

Delaware Women's Hall of Fame Committee Meeting, Office of Women's Advancement & Advocacy, State of Delaware, Department of Human Resources

Meeting Minutes

September 18, 2020

Present: Tara Smith
Nancy W. Cook
*Kay Keenan
Jackie Griffith
Teresa del Tufo
Donna Masley
Melanie Ross Levin
Kim Lowman
Tonisha Hurd
Grace Otley
*Chairperson

1. Welcome

- a. Checking in- The Chair welcomed everyone and began the meeting.
- b. Approve minutes- Motion to approve previous minutes was passed with all in favor and none opposed.

2. Updates on old business

- a. 2020 Honorees (i.e. Event, Videos)

In June, the committee decided on honorees for both the 2020 and 2021 cycles. Two suffragists were chosen for the 2020 cycle in honor of the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment. Given the ongoing pandemic, the event the committee had hoped to partner with the Centennial Committee for the induction ceremony for the 2020 honorees has been postponed until April 2021. OWAA is in the process of gathering information to start making the HOF videos for honorees. OWAA is working with GIC on drafting the videos to be used as part of the induction ceremonies for both the 2020 and 2021 inductees.

- b. 2021 Honorees (i.e. Contract with Dover Downs, Videos, Announcements)

The contract with Dover Downs for October 2020 has been terminated and the event has been moved to October 2021. Promotional materials have been updated to reflect the change and there was a press release with the Governor's office announcing both

sets of honorees. It was also decided to delay ticket sales since we are more than a year away from the event and are unsure how events will continue to be impacted by COVID-19. Additionally, OWAA is creating yard signs for the honorees to announce their selection as a way to do something a little fun in this current environment.

3. Discussion on new business

- a. Hall of Fame beyond the event (i.e. Improving or replacing physical display on 4th floor of Carvel, website, poster, etc.)

The committee discussed how to keep Delaware Women's Hall of Fame (HOF) visible and what can be done beyond the HOF event such as moving the 4th floor display in Carvel. OWAA consulted with OMB about moving the display and OMB stated that they could potentially do smaller displays in multiple buildings.

Another consideration is having a photoshoot to generate high quality photos and videos to be used for promotion. The director of OWAA highlighted a current lack of data and, professor Smith thought of utilizing her students next semester to give them an opportunity to provide data on HOF honorees. The students could also potentially help with website content and research, but deliverables would not be completed until the end of the Spring semester.

Having one place for the HOF display so that people can visit an actual historical site/museum such as the Sports Museum Hall of Fame was also an idea from the committee. Another consideration was designating a place in the Delaware libraries to display HOF information. Committee member Tes is willing to contact the State Librarian and invite her to the next meeting. OWAA's Public Information Officer thought of including visuals and videos for the display and the committee talked about generating a collection of stories on HOF honorees to generate more data, information and visuals.

The OWAA Director asked the committee to consider partners that could assist with funding for an exhibit project. Example partners could be Delaware Public Archives, the Historical & Cultural Affairs Department or, Delaware Historical Museum. The Delaware humanities council may be able to give HOF a grant, but the committee would like to explore a "friends of" model to create a non-profit. Committee members noted that as a non-profit HOF can receive funding outside of the State.

The ongoing task is figuring out to do with our online presence and platform. A committee member brought up the need to identify missing information such as quality graphics, biographies and data. While there are currently some photos, a printed book

with biographies and other information- it is inconsistent. The Chair proposed asking Ja well-known artist and photographer, about the possibility of taking photos of contemporary inductees as well as discuss other potential creative ideas on how to share information about these women .

Action Items:

- Professor Smith to connect with the OWAA Director on student involvement in potential research/PR project
- Tes will reach out to the State Librarian to ask about attending an upcoming meeting to discuss potential Hall of Fame exhibits.
- Tes will connect OWAA Director with photographer for photoshoot information and pricing
- All-Research on a Hall of Fame Museum and “friends of” model to obtain funding

4. **Next Steps-** The committee will meet next on November 13th.

5. **Adjournment** – Motion to adjourn, all in favor and none opposed