

The twentieth meeting of the DC Commission for Women was held June 5, 2014 in Room 301 of the historic John A Wilson building at 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW.

The following members were present:

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| Toayoa Aldridge (absent) | Cynthia Harrison (late) |
| Ann Barnet  Marian Bennett  Wilma Bonner  Lorraine Carter | Susan Henriques-Payne  Mary Ivey (absent)  Claudia McKoin (absent)  Jill Morrison |
| Niki Charles (excused late) | Nona Richardson |
| Crystal Espie | Latisha Atkins (Executive Director) |
| Anne Garcia (excused absence) | Lisa Adams (OWPI Staff) |

*Call to Order*

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Nona Richardson, at 7:04PM

*The Transition and Next Steps*

Nona Richardson introduced Steve Glaude, the Director of Community Affairs, who introduced Latisha Atkins, the new Executive Director for the Office on Women’s Policy Initiatives.

He discussed Latisha’s professional experience, and placed full confidence in her abilities to successfully lead the OWPI and guides the Commission. The Commissioners introduced themselves to Latisha.

Commissioners asked Steve Glaude about terms and vacancies. (It was later noted that all commission terms would expire on April 20, 2015).

Secretary Crystal Espie shared results from the Legislative Committee’s testimonies on the budget. Their testimonies resulted in two additional full time employees for OWPI, and an increased amount of NPS. She continued by saying that Steve approved two commissioners to attend the Sarasota, Florida national commission meeting.

There was a brief discussion about the budget of the Commission and the OWPI, and what would be done for FY15. Executive Director Latisha Atkins suggested figuring out the budget once the Council finalizes the vote. Commission Chair Nona Richardson suggested that after the vote, the commission could determine funds for the conference budget.

*Discussion on Break-Out Sessions, upcoming Fall Policy Conference and Listening Sessions*

Commission Chair Nona Richardson shared the sponsorship opportunities document that explained how different institutions could participate in the conference at financial levels, and also shared a tentative agenda.

Several commissioners voiced concerns about possible disconnects between the conference and other women’s issues. Commissioner Niki Charles suggested emphasis on student loans in addition to the broader theme of women’s economics.

Commissioner Niki Charles also suggested various methods that the commission could fundraise. She recommended gofundme.com and booster online for t-shirts. Commissioner Wilma Bonner suggested figuring out exhibitors.

Commission Chair Nona Richardson said that she would find a time with Latisha, Sheila Bunn, and Steve Glaude to receive feedback and support about the conference. She shared that planning committee for the conference would also decide a keynote in two weeks.

Commissioner Susan Henriques-Payne brought up the importance of volunteers, and the impact they could have on the success of the Commission. She volunteered to develop a volunteer plan.

Commissioner Marian Bennett discussed her team’s panel on Title IX. She said that they wanted to have three to four people on the panel to discuss the topic, likely from the Department of Education. Commissioner Cynthia Harrison said that there is no Title IX employee for academics, only for athletics. She continued by saying that something needs to be done about it.

Commissioner Ann Barnet suggested providing childcare for the all day conference. There was discussion on the issue, and Executive Director Latisha Atkins suggested she would reach out to family collaborative as a potential partner.

Commission Chair Nona Richardson said that planning committee would continue to keep the wheels moving for the conference, decide a venue, work on sponsorship and resources, and report back to the Commission as a while on July 3 (the next meeting).

*Questions, Comments, and Concerns*

Commissioner Ann Barnet commented on the listening sessions, and asked about setting aside a time a place for commissioners and staff to further discuss.

Commissioner Niki Charles recommended that the Commission revisit the position papers to update and make changes as appropriate, and recommended that the Commission work on a FY15 budget plan.

*Adjournment*

The Commission adjourned at approximately 8:45pm. The next Commission Meeting is July 3, 2014 at in Room 301 of the historic John A Wilson building at 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW.