DC Commission for Women
Tuesday, April 2, 2019
Meeting Minutes

Location: Room G-9, Wilson Building

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| **Commissioners** | **Attending** |
| Gabrielle Alfonso | yes |
| Nia Hope Bess | no |
| Donella Brockington, Vice Chair | yes |
| Aryn Bussey | yes |
| Brandy Butler | yes |
| Courtney Christian | yes |
| Abby Fenton | no |
| Jacquelyn Glover | yes |
| Tiffini Greene | no |
| Angie Lundy | no |
| Camelia Mazard | yes |
| Princess McDuffie, Chair | yes |
| Susan Sarfati | yes |
| Shelley Tomkin | yes |
| Abigail Truhart | no |
| Jessica Tunon | yes |
| Latonya Clark | yes |
| Jenny Luray | no |
| Veronica Nelson | yes |

A quorum was present.

1. **Meeting called to order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** Completed at 6:35 p.m.
3. **MOWPI Staff:** Jennifer Porter, Angela Richardson, Alex Chambers
4. **Meeting Minutes:** Minutes from March 4, 2019 meeting circulated, approved with no edits.
5. **Correspondence and Announcements:** None
6. **Report from Commission Chair:**
	1. Monthly advocacy/service opportunities: Chair McDuffie encouraged commissioners to use the google doc provided by staff to keep apprised of MOWPI activities, to sign up to participate for activities, and to use as a tool to see what events are on the horizon and allow staff to be able to plan for gaps in attendance or for where commissioner attendance and participation would be most helpful and supportive. There was extended discussion about whether the commission might form a partnership with Excel Academy girls school. It was suggested to follow up with school leadership to ascertain their needs, how we could be most impactful and then tap into commission talent.
		1. Commissioner Lundy has a service opportunity event Director Porter will circulate.
		2. Commissioner Clark offered two service opportunities: 4/10, AKA sponsored college financial aid event for parents with rising/graduation seniors; 4/12, AKA International Global Impact Awareness Program about women and girls. (details to be circulated)
		3. Commissioner Nelson offered a service opportunity with Patricia Handy Place for Women. The first Saturday of each month, in conjunction with DC Central Kitchen, the center serves meals to women. They are looking for volunteers for this Saturday. (Details to be circulated)
7. **Director’s Report:** Director Porter is grateful for Commissioners’ support and leadership, and attendance at MOWPI Women’s History Month events. We celebrate the appointment of Princess McDuffie, the longest serving commissioner, as commission chair. With her appointment, we look forward to formalizing the Executive and Standing Committees.

April Activities

* + 1. **Well Women Wednesdays:** Launched and will be held on the third Wednesday of each month. Some form of wellness will be highlighted at each event. The next event will feature kettle balls; May event to be Mommy and Me yoga.Soliciting vendors, ideas and speakers who can also be part of Well Women Wednesdays.
		2. **Black Maternal Health Week (April 11-17):** MOWPI, in conjunction with the Mayor’s Office on African American Affairs, will be submitting a formal resolution recognizing the week, working with the Secretary to do so. Looking for events to amplify messaging on the issue. There will be a presentation/talk about this before the kettle ball Well Woman Wednesday event.
		3. **Policy Engagement:** Budget season in DC; repeal of diaper tax as part of the Mayor’s proposed budget and other family and women friendly policies. MOWPI will be working to connect women with district agencies and resources, promoting a series on issues on the following topics: Financial Literacy, Career Development, Personal Branding, Sexual Health and Reproductive Justice, entrepreneurship, self-care.
1. **Committee Updates (Ideas and Engagement Opportunities)**: Once formed, each can meet individually. **Please sign up, using the google doc, by the end of the week, Friday April 5, for open committee chairman spots for Health, Education and Labor committees**. Commissioner Green has agreed to be Policy Committee Chair.

 “Pink Tax Tour” highlighting District law banning taxation of feminine hygiene products continues **April 25th, Ward 6; May 23rd, Ward 2 and Ward 5**. More details to be circulated.

 **Announcements/Good of the Order**

MOWPI staff will send out Emancipation Day information re parade, parties, events and concert.

1. **Next Meeting Date**: The next meeting will be on May 7, 2019 at the Wilson Building.
2. **Motion to Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 7:13 pm.