



MONROE COUNTY WOMEN'S COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes, Friday, October 12, 2018

12:00 pm to 1:30 pm

Monroe County Courthouse, Judge Nat U. Hill, III, Meeting Room

Commissioners, Appointing Authority	Present	Absent
Amanda Barge, Commissioner (non-voting, ex officio)		X
Ann Collins, Board of Commissioners	X	
Monica Dignam, Board of Commissioners	X	
Liz Feitl, Board of Commissioners	X	
Shirley Fitzgibbons, County Council	X	
Carol McCord, Indiana University		X
Eric Spoonmore, Councilor (non-voting ex officio)		X
Catherine Stafford, Board of Commissioners	X	
Nancy White, County Council	X	
Jacqueline Fernette, City Comm'n on the Status of Women	X	
Lynn Shifriss, co-liaison City Comm'n on the Status of Women		X
Diana Nixon, County Council		X
# of Voting Members Present	7	
# of Voting Members Needed to Create a Quorum	5	

1. Call to Order 12:03 pm by Monica Dignam.

We have seven voting members present, so have a quorum.

2. Guests:

Shelly Dodson, Center Director of All Options Pregnancy Resource

Brandi Smith, IU Career Development Center

3. **Introductions**

4. **Approval of Agenda**

Catherine moved, Shirley seconded a Motion to Approve the Agenda.
Adopted by Consensus

3. **Approval of minutes**

August Minutes were presented and reviewed. Shirley moved to accept, Liz seconded, approved by consensus.

Note: The commission did not meet in September

4. **Hoosier Women Speak**

Monica presented that Angela Demaree from the Indiana Commission for Women wants help setting up a listening session here in Bloomington. Monica is working with Ann Birch at League of Women Voters of Bloomington-Monroe County. We are looking at dates in December or so.

We want to reach out past the ‘usual suspects’ and to reach women whose voices haven’t historically been heard. Shirley mentioned we’d need to get good publicity to do so. Monica suggested contacting the township trustees for participants. Liz suggested contacting the United Way Member Agencies. Nancy suggested contacting the new Chamber director. Shirley suggested that the event be held at the library. Jacqueline suggested that the city chambers has free parking. Liz emphasized accessibility to a bus route. Monica is concerned that if the group becomes too large it might be hard to focus on listening as opposed to orating.

We need to form a committee to put together the participants and the location. Our proposed time for the session is December 6, 5 to 7pm.

Action Steps:

- Liz will find a location.
- Monica will confirm with state and will ask if they have any incentives for participants.

- Monica will ask for data broken out for Monroe County, the state, and as Monroe County compares to the state, and historically to the 2011 sessions.
- Catherine and Monica will find 20 participants.
- Shirley and Nancy will do food and drinks.

5. City of Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women Update, Monica Dignam & Jacqueline Fernette

- a. The city commission has a newsletter and welcomes our submissions.

Action Step: Monica will write up our listening session as an FYI for the newsletter.

- b. Paid family leave initiative: The City Commission is writing a letter to the Mayor about providing paid family leave. Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) protects your job during leave, but it's not paid, so isn't widely accessible. The City Commission wants the County to sign on to its letter. They'd be happy to sign onto a letter if we wish to direct one to county government.

Liz moved that we co-sign the city's letter; Monica seconded; Motion passed with an abstention from Catherine.

Action Step: Monica will co-sign the city's letter.

Action Step: Nancy will investigate what the county's policy on paid family leave is and report back.

- c. City commissions are inviting MCCSC to talk about disproportionate impact of suspensions and discipline with Black, African-American, Hispanic, and Latino students on October 23, 6:00 pm, in the City Hall's Hooker Conference Room. Monica asked them if a county commission could send a delegate and it was approved. Call for volunteers.

Action Step: Shirley will follow up with Julie Warren of the City Commission on children, attend, and report back.

- d. Women's History Month Luncheon: Theme is "Champions for Peace and Nonviolence" and they are actively looking for speakers. Nominations of

women for Women of the Year, Emerging Leader, and Lifetime awards will be open soon and nominations from our commission are welcome.

6. Housekeeping: Ordinance Review

- a. The new enabling ordinance for our Commission is online.
- b. Our 2018 minutes to-date are online.
- c. State Legislators: Nancy reported Sen. Koch hasn't been able to find a time to meet with us this year. Given that we have just two meetings left in 2018, we may have to delay a conversation with him until our visit to the Legislature in 2019, which will be a long session. We may also wish to invite a different legislator. Nancy is following the study committees. She's especially paying attention to the issue of maternal health in Indiana.

Action Step: Nancy will plan to present at the November meeting on topics from the study committees, so the Commission can select which issues we are most interested in addressing during our Legislative visit or what topic we'd like to address with an invited legislator during a future meeting.

It was proposed that our May meeting be dedicated to inviting all our county legislators and discussing our topics of interest and what progress was made during session.

7. Pay Equity Day Recap

Points to improve upon: better publicity; CATS invited to film; not at the Courthouse due to difficulty and cost; more food/drink;

Finances: United Way is willing to hold our funds left over from this year in anticipation of next year's event, so that we can manage our money. We have approximately \$63 left towards future events.

Contributions to the Pay Equity Event	
Monroe County Republican Women	\$100
Monroe County Republicans	\$100
Ann Collins, Realtor	\$100

Democratic Women’s Caucus	\$100
Maqube Reese – in kind contribution of gifts for speakers	
Stafford Law Office, LLC – in kind contribution of printing of program and flyers	
Total cash income: \$400	

Expenditures	
Monroe County Courthouse	\$75.00
Peace Mountain Truffles	\$262.XX*
Total Cash Expenditures	\$337.XX
Remaining funds will be directed to our fund at United Way	

8. Update from IU Career Center

Brandi Smith presented on a new program from the IU Career Center focused on:

- a. American Association of University Women (AAUW)’s Smart Start salary negotiation workshops. Ten people from their office can be trained under their AAUW license and five are trained currently.
- b. The Career Center has hired five student ambassadors who are undergraduate young women to engage peers in learning about the equity gap in the workforce and how early career development can help. Their grant largely goes to funding these positions and extends through Fall of 2019.
- c. They are developing an advisory council on this issue; they’ve invited representatives from the various IU career services offices and some faculty members who are invested in varying ways.
- d. She’s interested in any input we may have. Liz suggested she meet Cheryl Hughes at SPEA. Brandi is already in touch with Sylvia Martinez. Jacqueline invited Brandi to put in a submission for the city commission’s newsletter.

9. Announcements

- Catherine is unavailable for minute-taking in November and December due to court obligations;

10. Adjournment.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:32 p.m. by consensus.

Respectfully Submitted,

Catherine Stafford, Secretary
Dignam revisions per meeting 10-13

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 9 – 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Monroe County Women's Commission Monthly Meeting

Monroe County Courthouse, Judge Nat U. Hill, III, Room (third floor)

December 14 – 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Monroe County Women's Commission Monthly Meeting

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