



# MONROE COUNTY WOMEN'S COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes, Friday, February 8, 2019

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)		
Ann Collins, Board of Commissioners		
Monica Dignam, Board of Commissioners	X	
Liz Feitl, Board of Commissioners	X	
Nichelle Whitney, County Council	X	
Vacant, County Council		
Trent Deckard, Councilor (non-voting ex officio)	X	
Vacant, Board of Commissioners		
Laura Dahncke, County Council	X	
Jessica McClellan, County Treasurer (ex officio)	X	
Jacqueline Fernette, 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 by Monica Dignam**
2. **Guests: and, if any, Introductions**
  - New member Jessica McClellan, County Treasurer (exofficio)
  - Guest Babette Ballenger, Monroe County SCORE
3. **Presentation by SCORE Executive Director, Babette Ballenger**
  - Babette spoke about her career in design and business entrepreneurship, leading to joining SCORE. SCORE has a new program where they are looking for new mentors who are specialists in their areas. 56% of clients are women, and only 23% of mentors are women. Diversity is very important to SCORE, but clients lack diversity. SCORE is a free service.
4. **Approval of agenda**
  - Liz motioned to accept agenda as amended. Nichelle seconded.
5. **Approval of minutes**
  - Liz moved to accept as amended. Diana seconded.



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## 6. Report from the Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women (Jacqueline)

- March 20th is the 2019 annual women's history luncheon. Tickets are on sale and tickets close Wednesday, March 13th. The doors open at 11:15. The buffet opens at 11:30. The program starts at 12:15. The topic is Peace and Non-Violence. We still need two volunteers to help set up, arriving around 10:30. Work 11 – 12:15 and then attend luncheon. Laura and Jessica volunteered.
- The library approached us looking for partners for the Women's Summit, all day free event, Saturday, September 28th.
- An empowerment workshop for black girls, modeled on one for black males, is in the early planning stages. Also planned for September.

## 7. Legislative Update (Nichelle)

- Hate crime law update: Senate Bill 12. Mark Stoops will be on our side.
- Thursday, March 21st is scheduled for the legislative visit. We should determine talking points. We will visit our legislators.
- Discussion ensued about last year's visit.
- We agreed that we are all of one mind that we support hate crimes legislation, spelling out classes of people in the bill.
- Nichelle suggested that one of our talking points be the safety of visitors to the state. Jacqueline mentioned the same issue in recruiting of IU faculty and students.
- We have three points:
  - Positioning Indiana to be a global competitor with large corporations
  - Highlighting the businesses, labor, and students
  - Asking questions: who are you offending and who are you protecting. It's important that particular groups are named.
- April visit by Indiana Commission for Women, Kristin Garvey

## 8. Girls Coding Week Update (Diana)

- 2 Camps will be offered this year. Each camp will conclude with a ceremony.
  - June 10 – June 14
  - June 24 – June 28
- The Fridays of those weeks are the dates for the ceremonies with the certificates.
  - June 14th 2:30 pm
  - June 28th 2:30 pm



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- Amy Stark and Laura will do recruiting. Commission agreed that recruitment will be fair and equitable for all girls age 11-14, and during the application review preference will be given to first time attendees who self-identify as families who receive free or reduced lunch.

## 9. Leadership Elections – nominations (vote in April) (Monica)

- President, VP, and Secretary positions are available for election
- Discussion ensued regarding membership of the commission. Once Ann Collins resigns, there will be three open seats.
- We have six people and we need five to be here at every meeting for a quorum.
- Monica nominated Nichelle for President, the quorum nominated Liz for Vice-President and Diana for secretary. Jessica moved to accept all nominations and Laura seconded. This vote was passed unanimously.

## 3. Public Comment

- No comments at this time.

## 4. Adjournment.

- Monica moved to adjourn at.

Respectfully Submitted,

\_\_\_\_Diana Nixon, acting secretary\_\_\_\_  
Name, Secretary

## UPCOMING EVENTS