DC Commission for Women  
Tuesday, February 12, 2019  
Meeting Minutes

Location: 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue Room 507

Conference Call: 1-712-770-4700

Participant Code: 428857#

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

A quorum was present.

1. **Meeting called to order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:58 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** Completed at 7 p.m.
3. **MOWPI Staff:** Jennifer Porter, Angela Richardson, Alex Chambers
4. **Meeting Minutes:** Minutes from January 8, 2019 meeting circulated, approved with no edits.
5. **Correspondence and Announcements:** None
6. **Director’s Report:** Director Porter spoke about an exciting year of working and engaging with Commissioners on new and existing initiatives; acknowledged and thanked everyone for their notes of encouragement on her transition from Commission Chair to current director of MOWPI.
7. **MOWPI February/March Engagement Events**
   1. Black History Month
      1. MOWPI is partnering with the Mayor’s Office on African American Affairs on programming. Copies were distributed of a 2019 Guide of Events in DC in celebration of Black History Month. Commissioners are encouraged to attend events, share and promote websites: dcblackhistory.com and facebook.com/dc.black.history.
      2. Commissioner Sarfati highlighted Lyft’s promotion of free rides to the National Museum of African American History and Culture.
   2. Fair Shot February (#FairShotFebruary)
      1. It is budget season and the executive and legislative branches of DC government are working together to construct a budget to reflect city priorities.
      2. The Mayor is hosting a series of 2019 Budget Engagement Forums. Commissioners are encouraged to attend a forum and share priorities regarding programming for women’s issues. (MOWPI staff to circulate dates and venues)

Director Porter testifies before oversight committees, February 13, regarding MOWPI programming, sharing outcomes of programs and community benefit during the previous year. (Commissioner Sarfati inquired about a report in writing, and Director Porter committed to circulating copies of the written testimony later.)

* 1. Heart Health Month
     1. MOWPI will be working to promote heart health among women. On Valentine’s Day, MOWPI staff, in partnership with the Commission on Men and Boys, will be giving roses out at 5 senior wellness centers.
  2. March: Women’s History Month
     1. MOWPI is preparing a suite of programming and asking Commissioners to attend and promote events.
     2. Women of Excellence Awards: March 6, 2019; North Hall, Eastern Market 5:30 p.m. -7:30 p.m. **Commissioners are to arrive at 5:15.** Awardees are under consideration and will be announced soon.
     3. March 10: National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. MOWPI will be promoting on social media.

1. **Committee Updates**: Once formed, each can meet individually.
   1. Commissioners asked to sign up for committee membership. MOWPI staff will circulate google form for members to sign up.
      1. Health Committee: Looking for organizations supporting mothers, reproductive justice, surrogacy, adoption, auntie moms. Soliciting ideas and speakers who can also be part of Well Women Wednesdays.
      2. Education and Labor: Committee will support and promote the WorkSmart Classes; seek ways to empower women in career advancement; finds tools to ascertain measurable impact of Commission work, i.e., focus groups, surveys to discern what programming District women would like to see in the future; hold featured events highlighting women’s organizations in the District.
      3. Policy and Legislative Committee: Members encouraged to promote and accompany staff on the “Pink Tax Tour” highlighting District law banning taxation of feminine hygiene products. The tour will reach a different ward each month, and in conjunction with DC Department of Small and Local Business Development, focus on outreach to corner stores and drug stores (big box stores already have the tax in their systems). The next tour is scheduled for February 27, 3-5 p.m.
      4. Legislative Days: Commissioners asked to please inform MOWPI if they are members of social and civic groups and when those groups are coming to visit or testify before the council.
      5. Civic Engagement Bootcamp: Building on last year’s conference, MOWPI staff and Commissioners are to think of speakers, venues, hosts where we could hold an event.
2. **Unfinished Business**
   1. Director Porter expressed a desire to have Commissioners share work they are doing in the community and to amplify that work across MOWPI social media platforms, when able.
3. **Announcements/Good of the Order**
   1. Commissioner Clark, a member of the Junior League of Washington, invited Commissioners to the League’s Annual Women’s Leadership Breakfast on March 8, 2019 from 8-10 a.m. at the Hamilton. The theme is Personalizing Your Leadership.
4. **Next Meeting Date**: The next meeting will be on March 5, 2019 at the Wilson Building.
5. **Motion to Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 7:51pm.