

# MONROE COUNTY WOMEN'S COMMISSION

February 15, 2024

Commissioner	Attendance	Appointed by	Term date
Susan Hingle, Chair	Present	MoCo Comm	1/1/26
Maria Douglas, Vice-Chair	Present	MoCo Council	1/1/25
Juliet Hardesty, Secretary	Present	MoCo Council	1/1/26
Tiana Iruoje	Absent	MoCo Council	1/1/26
Molly Otto	Present	MoCo Comm	1/1/25
Kathleen Sobiech	Present	MoCo Comm	1/1/25
Jennifer Belton	Present	MoCo Comm	1/1/26
Jennifer Crossley	Absent	MoCo Council (ex-officio)	
Vacant	Absent	MoCo Comm (ex-officio)	

Voting Members: 6

Quorum Numbers: 4

Meeting Minutes completed by: Juliet Hardesty

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 and marginalized genders in all areas of county life.

- I. **Approval of Agenda (All approved)**
  - A. Motion and approval
- II. **Approval of Minutes**
  - A. 2023-11-16 and 2023-12-13 **(All approved)**
  - B. Amended 2024-02-08 minutes by changing action item for Commissioner Sobiech to draft proposal for long-term communications to Commissioners Sobiech and Hingle draft strategic plan for this year **(All approved)**
- III. **Commissioner Updates**
  - A. **Commissioner Hingle**
    - Sharepoint invitation sent to all MCWC Commissioners
    - Schedule of meetings is set for this year (see Addendum 1 - Monroe County Women's Commission 2024 Meeting Schedule)
  - B. **Commissioner Douglas**

- February is Teen violence dating awareness month (1 in 3 teenagers experience emotional abuse; 1 in 10 experience sexual violence and physical violence in Indiana)

#### IV. Ongoing business

- A. County Commission meeting update
  - No meeting occurred
- B. County Council meeting update
  - Councilor Crossley announced Reimagining Safety event sponsored by MCWC
  - Justice Fiscal Advisory Committee (JFAC) – Councilor Iverson gave updates on 18 recommendations, these are updated on JFAC website ([https://www.co.monroe.in.us/egov/documents/1707920374\\_33666.pdf](https://www.co.monroe.in.us/egov/documents/1707920374_33666.pdf)); no work done for recommendations 22-24 that came from the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion session
- C. Girls Web Design Camp Subcommittee
  - Commissioner Iruoje sending a report
- D. Gender Equity and Justice Response Subcommittee
  - Community Advisory on Public Safety (CAPS) Commission
    - a) February 24 and 25 events announced at County Council meeting, Commissioner Douglas shared graphics on social media (personal and through other organizations)
    - b) All commissioners should also share about events **(Action Item)**
    - c) Monroe County logo will be used for sponsor logo in event program; CAPS requested sentence about why MCWC is involved – MCWC cannot make statement without approval of County Commissioners, probably also County Council; Commissioner Douglas asked about using Board of Commissioners statement that they read at the beginning of every meeting; not hearing back from Molly Turner-King
    - d) Douglas will send statement from Commissioners as what MCWC is supporting for sponsoring this event; Douglas will also send MCWC website URL, as QR code if possible **(Action Item)**
    - e) February 25 event is occurring in School of Public Health Room 125
- E. Commissioner Hingle to attend County Commissioners office hours to ask questions about press releases **(Action Item)**

#### VII. New Business

- F. Goals and Strategy for 2024
  - See Addendum 2 - Monroe County Women's Commission *Priorities Structure* Proposal
  - Profile, Policy, Data, Outreach subcommittees with suggested membership
  - Proposal is for one year
  - Commissioner Hingle unsure of name for Outreach subcommittee – possibly

Community Outreach or Community Engagement instead

- Motion to approve structure **(All approved)**
  - Profile subcommittee members – Commissioners Douglas, Otto, and Belton
    - a) Commissioner Douglas will schedule and plan meetings
  - Policy subcommittee members – Commissioners Douglas, Hardesty, and Sobiech
    - a) Commissioner Douglas will schedule and plan meetings through summer and then likely to ask Commissioner Sobiech to take over duties
  - Outreach subcommittee members – Commissioners Iruoje, Hardesty, and Belton
    - a) Commissioner Hardesty will email subcommittee about who can organize work
  - Data subcommittee members – Commissioners Hingle and Sobiech
    - a) Commissioner Hingle will schedule and plan meetings
  - Executive members (Hingle, Douglas, Hardesty) to start email conversations for meeting scheduling **(Action Item)**
  - Commissioner Hingle expects time for MCWC to average about 1-2.5 hours per week
- G. Meeting recordings have transcript feature but have to create minutes in addition to transcript
- Commissioner Hardesty will look for transcript for this meeting and see how or if it helps for minutes **(Action Item)**

**VIII. Public Comment - none**

**Meeting adjourned 6:25 pm**

## **Addendum 1 - Monroe County Women's Commission 2024 Meeting Schedule**

The Women's Commission will meet monthly on the third Thursdays at 5:30 PM in the Monroe County Courthouse Nat U. Hill meeting room on the following dates:

February 15, 2024

March 21, 2024

April 18, 2024

May 16, 2024

June 20, 2024

July 18, 2024

August 15, 2024

September 19, 2024

October 17, 2024

November 21, 2024

December 19, 2024

## **Addendum 2 - Monroe County Women's Commission *Priorities Structure* Proposal**

The structure proposed is to create subcommittees to advance our priorities and create strategies to fulfill those priorities.

1. Profile Subcommittee
  - A. Goal: to elevate the Women's Commission profile and presence in the community and county government
  - B. Strategies
    - Networking events
    - Inviting speakers
    - Going to other committee/commission meetings
    - Creating a social media presence
  - C. Proposed subcommittee members: Marie, Molly, Jennifer
2. Policy Subcommittee
  - A. Goal: County policy evaluation/creation using a gender equity lens
  - B. Strategies:
  - C. Current agenda item: Justice
  - D. Proposed subcommittee members: Maria, Julie, Kathleen
3. Outreach Subcommittee
  - A. Goal: To create and maintain programs and events that support our mission.
  - B. Strategies:
  - C. Current agenda item: Girls Web Design Camp
  - D. Proposed subcommittee members: Tiana, Julie, Jennifer or Molly
4. Data Subcommittee
  - A. Goal: Become more grounded in who we serve through data
  - B. Strategies: Create survey
  - C. Proposed subcommittee members: Susan, Kathleen