

**Delaware Women's Commission
Office of Women's Advancement & Advocacy
State of Delaware, Department of Human Resources**

Haslet Building
122 Martin Luther King Blvd, South
Dover, DE 19901
Monday, September 24, 2018
10:30am to 12:00pm

Carvel State Office Building
820 N. French Street, 10th Floor
Wilmington, DE 19801
(Via Videoconferencing)

Attendees:

Katherine Caudle
Melanie Ross Levin
Sherry Dorsey Walker-Wilmington Videoconference
*Marian Palley
Rosalia Velazquez
Sobia Choudhri
Carling Ryan
Sherese Brewington-Carr
Erin Goldner
Laura Bennett
*Chairperson

DRAFT MINUTES

Welcome and Introductory Comments

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Marian Palley at 10:30am. The chairperson welcomed everyone, and congratulated Ms. Sherry Dorsey Walker on her new appointment for Representing District 3. Ms. Palley thanked the staff of Office of Women's Advancement and Advocacy for all their work with the commission. The chairperson asked members of the commission to support bills

that come from the Office of Women's Advancement and Advocacy. Chairperson give dates for meeting for the rest of the year. November 19, 2018 will be the last meeting for 2018. The commission members will have their meetings on Mondays and the chairperson proposed that meetings be held every other month in New Castle County. The schedule for next year is January 28, 2019, March 25, 2019, May 20, 2019, September 23, 2019 and November ?, 2019. Chairperson would like to meet in New Castle County every other meeting. The following schedule for next year is January-Wilmington, March-Dover, May-Wilmington September-Dover and November-Wilmington.

Office of Women's Advancement and Advocacy Update

The staff of the office of Women's Advancement and Advocacy is focused on the Hall of Fame event on September 27, 2018. The legislative session was over in June and there were many bills that came out of session. Now that session is over and the staff is also focused on new bills to be introduced in legislative session. The following bills came out of session: Pay leave, Birth control bill, women in prison now have a choice for what kind of feminine supplies they can use, Sexual harassment and child marriage are some of the bills that came through in session. Rosalina would like information in writing about bills in Spanish. (If available). Rosalina is concerned that people are not aware of the child marriage bill. Unchained at Last may have information in Spanish. Unchained at Last helps young women get out of child marriages. Rosalina would like to talk with Melanie about bills. Melanie asked the Women's Commission members to think about how to start educating public about bills that are passed. There is a need for someone who speaks Spanish to help with educating that population on legislative bills. Melanie ask members if they see other bills that may benefit Delaware women and girls, please let her know. Due to Sherry Dorsey's being voted in for Representative for District 3, she will have to leave the commission once she starts her new job. The classes for salary negotiations now is budgeted at 30,000.00 from DHR. There should be 4 classes on salary negotiations. Melanie drafted a sponsorship policy for all events going forward. Waiting for policy to be approved. The Public Policy Committee would like to get with other agencies and they thought it would be better to work with the Women's Commission to share ideas and coordinate with other groups to get bills through. It would be a good idea to follow-up with Melanie. The chairperson asked what would be the optimum number of groups to meet and should multiple locations. Chairperson said, the members should come up with a list and meet in November and December. Contact agencies that deal with women and girls. The agencies should be all inclusive and give feedback and recommendations from women's

commission. Melanie and Mariam will meet to talk about how to make it happen. OWAA will support meetings, finding locations, and send out agenda's. After commission find organization.

Update on She's on Her Way

The committee for She's on her way met in June. Logistics were sent out and the event will be on March 1, 2018 at Buena Vista. The event will be the first one for Women History Month. Proposed October 18, or 19 for next meeting. Look at development of budget and confirm October 18, 2018. The first Lady will be attending and participating in She's on Her Way. Event for 18-35 years of age women.

New Business

Set up meetings in three counties for women organizations. Melanie to update meeting with workforce council and Hall of Fame to coordinate activities in assisting OWAA with bill to submit for the next legislation session. The minutes from the last meeting were introduced and approved by Marian and Sherese seconded.

Motion to adjourn Marian Palley
Second motion Sobia Choudhri
All in favor, none opposed

Meeting adjourned 12:00pm.

DRAFT