**Durham County Women’s Commission**

**Meeting Minutes**

**May 23, 2021**

Commissioners Present: Vivian Slade, Milicia Tedder, Kirstyn Allen, Ruebe Holmes, Cynthia Bland, Laura Meyers, Jenny Gomez, Brianna Van Stekelenburg, Tamika McRae, Patrice High, Courtney Kelly, Tiffani Reeves, Cheryl Ann Welsh

Commissioners Excused: Sara Bausch, Aquaris Anderson, Lucia Ferejohn

Commissioners Absent: K.D. Ann Welsh

**Welcome- Vivian Slade, Chair**

Vivian opened the meeting and announced the new nomination committee team is Cynthia and Courtney. Cynthia shared elections this summer are for all four positions (Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer). The Committee will first ask for self-nominations, though members may nominate other members. Please specify first and second choices when nominating and include an interest statement and any relevant experience for the position. Courtney and Cynthia will review nominations and follow up with questions and prepare aa slate proposal for our June meeting. Elections will be held during the June meeting. Terms begin July 1.

**Chair Report- Vivian Slade**

Vivian asked the Commission to begin thinking about fiscal year goals. One important note is the DCWC commitment to CEDAW (Convention to Eliminate Discrimination Against Women). Vivian would like to see us make at least one goal that addresses CEDAW works. Our partnership with UNC does address some of our goals. Vivian will send out CEDAW info.

**Vice Chair Report- Jenny**

Jenny thanked Commission for website feedback, it is ready to go live very soon. Vivian has the official DCWC camera from Shawna. Jenny met with Ray Trap, VP of Strategic Engagement at Research Triangle Foundation. Ray would like to attend our June or July meeting.

**Treasurer’s Report- Brianna**

DCWC will spend the $500 funds from County on shirts with the new logo. Jenny will work with Brianna on t-shirt vendor options and ordering, be on the look out for emails regarding the order.

**Committee Updates**

* Black Maternal Health (Joy, Tamika, Lucia) update: Joy is stepping down from DCWC. She is beginning graduate school very soon and will always be around to serve as a partner for DCWC. Joy presented the BMH Resolution to the County Commissioners. The BMH Forum was Saturday, April 10. Tamika sharing the recording of the forum would be a great idea.
* Social Justice Committee (Aquaris and Cynthia) update: No update.
* Steering Committee (Cheryl Ann, Patrice, Laura, Kirstyn, Lucia, Courtney, & Tiffani): Patrice shared announcements from the latest County Commissioner’s meeting; the rental assistance website wasn’t working but a work-around has been added, May is Foster Care Month, Mental Health Awareness Month (and May 7 is Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day). The Durham County BOE won a clearinghouse award, highlighting the early voting wait-time website. Cheryl Ann asked if anyone on DCWC knows the new interim County Manager and could DCWC reach out to her soon. Vivian will send a welcome/intro to DCWC email.
* Communications Committee (Ruebe and Milicia) update: Ruebe asked if social media manager is an elected position- Vivian says it is not. Ruebe could use some help with the heavy lifting of posting and prospecting items to share. Many members offered to pitch in (Courtney, Kirstyn, Patrice, Jenny, Cheryl Ann, Tamika) and Jenny says it may be smart to task different platforms to different people. Ruebe will post for Mental Health Month in May, for June posts will include info on Pride, PTSD, Juneteenth, and Father’s Day.

**Approve April meeting minutes**

Meeting minutes approved by Jenny; second by Patrice.

**New Business**

No new business.

**Announcements:**

* Cynthia is running for the RTP Credit Union Board
* Ruebe shared that Durham County and City announced the Eviction Rental Assistance Program; both renters and landlords may apply.
* Courtney shared pre-k enrollment is open; her sorority is recruiting high school juniors or seniors to apply for scholarships; and the Beautiful Project is accepting applications for an Arts and Activism Internship (please lookout for an email from Courtney with details on each of these!).

Vivian closed the meeting.