

# Organization Name

## Meeting Minutes

Date of meeting

Present:                    \*Marian Palley  
                                  Melanie Ross Levin  
                                  Sherese Brewington-Carr  
                                  Michelle Taylor-Dover  
                                  Laura Burnett  
                                  Kim Lowman  
                                  Stella Harrison  
                                  \*Chairperson

Location:                 Carvel State Office Building  
                                  820 N. French Street, 10th Floor Training Room  
                                  Wilmington, DE 19801

(Via Videoconferencing Haslet Building  
122 Martin Luther King Blvd, South  
Dover, DE 19901

Monday, January 24, 2020  
10:30am to 12:00pm

### **1. Welcome and Introductory Comments**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Marian Palley at 10:30am. The chairperson welcomed everyone. Rose Holandez, from the Federal Women's Bureau in Washington, DC introduced herself. Ms. Holandez explained how she works with women's commissions regionally and how she is interested in making a connection with the Delaware Women's Commission. The chairperson asked the members of the commission to look at the minutes from November 18, 2019 meeting. The chairperson asked for approval of the minutes and they were approved, all in favor, none opposed.

### **2. Legislative Update**

There was discussion around supporting a bill that would provide hygiene products for students in public schools. There is support from other groups for the bill such as AAUW and the Delaware Women Junior League. There was an update from the chairperson and the Director of the Office of Women's Advancement and Advocacy as to how the Delaware Women Coalition, a subcommittee of the Delaware Women's Commission is evolving. It was explained how the coalition works and how they function as a subcommittee of the Delaware Women's Commission. The commission members were asked by The Director for Women's Advancement

and Advocacy to come to Dover in order to support bills or testify in front of legislators. The Office of Women's Advancement and Advocacy created a link for the commission members to be able to see all the bills that are active right now in legislation. Planned Parenthood's support for bills in legislation was discussed by the chairperson. There are only certain bills that will be supported by Planned Parenthood. CR 406 was introduced to the commission members. CR 406 requires Medicaid and Medicare to study post-partum issues that women have after giving birth in Delaware. It is to find out if there is adequate medical support for a mother after giving birth and it will also help keep up with the numbers for mortality rates within the State of Delaware.

### **3. She's on Her Way**

The chairperson talked about an event that the Office of Women's Advancement and Advocacy sponsored last year with the Delaware Women's Commission Called, "She's on Her Way". It was an event for young women who were less than 30 years old and made major contributions to their community, city or state. The chairperson asked the commission members if they would like to do it next year. The commission members had agreed to do the event every other year and the last "She's on Her Way" event was in 2019. The chairperson said she will be the chair of the subcommittee after finding out who the members of the subcommittee will be. The chairperson also talked about having an honorary chairperson to oversee the event. It was suggested that the committee consider having a person who is 30 years of age or younger to be the honorary chair of the subcommittee due to the event honoring those within that age group. Chairperson asked for a motion to vote to have "She's on Her Way" event for 2021 and it was approved with all in favor and none opposed.

The chairperson will convene a subcommittee and will bring it back to the commission members at the next meeting. The chairperson will send out an e-mail asking for volunteers within the Delaware Women's Commission. The chairperson talked about an honoree who could not attend the event in 2018. According to the committee's rules she was not mentioned or honored at the 2019 event. The chairperson asked for a motion that the nominee be honored in 2021 and the motion carried with all in favor, none opposed.

### **4. New Business**

The commission members were given a binder and it was explained that they will use the binder for each of their meetings and the Office of Women's Advancement and Advocacy will keep the binder updated with information.

The Director of the Office of Women's Advancement and Advocacy talked about The Delaware Women's Voices Project. The survey will be promoted until the end of January. Following the survey, there will be 8 listening sessions throughout the state. Training how to conduct the listening sessions for the Voices Project is March 2, 2020. Commission member are encouraged to attend the training and lead a listening session. OWAA is partnering with libraries to host the listening sessions. Sherese Brewington-Carr volunteered to be a facilitator for the listening

sessions. First listening session is in May and should end over the summer. It was suggested that there should be a monthly thank you and updates for those who took the survey.

The Director of Women's Advancement and Advocacy are holding four salary negotiation workshops that will begin in April. The workshops correspond with equal payday. The Office of Women's Advancement and Advocacy is looking for volunteers to facilitate the workshops.

Chairperson ask for motion to adjourned and it was passed with all in favor, none opposed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:49am.

Next meeting, March 2, 2020.