

**MONROE COUNTY WOMEN’S COMMISSION**

Meeting Minutes, Friday, July 14, 2017

Monroe County Courthouse, Room 310 (Human Resources) Conference Room

<b>Commissioners attending:</b>		<b>Commissioners not attending:</b>	<b>Volunteers attending:</b>	<b>Volunteers not attending:</b>
Amanda Barge	Carol McCord	Monica Dignam	Ann Birch	Leslie Fasone
Josh Coker	Regina Moore	Shirley Fitzgibbons	Yvonne Zhao	Jacqueline Fernette
Ann Collins	Shelli Yoder	Catherine Stafford		
Liz Feitl		Nancy White		<b>Visitor</b>
				Kim Watson

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 pm by Amanda Barge.

1. Approval of minutes from June 2017
  - a. Motion to approve: Liz; second: Shelli; approval unanimous.
2. Approval of agenda
  - a. No motion on agenda.
3. Report from City of Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women (BCSW) liaison (Regina)
  - a. Notes from the last meeting are attached. (Attachment A)
  - b. Yvonne was acting liaison in Monica’s absence.
4. New business
  - a. Discussion on foreign born women (Josh and Yvonne)
    - i. Overview on welcoming week was distributed. (Attachment B) Welcoming week started in Philadelphia; many have been done across the country.
    - ii. Yvonne and Josh asked for comments and help from the commission for the planned Sept 15 panel discussion.
      - Panel will be educational overview of topics, then questions.
      - Example topics: landlord/tenant relationships, legal rights, rights of foreign born women, freedom of speech, abuse, insurance, other daily living things.
      - Yvonne and Josh would like commission to coordinate panel.
      - Time is not set; could be 11 am to 1 pm; not necessarily on campus; not just students.
      - Need to generate questions.
      - Carol suggested that women at the mosque be contacted; she can provide contacts.
      - Ann C. could provide speaker on apartments; Regina will give information on landlords.
      - Promotion includes Facebook, flyers, website for welcome week, brochures. Yvonne and colleagues will take care of this.
      - It was mentioned that the city of Bloomington is a good way to get the word out; could also go directly to mosque and cultural centers at IU. Regina can provide connection to people at city government.

- Ann C. will go to HAND and apartment association about the panel.
  - It would be advisable to have an attorney on the panel either from Indiana legal services or student legal service. Carol will provide contact information for Stacey Williams, Director of Student Legal Services at IU.
  - Amanda and Catherine will discuss panel and see how best the commission can contribute.
  - Amanda suggested Leslie Davis, Assistant Dean for International Programs at IU, for the panel.
  - Amanda suggested that interested persons meet outside the commission.
  - Flyers could be sent to individual colleges for welcome packets.
- b. Update on summer legislative session (Monica, by email)
- i. Monica has been working on trying to get dates for the “Summer Committee Meetings” from Senator Stoops’ office. She had difficulty getting answers and asked Catherine to follow up. She said that the meetings don’t occur until fall, like September or October. The senator’s office recommended that the commission schedule a tour of the legislature for February, when it’s in session, as there is very little activity even during the study committees. The commission would need to decide if there’s an interest in that. Ann C., Catherine, and Monica will discuss.
- c. Update on opioid summit (Shelli and Amanda)
- i. Summit includes Monroe and other area counties; 400 people are signed up so far. There was much discussion. Below are general notes:
- Linda Grove-Paul, Vice President of Adult Services at Centerstone, and others are developing agenda.
  - Full day of panels, keynotes, speakers, with many breakout sessions.
  - CATS will record.
  - IU Health is providing \$20,000 in sponsorship; still need to follow up with IU participation; currently have secured half of needed budget.
  - What will be the takeaway? Don’t know yet; the project is evolving; important for attendees to know that the summit will not have all the answers.
  - Have reserved convention center, which can accommodate 500, but may need bigger venue. It was suggested the group consider IU conference center, but this may be too expensive. Also, many venues booked far in advance. Need to consider parking.
  - Letter going out to see what the county interest is.
  - Important to address what a recovery community looks like.
  - Question was raised as to whether the summit is focusing just on adult population. Shelli said it could do both.
  - Consider including a prevention panel.
  - Discuss Bedford clinic opening up.
  - Summit will try to do a lot of education/best practices; needs to find out what has worked for other communities.

- Lara Weaver, Case Coordinator for CASA, has said that in June they had over 600 cases; need a way to simplify connecting treatment people to those needing treatment. Maybe there could be a service learning class that would train CASAs.
  - Carol suggested contacting IU School of Public Health.
  - Could also work with IU student government (culture of care group).
- d. Discussion about volunteer.
- i. Ann B. has let Catherine, Amanda, and Liz know that she will be leaving her volunteer position at the commission after the December 2017 meeting. They will plan on advertising for a replacement.
5. Announcements from the Commissioners
- a. No announcements.
6. Public comment
- a. Ann C. introduced the visitor, Kim Watson, who is becoming involved in local community activities.
7. Meeting was adjourned at 1:24 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann F. Birch

**ACTION ITEMS:**

Carol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide to Josh and Yvonne contacts at mosque.</li> <li>• Provide to Josh and Yvonne contact information for Stacey Williams.</li> </ul>
Ann C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talk to HAND and apartment association about the panel.</li> <li>• Provide to Josh and Yvonne possible speaker on apartments.</li> </ul>
Regina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide to Josh and Yvonne information on landlords.</li> <li>• Provide to Josh and Yvonne contacts at city government that could help with welcoming week promotion.</li> </ul>
Amanda and Catherine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss how commission can best help with panel.</li> </ul>
Amanda, Catherine, Monica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss possible February tour of legislature.</li> </ul>

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Next MCWC Meeting: Friday, August 11

Commissioners		
Amanda Barge (co-chair)	Liz Feitl (vice-chair)	Catherine Stafford (co-chair)
Joshua Coker	Shirley Fitzgibbons	Nancy White
Ann Collins	Carol McCord	Shelli Yoder
Monica Dignam	Regina Moore	

Volunteers
Ann Birch, clerical
Leslie Fasone, IU
Jacqueline Fernetto, CBCSW
Yvonne Zhao, IU

**Subcommittees and Members**

- Monroe County Health Survey Think Tank: Liz, Shirley, Nancy (contact), Josh
  - Basic Needs Working Group: Liz, Josh
  - Mental Health/Substance Abuse Working Group: Nancy, Shirley
- 2-1-1 Connect to Help: Liz (contact), Lara
- Transportation for rural women and families: Monica, Amanda (contact), Liz
- Sexual violence against women: Amanda, Leslie, Carol, Nancy (contact), Ann C.

**Support Areas**

- Investigation of funding sources: Monica
- Developing coalitions inside and outside the county for legislative action this summer: Liz, Monica

## Attachment A

### Report to the MCWC on activities of the COB CSW.

Regina Moore

July 14, 2017

CSW Meeting highlights:

New Member Sylvia Martinez, faculty at IU School of Ed, and Latino Studies Program.

Yvonne Zhao sat in for MCWC liaison Monica Dignam.

- Short discussion of the WHM Lunch committee's timeline.

NWHP Theme is *NEVERTHELESS SHE PERSISTED: Honoring Women Who Fight All Forms of Discrimination Against Women*.

- Leadership Scholarship Initiative

Discussion of increased demand for the scholarships, need for more targeted outreach to diverse groups, the possible need for more funding, and the need for funds to go to a project/program that can show a definite benefit to women and girls within the community.

- MCWC Liaison Report

Yvonne talked about the summer study committees that the MCWC would be monitoring, and noted the Opioid Summit in September.

- Lunch Shaming issue

This was discussed as the CSW agreed to support an effort by four commissions under the CFR department in urging the MCCSC to come up with some policy that did not shame children with having their hot lunch taken away if their parents/guardians had not paid enough money in the lunch accounts. Two commission members were at the MCCWC board meeting on June 27<sup>th</sup>, and they urged others to attend the MCCSC board meeting on July 25<sup>th</sup> where a new policy would be presented by the Superintendent.

- Debra Vance request.

Debra is a former member of the commission who is now at Ivy Tech asked if a CSW member would help in a program IT was having for the Mandela Washington Scholars. This is a group of folks from different nations in Africa who were studying in Bloomington and Washington DC, and Debra said they had particular questions about how women's issues were dealt with in the US. Suggestions to Debra were to contact MWH, Girl Scouts, Girls Inc. and the MCWC for a more rounded view of the issue. One or two members of the CSW volunteered to be present for the 9-12 session on July 12.

- Presentation at August meeting

Penny Githens noted that Matt Clay who works with the Community Capacity for Prevention and Education would make a presentation at the next CSW meeting (August 3<sup>rd</sup>). The group's FB page reads: *The Community Capacity for Prevention and Education (CCPE) Grant is a project funded by SAMHSA designed to reduce, and ultimately prevent, the onset of Substance Abuse and HIV among 13-24 year olds in Monroe County Indiana.* Will invite MCWC

- Pay Equity

Penny asked that this be put on the next agenda so that the commission would start thinking about another Equal Pay Day Program for 2018 and how we might begin to make preparations for a program.



## GLOBAL CITIZENS EMPOWERMENT

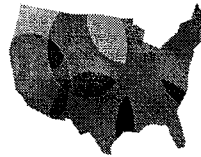
### Welcoming Week 2017 (September 14-24)

Website: [welcoming2017gce.weebly.com](http://welcoming2017gce.weebly.com)

#### CELEBRATING OUR SHARED STRENGTHS

##### A WEEK OF UNITY

Welcoming Week is a national movement that believes in the power of inclusion. Through positive and upbeat events that bring foreign- and U.S.- born residents together in a friendly environment, we celebrate the many strengths that make Bloomington such an amazing place to live.



# WELCOMING WEEK

Global Citizens Empowerment, a local nonprofit organization, is hosting this week-long series of events to celebrate the unique experiences that unite Bloomington as a community.

#### BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER

##### A NATION OF NEIGHBORS

Welcoming Week believes that an open community is a warm community. That's why our events help people from different backgrounds meet their neighbors. From our cooking class, which will teach you how to prepare a variety of local Hoosier dishes in a group setting, to our Story Slam, an event sharing the life stories of locals who come from all over the world, you're sure to find something that speaks to your interests.

Together, we honor the values that unite us as neighbors, classmates, parents, and colleagues, bringing together new and long-time Bloomington residents. Together, we can build a nation of neighbors.

Event	Date	Time	Location
Opening Celebration	9/14	5:30pm-8:30pm	Fountain Square Mall Ballroom
Panel Discussion	9/15	TBD	TBD
"The Corn Day" Cooking Class	9/16	11am-1pm	Bloomington Cooking School
Naturalization Test Prep Workshop	9/17 (Citizenship Day)	2pm-4pm	TBD
Story Slam	9/21	7pm-9pm	TBD
Family Day Open-Home	9/23	All Day	Host Families