

# Commission on the Status of Women

## Meeting Minutes

May 7, 2018 1:30 pm  
Pasco County Utilities Administration Building  
19420 Central Boulevard  
Land O'Lakes, FL 34637

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call/Sign In

Gail Armstrong  
Amanda Colon  
Alice Delgado  
Nancy Dougherty  
Aleacia Guy  
Suzanne Legg  
Kelly Mothershead  
Nicole Newlon  
Cheryl Pollock  
Lisa Richardson  
Kelly Sinn

Also in attendance: Johanna Rodriguez - Pasco County Board of County Commissioners

- III. Public Comment
  - a. Monica Rousseau
    - i. Mentioned a Recovery Event happening in Dade City and a Recovery Music Festival at Trinity College on 5/19.
    - ii. Women's Summit by Rep. Bilirakis – 6/9.
  - b. PACE students, "the Global Girls". Introduced themselves. Came to our meeting to support Ms. Belle on her presentation. Dan from PACE also in attendance.
  - c. Rosario Torres, Hispanic Professional Women's Association, Inc. (Pasco CSW Member).
  - d. Mindy Murphy - Member of the Hillsborough Commission on the Status of Women.
- IV. Minutes were approved. Amanda Colon made a motion to approve, Lisa Richardson seconded. Unanimously approved.
- V. Old Business
  - a. Kelly Mothershead welcomed Alice Delgado to our Commission.
  - b. Hillsborough Commission on the Status of Women Representative Mindy Murphy shared what is happening at the Hillsborough Commission. The HCSW is set up similarly to the Pasco Commission; Chartered by the Board of County Commissioners. The main reason for

their existence is (the same as ours) to advise the board as to issues that impact the county having to do with women and children. Also, to perform duties that the County Commissioners asks them to perform, such as the YEA Awards. HCSW also reviewed the county's harassment policies. HCSW created an issues forum. Each year they address a different issue. First year: Military Veterans and their re-entry to life – what does that look like for women? Other forums: domestic violence, human trafficking, economic empowerment, etc. Mindy Murphy stated that there is a blend between community issues and issues that the County Commissioners need to address.

HCSW created an advisory board that provides very specific expertise with one year slots. As a result of the advisory board's initial year, they came up with a Women's Mandate on Wellness – a statement of what wellness looks like for a woman in the community; housing, physical health, spiritual health, etc. Currently, the advisory is looking at affordable housing. They are also planning an Expungement Event to assist citizens with having Misdemeanor and some felony charges removed from their records or sealed. When the advisory addresses an issue, they find a lead sponsor who will continue that program, addressing that issue after the Commission shines the light on it. Mindy adds that the Commission is talking about possibly pulling back from having such robust discussions and taking the Women's Hall of Fame Event and putting the Hall of Fame in different locations to spread awareness and listen to issues from the community. The Hall of Fame event honors 2-3 women each year, some posthumously, some living. Very intentional, to be sure the women represent the diverse population of women in Florida. The HCSW also set up a non-profit, "Friends of the Commission". The Women's Hall of Fame Event pays for the expenses for the year. The leadership of the "Friends of the Commission" is by design to support what the CSW is doing. The officers are identical. Amanda Colon asked if they do a presentation to the board annually. Mindy stated that they give the County Commissioners a copy of their work plan (similar to what we did this year). HCSW asked for a \$10,000 allowance for services for the Commission. Hillsborough County Commissioners provides that. A CPA on the Commission who serves as a treasurer manages the funds for the Commission. HCSW employs a part time Executive Director for the Commission. The Hall of Fame utilizes sponsors and ticket sales. The CSW does not nominate the Hall of Fame nominees. There is a written criterion for the nominees and limits one attachments to be submitted. We can plan to meet again with a rep from the HCSW next year.

- c. Ms. Belgica Cucalon gave a presentation on her participation as an UNA-USA Delegate at the 62<sup>nd</sup> session of the Commission on the Status of Women. In 2015, the Global Goals were developed. The UN Commission focused on Gender Equality to be realized in 2023. The CSW UN touched on all areas that are affected by gender inequality. This year the focus was on rural women and girls. Ms. Cucalon will be sharing her PowerPoint with the commission.
- d. Women's Symposium – 50 in attendance. Would like to see more of these events happen in the community.

VI. New Business

- a. PHSC East Campus, LOL Library, Government Center. Johanna will send an email for the commission to vote on by Friday. Johanna will send the physical addresses that are available.
- b. Kelly Mothershead will be meeting with Yvonne Fry with the HCSW on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Will provide an update at our next meeting. Kelly mentioned having a palm card to state our mission statement.
- c. Update on Assignments:
  - i. Health and Safety: There was a poor response from the survey. There will be a paper survey sent out as well. Only 6 responded. Would like the Commission to respond to the survey as well. ~~It will also be on the Facebook page. Johanna will also send it and add it to the Facebook page.~~ (Scratched per C. Pollock, 5/30/18).
  - ii. Hepatitis C stats: Johanna reached out to the Health Department and heard back. Received confirmation that they do not have funds in their general revenue specifically for Hep C treatment, but that they test and connect those that come back positive with an infectious disease control doctor for treatment. They added that the Pasco Health Dept. received word from the State about receiving \$15,000 to pay for Hep C initiatives sometime in the near future. DOH recently put out information about their free HIV and Hep C rapid testing each month at several locations via Twitter. Johanna later shared this information on our Facebook page.
  - iii. Amanda Colon is looking into our judicial circuit of joining the opioid class action litigation. In order to handle this type of litigation a lot of resources are needed. If the AG joins the fight and wins, the funds go into general funds; our county will not get those funds. If the county joins the litigation, there is a possibility that some of those funds could be used in our county.

VII. Closing:

- a. Miscellaneous: Each committee needs to come up with “one thing” they would like to tackle for the year. Then we can determine what we would like to focus on for the year and schedule out how we are going to address our top priorities.
- b. Next Meeting: Monday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 pm.

VIII. Adjourn – Amanda Colon motioned to adjourn.