

Virginia Council on the Status of Women
Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services
Draft Minutes – September 27, 2012
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

In attendance:

Dawn James	Brenda Fastabend	Camille Fleenor
Randy Davis	Leslie Anderson	Ruth Zajur
Rita Surratt	Laura Mandala	Jeff Caruso
Theresa Preda	Gaylene Kanoyton	
Annie Kasper	Bakula Dave	

Staff: Jennifer Aulgur
Emily Barrett

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Jenni Aulgur in place of Chairwoman, Tracy Key.

Presentation: The Commemorative Commission to Honor the Contributions Women in Virginia by The Honorable Lisa Hicks-Thomas & The Honorable Susan Clarke Schaar

Secretary Hicks-Thomas discussed where the monument will be located on Capitol Grounds. Susan Schaar and Secretary Hicks-Thomas discussed funding. They estimate they will need to fundraise around five million dollars. This will be the first monument dedicated to women as a whole in the country. Proposals are due on Monday, October 1st. The winner will be announced in March 2013. The goal for the completion date of the monument (based on past statues) is one year from when they break ground. Secretary Hicks-Thomas and Susan Schaar have invited all of the Council on Women members to attend meetings.

Jenni briefly welcomed the members and had the members introduce themselves along with Council staff.

A motion was made by Annie Kasper and properly seconded by Rita Surratt to adopt the tentative meeting agenda. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Theresa Preda and properly seconded by Annie Kasper to adopt the minutes of the June 7, 2012 meeting as distributed. The motion carried.

Jenni Aulgur gave a legislative update. Leslie Anderson asks if we should discuss legislative agenda for 2013 session. Laura Mandala says they have done this in the past, but cautioned to stay clear of politicized issues. Annie Kasper wondered if this is dangerous water? Gaylene mentioned they did a health track in the past. Gaylene and Laura Mandala discussed they have testified on an issue in the past at General Assembly. In years past the

Council has written a letter to the Governor. All members must agree on the content of the letter. No one can speak on their own behalf, only on the behalf of the entire Council. A previous letter from Council to the Governor was circulated among members for their review and Jenni Aulgur led discussion on the letter. Laura Mandala's idea is to include the support of the Commission in the letter to the Governor.

A motion was made by Laura Mandala and properly seconded by Jeff Caruso to prepare a letter to the Governor to update on activities. Board staff will draft a letter to the Governor that we will work on between now and December and review at the next meeting. The motion carried.

Emily Barrett and Jenni Aulgur gave an update to members about pending 2012 decisions from the Governor. All members at the meeting that are up for reappointment have expressed interest in serving an additional term.

OLD BUSINESS

STEM Award 2013

Jenni Aulgur discussed the action items list with the Council members. Deadline for the essay entries will be the third week in February, 2013. Winner notification and logistics will be April 1, 2013. Jenni opens up discussion to consider getting more judges to alleviate the work load. Leslie Anderson and Theresa Preda agree to take the lead with the judging program and finding a sector expert to look at the finalists. Annie Kasper will email Jenni Aulgur a list of a potential names from St. Catherine's School. Laura Mandala volunteers to also be a judge.

Everyone agrees that the First Lady should be asked again to be the Honorary Chair of the Council on Women. Jenni Aulgur will work with the First Lady's staff to ask her if she would like to be the Honorary Chair and get the date for the Up and Atom Awards Ceremony on her calendar.

Jenni Aulgur will update the action items list to reflect the current year and hand it out at the next meeting in December 2012. She then handed out the letter that Tracy Key had prepared for the meeting today. The letter is a draft promoting the STEM Essay Contest that members of the Council can potentially use to request donations/funding to various organizations and firms. It is agreed that the letter will be used as a template and members will make subtle changes to make it more personal. Council Members agree that there should be additional options for less donation values. Dawn James recommends tailoring the donation section based on who the recipient of the letter will be.

Jenni Aulgur will review what lists the essay contest announcement went to and also reach out to Dept. of Education about them sending out the announcement to their school systems.

Gaylene offers to have her graphic designer work on a logo for the Virginia Council on Women. She will send Jenni Aulgur various options to consider.

FLITE Outreach Update

Laura Mandala gives update to Council members on FLITE initiatives.

Jenni Aulgur will send the FLITE link to all members. It will be very helpful to get nominations for the FLITE dinner.

The Council had a discussion of incorporating health initiatives where there is a need in Virginia. There was a discussion by several members to possibly add something on the website about health. There was also discussion about finding ways to add value to conferences or events being held around Virginia.

Business Award Idea

Dawn James and Jenni Aulgur and Council members have agreed to push this topic to a later meeting date.

NEW BUSINESS

Website

Jenni Auglur passes out information to members regarding how the website will look. All Council members agree that there should be a short biography on each member.

Gaylene brought up ideas for web design. She will email Jenni a few ideas.

Jeff Caruso expressed concern about having partisan groups listed under Statewide Organizations.

A motion was made by Laura Mandala and properly seconded by Gaylene Kanoyton to eliminate partisan groups from the Statewide Organization list that was previously included on the Council on Women website under the Department of Social Services.

Dawn James and Leslie Anderson feel strongly that the partisan groups should stay on the website. Jeff Caruso is more concerned about the fact you don't typically see party affiliated entities on state websites. Jenni Aulgur is going to consult with the Secretary of the Commonwealth, Janet Kelly as to whether these groups need to be eliminated from a state website.

Guest Speakers for Future Meetings, Speaker's Bureau Idea, and Discussion on Vice-Chair will be tabled for discussion until the next meeting.

The next meeting is planned for December 6, 2012. A motion to adjourn passed after being made and properly seconded at 1:02 p.m.

