
5. Alexandra Valladares, Durham Public School Board
6. Paula Dance, Pitt County Sheriff
7. Chief Dr. Brucie Ogletree Green Richardson of the Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe

Judges:

1. Chief Justice Cheri Beasley, Supreme Court of North Carolina
2. Judge Robin Robinson, District Court Judge of 5th District and member of the State CFW Board
3. Associate Justice Anita Earls, Supreme Court of North Carolina

Organizations:

1. Jo Nicholas, President of League of Women Voters in North Carolina
2. Sarah Preston, Executive Director of Lillian's List
3. Gloria De Los Santos, At-Large member of Durham Mayor's Council for Women, Director at ActionNC
4. Lyric Thompson, Senior Director of Policy and Advocacy at the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) and member of the State CFW Board

Academics:

5. Dr. Whitney Manzo, Assistant Professor and Prelaw Advisor at Meredith College
6. Youth Leaders
7. Nyanna Sherrod, President of Rocky Mount Area Youth Council
8. Caroline Searcy, Historian of Wilson Area Youth Council

Mary reported that the profiles are key to educating ourselves and understanding where elected officials challenges and barriers and work on issues to improve women lives in NC. Running for office is another way and being appointed to a local or state board or commission is a way to change policies-*a seat at the table matters. Engaging matters.*

Report on political participation highlights: Institutional resources: State Commission for Women, Campaign Training for Women, Women's Political Action Committee, State Chapter of the National Women's Political Caucus

Presentation: NC Representative Alison Dahle: Voting Participation and Public Safety in the Age of COVID-19 Update

- Voting Registration counts has decreased because of Covid- 19
- Covid – 19 Task Force is working to make voting safe
- Increase in Absentee Ballot vs Mail in Ballot
- State Board Election has purchased 7 high power scanning system for Absentee Ballot
- **Need for more Poll workers for NC Voting**

Presentation: Kristen Kincade Coats, NC Census Outreach: US Census – What's Needed to Ensure Women are Counted

- NC Census need more people to fill out the Census forms
- NC Census data will be used for the next 10 years to increase funds for the Communities
- NC Census data serves NC Communities that impact: Care giving Women, Emergency Recovery, Evaluating Impact

- Support is offered in 15 languages by phone and 59 languages online toll-free phone number
- Mobile unit will go out and help people complete their NC Census

Presentation: Lyric Thompson, WOMEN’S COMMISSIONS AND ADVOCACY: Best Practice: Commission of Hawaii

- Lyric shared with the CFW Advisory Board the results of her conversation with the Chairwoman of the Commission on the Status of Women in Hawaii that published a major report on *the impact COVID-19 has on Women in NC.*
- Board members spoke about timeline/outreach in leading the COVID-19 Working Group
- Betty Marrow-Taylor and Mary Williams-Stover spoke about inviting other DOA Agencies to join the group.
- 14 CFW Advisory Board Members joined the COVID-19 Working Group to move forward in crafting a response document position statement or OpEd and develop a report documenting the impact of COVID on women in NC.

Public Comment/Announcements

Pay Equity Seminar for Women, August 26, 2020 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Adjourn meeting: Motion to adjourn made by Lyric Thompson. Second by Adrienne Spinner. Unanimous. Meeting Adjourned at 11:40a.m.

Next Meeting: August 20, 2020: will be conducted remotely by Microsoft Team’s

Submitted by Deborah Torres