

Michigan Women's Commission Meeting Minutes for January 23, 2018

Radisson Hotel, 111 N. Grand Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933 – Capitol I Room

Attendance

Chair Chris Etienne, Vice Chair Kathleen Vogelsang, Commissioner Barbara Land, Commissioner Catherine Hendrian, Commissioner Cathleen Knauf, Commissioner Deidre Lambert-Bounds, Commissioner Jan Peabody Doty, Commissioner Janice Nearon, Commissioner Krista Haroutunian, Commissioner Mary Templeton, Commissioner Meg Wheeler Derrer, Commissioner Renee Haley, Commissioner Rose Brandow, Commissioner Joanne Dawley, Executive Director Mary L. Engelman, and Department Specialist Jackie Debusschere were in attendance.

Minutes

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:00pm.
2. The roll call was taken and a quorum was present.
3. Chair Etienne introduced the two newly appointed commissioners, Ms. Rose Brandow and Ms. Barbara Land. Commissioner Brandow and Commissioner Land shared their backgrounds and current work experience.
4. It was motioned to amend the agenda to add review of Annual Report. It was unanimously passed.
5. It was motioned to approve the agenda as amended. It was unanimously passed.
6. Executive Director Engelman advised the commissioners that in their packets is the 2017 Senior Advisory Council (SAC) Annual Report. She also wanted to discuss the updated Millennial Subcommittee Application draft which was reviewed by the Attorney General's office for appropriate language. The women's commission is looking at filling 6 positions starting in February. In addition, because this is an advisory committee to the women's commission, they would be required to come to at least one meeting a year (January) and remaining meetings would be Skype/conference calls.
7. Commissioner Haroutunian offered a suggestion to change form to say "to submit via email with signature", not electronic signature.
8. Executive Director Engelman stated she pulled the wrong document and tabled it so we can revisit later and get the correct document.
9. Motion to table the Millennial Application. It was passed.
10. Report by the special committee regarding Women in Business (STEM, Resources, Boards, Leadership)
 - a. Commissioner Templeton shared about the subcommittee meeting with Rosemary Bayer from Michigan Council of Women in Technology (MCWT) in December and how Rosemary helped us determine what stage of life to put STEM pressure on. It was decided to focus on early childhood (birth through 6 years).

- b. Anne Marie Harris came to speak with the subcommittee today. She is a consultant in early childhood and helped us identify 4-5 steps we can take to get the ball rolling. The subcommittee also identified they want to do something tactical in the first 9 months of the year, one item being the FIRST Robotics Competition. They are going to determine how to highlight young girls during the competition.
- c. Commissioner Templeton discussed the My STEM Advisory Commission and shared that some commissioners are joining Executive Director Engelman at the next advisory meeting.
- d. Commissioner Templeton proposed speaking with GERALYN Lasher of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) to discuss a partnership.
- e. Commissioner Templeton said she would like to inform the Governor's office that we want to focus on STEM related issues in early childhood to see if there are opportunities to engage discussion at a statewide level at an event already in motion.
- f. Commissioner DERRER stated she will reach out to the Early Learning Neighborhood Collaborative in Grand Rapids to determine if there is any opportunity to work with them.
- g. Commissioner Templeton stated that as it relates to women on boards, we attended and co-sponsored a 2020 Women on Boards seminar with Inforum Michigan. Executive Director Engelman spoke about the Michigan Women's Commission and they released their report on women on boards prior to the meeting. It was a great place for exposure.
- h. Executive Director Engelman would like to meet with Michigan Chamber of Commerce Foundation to see if they would be willing to create a resolution in support of women on corporate boards.
- i. Commissioner KNAUF said she has a master's in pre-primary education and would like to offer her assistance.
- j. Executive Director Engelman advised that corporate and non-profit boards are looking for experts in specific fields, additionally, ethics and strategy plays a critical part of board selections. She stated that qualified women need to strategically target boards where their skillset is needed or can be utilized.

11. Report of Committee on Women Veterans

- a. Commissioner HALEY wanted to thank the women's commission for hosting the leadership last week with Inforum Michigan for women veterans. She said it was very exciting to see what they are doing to encourage women veterans to become leaders in their communities.
- b. Commissioner HALEY stated that the big focus of the meeting this morning was our plan for this year. The survey is still working on getting funds. Executive Director Engelman stated she is working on getting sponsors.
- c. Commissioner HALEY shared that she wants to schedule a spring, summer and fall events for the Michigan Women Veterans Forum group. It would be female veterans only and Pure Michigan themed.

She stated that the group members had some great ideas, and that she would like to reach out to our Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Liaison to see what availabilities are open to them in Michigan parks. She also stated one university has already offered to co-sponsor. Other ideas include a wine and paint in Western Michigan and maybe kayaking at Belle Isle.

- d. Commissioner Haley stated she would like a list of all the Purple Heart recipients for the female veterans in Michigan, so we can send them a letter to thank them for their service. She is currently working with the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA) to try and partner to get these letters out. She wants to get in front and recognize our female veterans.
 - e. Commissioner Haley stated that the Facebook group "Michigan Women Veterans Forum" is growing! She encouraged all to share the group with any female veterans.
 - f. Commissioner Haley asked to send her any ideas for group names for the activity/adventure group.
 - g. Commissioner Lambert-Bounds suggested sending the group to TACOM and said she would be happy to reach out to her contact there and see how we can link up and get the Facebook group out through their channels.
 - h. Department Specialist Jackie Debusschere advised she will send out a quick blurb and link to the Facebook group again to all the commissioners.
 - i. Commissioner Haley was nominated to the Selective Service Committee.
 - j. Commissioner Haley stated that she recently held the third annual Snowball. Two memorial statues were put in before Veterans Day and enough funds were raised this year to get another statue.
 - k. Destinie Shipman of the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) asked if felon female veterans are allowed to join the Facebook page. Commissioner Haley is not opposed.
 - l. Commissioner Doty stated she had heard Commissioner Haley on the radio. Commissioner Haley stated that two of the people killed in the Texas church shooting were from Harrison and that there was a huge community connection. Commissioner Haley said she was the unofficial spokeswoman for the family and she organized a candlelight vigil for them. Commissioner Haley stated it was an honor to support the family.
12. Report of Committee on Human Trafficking/Sexual Assault
- a. Commissioner Knauf stated Michigan Abolitionist Project (MAP) is doing a conference with Polaris in the Detroit area as well as a church doing a presentation with law enforcement to discuss human trafficking.
 - b. Lakeland Hospital provided a sign in the bathroom stalls in English and Spanish with the hotline number and they have to rip a piece of the paper off and hand it to a hospital professional for help.
 - c. Department Specialist Jackie Debusschere will share the SW Human Trafficking Task Force post about this.
 - d. The Break the Chain human trafficking video is being shown as a fundraiser in Van Buren and funds raised will be used to purchase a billboard during the Senior PGA Event. The students are coming up

with the design.

- e. Commissioner Knauf stated that the SW MI Human Trafficking Task Force's 5K Corn Maze was held in October to raise money for the light up vests for police officers and they will be presenting these vests to the police departments on Friday. These are the normal safety vests that light up red and blue so that it makes them more visible. She stated in her area alone, 3 officers have been struck while on patrol.
- f. Commissioner Knauf said she is excited to announce that the task force is creating a scholarship for a southwest Michigan college in the amount of a \$1,000 scholarship that will go to a student that has been engaged in ending human trafficking. The first scholarship will be awarded this spring.
- g. Commissioner Knauf stated that the task force is sponsoring an event with Amber Alert called Recognizing and Response to Child Sex Trafficking and Child Exploitation at the Tribal Casinos in March or April.
- h. Commissioner Knauf said that the task force sent out a postcard at Christmas and on the back side they highlighted their accomplishments from the year. She also shared that they just came out with their latest newsletter.
- i. Commissioner Knauf stated that they will have a plan of action for when the women's commission meets in April. She would like to start a database for education programming for human trafficking and determine who is using some type of training/programming in the schools.
- j. Commissioner Knauf shared the newest public service announcement from "I am Jane Doe". She has sent this to two congressmen, but it has not been shown anywhere yet. She also played the video at the meeting.
- k. Commissioner Knauf will share the link with everyone and Department Specialist Jackie Debusschere will share as well.
- l. Department Specialist Jackie Debusschere also stated she will send out the CSA booklet to all the commissioners.
- m. Executive Director Engelman shared that she worked with First Lady Sue Snyder's Let's End Campus Sexual Assault group to work on the CSA booklet and we will post it on our website as well.
- n. Commissioner Lambert-Bounds said there is a Facebook page for "I am Jane Doe."
- o. Commissioner Knauf added that the act is CDA 230 that needs to change.

13. Old Business

- a. No old business.

14. Approval of minutes of October 24, 2017 meeting

- a. Motion to approve the minutes. It was passed.
 - Motion to Approve Annual Report.
 - Amend annual report to Cathy's traffick cam.
 - Motion to pass amended annual report. It passed.

15. New Business

- i. None

16. Commissioner Reports

- a. None

17.Ex Officio and Liaison Reports

- a. GERALYNN Lasher, Senior Deputy Director of Communications, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) shared the MSP video about human trafficking.
- b. Marnie Wills, who is in the policy office of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) is taking over for Ruth Ann Loken. She just finished a very large package for licensure for in home licensees, stated that they had to do a lot of outreach and would be happy to help in any way to be a resource for STEM.
- c. Michelle Strobel, Department of State, shared about Real ID, a new federal requirement that will go into effect in October 2020. Michigan started this in October. She stated that many of us have had name changes not reflected on our birth certificates. If you don't have an enhanced or real ID, you will need a passport or a birth certificate and if your name has changed, you will need to bring in marriage or divorce certificates. Without a real ID compliant license, you will not be able to get on a domestic flight after October 2020. She stated you will be provided a protective holder for the card so your information cannot be stolen. Enhanced ID's are not part of the Real ID program.
- d. Sherri Price with the Talent Investment Agency (TIA) stated that at our last meeting we discussed a survey to identify veterans in Michigan and asked for an update.
- e. Executive Director Engelman shared that with the survey, we partnered with GVSU but it has become cost prohibitive. They decided not to do the survey at this time, however our partnership with Target-Insyght is still moving forward on doing a statewide survey. She said we are working on creating an event about this and working closely to get a dinner together to raise philanthropic dollars from the business community but that it's a slow process. In addition, GVSU will be working directly with other colleges to try and work with us so no one is left behind. We are hoping to have this event to raise money in the next 3 months.
- f. Sherri Price with TIA asked if we are expanding beyond the four-year universities to look at the community colleges for the study.
- g. Executive Director Engelman said we want to do everything but we need to narrow it down.
- h. Executive Director Engelman said GVSU advised that the survey results would be proprietary and would not be shared with us.
- i. A ten-minute break was taken to make copies of the millennial application for an in-person vote. Meeting resumed at 3:15pm.
 - i. We are tabling the application to the next meeting and we will send out the corrected one as soon as possible to get out for review before the next meeting.
- j. Department Specialist Jackie Debusschere will follow up with everyone on who needs to sign up with Sigma VSS for reimbursements.
- k. A group photo will be taken immediately after adjournment.
- l. Commissioner Knauf is offering to possibly do a tour prior to our next meeting. Department Specialist Jackie Debusschere will send details to Commissioner Knauf regarding the April meeting.
- m. Ed Sarpolus from Target-Insyght arrived to give us an update on the survey. He stated over the last year, they have determined a lack of awareness of the women veteran's issue. He said they don't find a lot

of focus on women veterans themselves and that everybody wants what the survey results. He stated that the state has very little money for this project but that they have had some people to possibly partner with us show interest. The intent for the data is to become public. He said that as today, we have a commitment from MGM Grand to help us fund an event for possible donors. Also, last week they learned that the White House has responded to our request and we are working with them on dates and circumstances. At this time, they haven't given us any parameters. The Governor is also on board and we are working with Amanda Van Wesson (an attorney in west Michigan) to help us with the White House. They have also talked to Ron Wiser, chair of Republican Party, who stated he will also work with us. He said they need someone from the cabinet post to come to Michigan and then they will get support.

- n. Chair Etienne asked to elaborate on interest in banks or corporate entities.
- o. Ed Sarpolus said MGM Grand broke the mold and now we need to bring in the larger attraction.
- p. Chair Etienne asked for a projected timeline.
- q. Ed Sarpolus stated that the initial goal is to get someone no later than the end of March. It takes about 6 weeks to plan an event. The response back from the White House means they're on board. We need to do follow up on connections in the White House.
- r. Commissioner Derrer asked what role the White House has.
- s. Ed Sarpolus said that they would provide the speaker at the fundraising event and that this is not the only event to fundraise. By mid-summer, we need to have all the fundraising done and suggested putting together a fundraising advisory team.
- t. Commissioner Lambert-Bounds inquired if Macomb County would have a list of women veterans as a basis to start?
- u. Ed Sarpolus said that Wayne County has a list but no one has done a complete follow through.

18. Public Comments. Public Comments are limited to 5 minutes per person.

- a. None

19. Meeting Ended at 3:36pm.

Signature

Respectfully submitted by Chair Chris Etienne