

Virginia Council on Women
General Assembly Building
Draft Minutes – December 6, 2012
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

In attendance:

Tracy Key
Lis Bresee
Dawn James
Rita Surratt
Theresa Preda
Bakula Dave

Staff: Jennifer Aulgur
Emily Barrett

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by Chairwoman, Tracy Key.

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

A motion was made by Tracy Key and properly seconded by Rita Surratt to adopt the minutes of the September 27, 2012 meeting as distributed. The motion carried.

Presentation: Fairfax Commission on Women by Jeannie Jew, Chairwoman

Tracy Key introduced Ms. Jew. Ms. Jew gave an overview of the Fairfax Commission on Women. They have 12 members appointed by their Board of Supervisors (both Republican and Democrats). They meet each month and have a small amount of funding from the County. Their mission is to protect and enhance women and to help them with challenges. The Commission has focused on Domestic Violence and affordable housing as their two main projects. She went over some of their successes, projects and offered some guidance to the Council based on how their Commission has grown over time. Ms. Jew provided copies of the Commission's brochure and biennial report to Council members. Council members did have a question and answer period following the presentation.

Jenni Aulgur noted that there was no legislative update at this time. The membership roster was circulated for any updates. Emily Barrett updated the Council on outstanding appointments and that they were in the works.

LETTER FROM GOVERNOR: Working Women Subcommittee

Council had a conference call with Secretary of the Commonwealth, Janet Kelly who discussed the letter from the Governor asking the Council to form a “working women subcommittee.” The goal of this committee would be to look at all aspects of state government and develop recommendations for the Governor’s review as to what Virginia can do better to make life simpler and more efficient for working women. Secretary Kelly answered some questions from Council members on scope and number of recommendations. Dawn James graciously said she would chair this effort. Secretary Kelly provided some names of folks who might be good resources and mentioned the Governor’s Policy show and Commerce & Trade and Health Secretariats are also willing to provide assistance to Council.

Rita Surratt and Theresa Preda mentioned they would like to help. Council member discussed that they will need each member who is not working on STEM to help with this subcommittee.

OLD BUSINESS

STEM Award 2013

Jenni provided the draft guidelines and fundraising letter to members and encouraged them to provide any edits to her over the next week or two. Tracy reported that we have \$500 leftover from last year and one council member graciously agreed to personally donate \$250 towards the essay contest.

Dawn James and Jenni met with the Museum regarding the details for their Up & Atom Breakfast (May 15, 2013) where the STEM Award will be presented. The SMV will continue to house our donations for us and have set aside 2 tables for the Council (20 seats). Formal invitation is forthcoming to members from the museum. Tracy noted that she hopes we can have all Council members attend the breakfast.

Theresa noted that last year we had 4 judges who had to read 30-35 essays which was a lot. She confirmed we have 4 judges thus far and is working on getting others. Tracy and Jenni said they had some names to recommend to her. Theresa will work with Leslie Anderson again on tweaking judging criteria.

Tracy encouraged council members to help fundraise and circulate the letter to as many contacts as possible. No amount/donation is too small. She also encouraged them to get the notice out to anyone they knew who had high school girls interested in STEM.

Website

Jenni Aulgur advised that the new website is live and active. She will be asking for Council member’s bios to be uploaded on the site.

FLITE Outreach Update

Tracy Key noted that she attended the Freedom Support Center Dinner held in Northern Virginia as did Nicole Neilly & Laura Mandala. As Laura Mandala is no longer on

the board and able to be the FLITE liaison; Tracy asked for any volunteers. With no volunteers, Tracy said she would give updates until we could find a volunteer. She publicly thanked Laura and Annie Kasper for their efforts with FLITE, the STEM effort and the Council activities in general.

Meeting Dates

Council discussed going forward with picking meeting dates for 2013. Jenni advised that we did not have to always meet on Thursday's if that day was bad for members. Some council members noted Thursdays were bad due to business and school functions. After a short discussion, the following dates for meetings were set for 10AM to 1PM:

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Wednesday, May 15, 2013**

*(**immediately follows STEM Breakfast – begin at 9AM instead of 10AM)*

Tuesday, August 13, 2013

Wednesday, September 18, 2013

Other New Business: Speaker's Bureau; Discussion on Vice-Chair; Letter to Governor 2012; and Women's Health Initiative/Conference was tabled until a future meeting.

The next meeting is planned for March 5, 2013. A motion to adjourn passed after being made and properly seconded at 12:58 p.m.