



COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

A Pasco County Board of County Commissioners Advisory Board

May 1, 2017

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call/Sign In

In attendance:

1. Comm. Kathryn Starkey
2. Alecia Guy
3. Stephanie Pontlitz
4. Gayle Armstrong
5. Amanda Colón
6. Rosie Paulsen
7. Krista Covey
8. Kelly Mothershed
9. Suzanne Legg
10. Melanie Storms
11. Lisa (PHSC)
12. Kelly Sinn
13. Nicole Desee
14. Nancy Dougherty

III. Public Comment

Amanda Colón, interim Chairman, called for the members of the public to introduce themselves to the Commission.

- Maggy Koons – West Pasco Demotic Club
- Elaine Togneri – Pasco County NOW representative
- Linda Morris – West Pasco Democrats
- Joan Shapiro – American Association University Women
- Brandi Geoit – West Coast Aids Foundation
- Kathy Steele – Lake/Lutz News

IV. Minutes

Motion to approve minutes called by interim Chairman Colón. Motion was approved unanimously.

V. Old Business

- A. *Election of Chair*: Amanda Colón, interim Chair, opened the meeting asking the members to nominate others to the position. No other nominations were made, she then asked for further discussion. No further discussion took place and a motion was made to name her Chairwoman of the Commission; the motion was seconded and the Commission voted unanimously for Ms. Colón.
- B. *Vice-Chair*: Chairwoman Colón opened the floor and asked for additional nominations. In light of having no additional nominations by the Commission, she moved to proceed with introductions by the nominees to the Vice-Chair position. All nominated parties introduced themselves and a vote for Vice-Chair followed. The tally for the voting results are as follows:
 - a. Gail Armstrong - 1
 - b. Krista Covey- 5
 - c. Kelley Mothershead - 4
 - d. Rosie Paulsen - 2
 - e. No others
 - i. Motion approved; Krista Covey elected as Vice-Chair.
- C. *Secretary*
 - a. Kelly Mothershead volunteered for the position
 - i. Motion to approve her nomination was approved unanimously

VI. New Business

- A. *Brainstorm Tiers of Priorities for the Commission*

Discussion ensued regarding the structure of policy initiatives and prioritization of topics. The Chairman steered the commission to start thinking about new topics and ensure that issues are also addressed community and political issues.

 - a. Various topics were raised during discussion addressing the following:
 - i. Lack of mental health
 - ii. Pill epidemic
 - iii. Alcoholism
 - iv. Human Trafficking
 - v. Homelessness
 - vi. Promoting Political/Government Positions
 - vii. Education for young single mothers
 - viii. Financial literacy
 - ix. Domestic/Sexual violence
 - x. Reproductive rights for women
 - xi. Reproductive rights of women especially the working poor
 - xii. Women in the workplace that lead to wear and tear on our bodies
 - xiii. Women's entrepreneurship and its impact on the local economy
 - xiv. Affordable daycare
 - xv. Flexible work schedule

xvi. Veteran Services

xvii. Grandparents caring for young children

- A member mentioned the need to protect reproductive rights and access to those services, including PP. Comm. Starkey advised the Commission to stay away from politically controversial issues until the group is more established within the community.
- Discussion ensued about information for the community on the above-referenced issues and access to some of these services. Ms. Pontlitz reminded the Commission that there is a resource available to the community already by dialing 211 at United Way.

B. Brainstorm Committees Needed

A question was raised to find out process on issues raised and actions to follow. After discussion Chairwoman Colón suggested the creation of the subcommittees listed below to manage the topics addressed earlier in the meeting:

Health/Safety	Education	Economic Prosperity/Promotion
Alecia	Stephanie	Krista
Melanie	Suzanne	Rosie
Kelly Sinn	Kelly	
Nicole		

VII. Closing

- A. Chairmanships for subcommittees will be discussed during the next session
- B. For follow-up, categorization of topics and prioritization according to subcommittee member input.
- C. Meeting adjourned.