

MONROE COUNTY WOMEN'S COMMISSION

October 19, 2023

| Commissioner | Attendance | Appointed by | Term date |
|-------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Susan Hingle, Chair | Present | MoCo Comm | 1/1/24 |
| Maria Douglas, Vice-President | Present | MoCo Council | 1/1/25 |
| Nicki Williamson, Secretary | Present | MoCo Comm | 1/1/24 |
| Molly Otto | Present | MoCo Comm | 1/1/25 |
| Kathleen Sobiech | Present | MoCo Comm | 1/1/25 |
| Tiana Iruoje | Present via Zoom | MoCo Council | 1/1/24 |
| Juliet Hardesty | Present via Zoom | MoCo Council | 1/1/24 |
| Geoff Mckim | Absent | MoCo Council (ex-officio) | |

Voting Members: 7

Quorum Numbers: 4

Meeting Minutes completed by: Nicki Williamson

Location: Nat U Hill Room, Monroe County Courthouse

Call to Order 5:30 pm

This Commission shall serve in an advisory role to assist residents, businesses, and the government of Monroe County in addressing issues of gender equity in all aspects of society.

The mission is to advance the status of women in all areas of county life.

I. Introductions

II. Approval of Agenda (All approved)

III. Approval of Minutes (All approved)

IV. Commissioner Updates

A. Commissioner Hingle

1. Torchbearer's Award Dinner presented by Indiana Commission for Women

-Sobiech and Hingle attended

-award winners were impressive and shared a variety of stories

Action Item: Hingle to get a list of winners and table sponsors to share with Commissioners

2. Indiana Commission for Women

-Hingle attended

-how do we support and develop template for others to develop commissions

- longevity for us: job descriptions, onboarding training needs,

- **Action Item:** review bylaws, look at future projects, create succession plan, job descriptions

Action Item: Set up a work session

3. Seat update- people don't have a have a seat on the commission to participate and attend

Action Item: Hingle to ask who has applied and how are we informed; is there a contact email or interest form for people to reach out on website?

4. Mission statement update- approved

5. Sign-ups and other ideas

-please consider signing up via Sign-Up Genius

Action Item: Review of what should we be looking for, speaking about when we attend other meetings

Action Item: Williamson to send Sign-Up Genius again to all

Action Item: Otto would like to be assigned meetings to attend

-Idea to consider: assigning specific commissioners to specific roles

6. Revisiting Commission expectations

- what are we each willing to do, what is commitment, number of meetings, subcommittee attendance, community events

B. Commissioner Douglas

1. October is Hispanic Heritage Month; ADHD Awareness Month; LGBTQ+ History Month; Breast Cancer Awareness Month;

2. Period Action Rally by Girls Inc.

-Douglas, Otto, Hardesty attended

- Ruby Gala November 11th at Ivy Tech, Douglas will attend

-Indiana NOW State Conference also that day and registration is open

3. Need for organizing organizations that serve women: referral process, resource guide, - GIS?

- Event, summit of stakeholders, and providers, whomever wants to be involved and collaboration, funding needs; collaborate with Bloomington Status of Women;

-Sobiech suggested that perhaps using the Intercept model could be used as a roadmap

V. Ongoing business

A. County Commission meeting update

1. Oct. 4th Douglas attended and reported: Sophia Travis grants passed; MOU of something passed; 2023 MC childhood conditions summit Wed November 1st on Mattering and Belonging at convention center 830-4:00pm- free, breakfast and lunch provided, CEUs available, MWH speaker about TIC childcare; building thriving community something

B. County Council meeting update

1. Oct. 3rd Budget Hearing. Douglas attended; Sustainability is key to funding models; voted on 8.5% increase in salaries for certain county employees; need to value people discussion; staffing probs; salary challenges

C. Bloomington Council on the Status of Women

1. Will provide us with minutes (Landry present)

2. Summit on November 9th, My Voice, My Choice, My Rejoice

Action Item: Hingle will reach out for info about us supporting

D. Girls Web Design Camp Subcommittee

1. Maria: MOU between county and IU Luddy School is drafted and then needs to be presented to commissioners during a meeting; then to trustees in November

Action Item: subcommittee meeting to be scheduled

E. Gender Equity and Justice Response Subcommittee

1. Subcommittee chair: Julie, November 9th at 5:30 MCPL southwest

-JFAC has recommendations posted, functional program team to look at jail facilities, we might stay connected to these issues through this; current jail needs to be addressed

Action Item: Douglas to provide summary to us about Sheriff's budget approval

-How can we support current facility updates?

-looking at doing our own research regarding Planning of New Institutions (PONI)

training- county completed;

-look at research program TIC, IU Public Health and IU School of Social Work

-Goodwill Industries: employs formerly incarcerated folks in community

-Press Release that we did research and recommendations for press release; Douglas made template to follow

Vote on Press Release of recommendations made by subcommittee: Motion passes (Hingle, Douglas, Williamson, Otto, Sobiech, Iruoje voted yes; Hardesty voted no)

VI. **New Business**

A. Elections in December

-Hingle

-Williamson

-Iruoje

-Hardesty

County Council: how does reappointment process work?

Action Item: Iruoje will reach out to discuss what their process is and report back

B. New Leaf New Life: visit tomorrow by Sobiech, Hardesty, maybe Hingle

C. Thank you notes were sent

D. **Action Item:** Molly will reach out to Tandem (Julie) to be guest speaker for November

E. **Action Item:** Sobiech and Williamson will consider TIC and speakers for 2024

F. **Action Item:** Williamson announced she will be stepping down as Secretary at end of December 2023

G. **Action Item:** Work Session: December meeting is work session (December 21st)

VII. **Guest Speaker: None**

VIII. **Public Comment**

Meeting adjourned 6:56 pm