

N.C Council for Women Board Meeting Minutes

February 3, 2022, 10:00 am until 12:00 pm

This Meeting was Conducted Remotely by Zoom

Ethics Statement: The State Government Ethics Act mandates that, at the beginning of any meeting, the Chair remind all members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and inquire as to whether any member knows of any conflict or potential conflict with respect to matters to come before the Council.

Members Present: Annette Taylor, Chair, Candance Gingles, Elsa Jimenez-Salgado, Elizabeth Outten, Dr. Joyce Payne, Beth Posner, Judge Robin Robinson, Carrie Stewart, Judge Mary Ann Tally, Karen Wallace Meigs, and Kate Woodbury were present at roll call. Liz Doherty, Dana O'Donovan, Adrienne Spinner, and Dr. Tracey Ray joined after roll call was complete.

Members Absent: Lyric Thompson, Vice-Chair, Alison Kiser, Del Mattioli, Mindy Oakley, and Dr. Patricia Parker.

NC Council for Women & Youth Involvement Staff Present: Danielle Carman, Deborah Torres, Angela Winston-Hill, Toshia Dunlap, Deatrice Williams, Candace Dudley, Lori Gerber, Lori Hines-Jones, Diane Blumel, Bernetta Thigpen, Gabrielle Smith, Sebrina Phillips, Philisa Fowler, Mario Richardson, Alisa Milliken, and Debra Underwood.

Guests Present: Katie Hall, DOA Legislative Liaison, and Darrah Scott, Western Region Office Intern.

Meeting was called to order by Chair Taylor at 10:00 a.m.

Welcome/Member Roll Call: Chair Taylor welcomed everyone who was present and read the Ethics Statement. No conflicts of interest were noted. Taylor directed the Council members to a written recitation of potential conflicts for newly appointed member Kiser. Carman conducted the roll call and members stated present as their names were called.

Approval of Minutes: Robinson moved to approve the November 18, 2021 minutes as written. Wallace-Meigs seconded the motion. All members who were present at roll call unanimously approved the minutes.

Oaths of Office: Judge Robinson administered oaths of office for reappointed Council member Woodbury and for newly appointed members Posner and Tally. The oath for reappointed member Mattioli will be administered at the next quarterly meeting.

Introductions: All Council members who were present introduced themselves.



Legislative Committee Report – Kate Woodbury

Woodbury stated that she would reach out to the Legislative Committee meeting members to set a date for the first committee meeting in 2022 to discuss this year's goals. She said she will also reach out to some Council for Women and Youth Involvement (CFWYI) staff members to identify the resources the committee can leverage. Carman asked all Committee Chairs to include her and CFWYI Deputy Director Charnessa Ridley on Committee meeting invitations so they can identify the best way to provide staff support for the Committees' work.

Executive Director's Report – Danielle Carman

CFWYI Office Update:

Carman said the final budget bill for FY21-22 included the first recurring increase in funding for the domestic violence and sexual assault grantees in over a decade, with an additional \$500,000 going to each fund. She added that CFWYI has awarded federal Family Violence Prevention Services Act (FVPSA) grants to 59 domestic violence and prevention services providers for FY21-23 and is in the process of planning for implementation of three new American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) FVPSA funding streams. In addition, CFWYI is consulting with the Human Trafficking Commission on the administration of the new state and federal grant funding streams for domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking providers that they received in the budget bill.

Carman said CFWYI is in the process of developing a new grants management system, which will dramatically improve the office's ability to manage and monitor the grants that it administers. Carman shared some program highlights from CFWYI's human trafficking and youth involvement teams, including updates on Human Trafficking Awareness Month in January and the 2022 Summer Internship and Lady Cardinal Mentorship Programs.

Poverty & Opportunity Report:

Carman summarized the staff's recommendations with respect to the final Status of Women in NC report on Poverty & Opportunity, which should be released in late February or early March. She said the staff is largely recommending electronic distribution and digital launch strategies. Carman said, once CFWYI makes the final payment to the Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR) for the report, there will be very little funding left to cover printing and distribution costs. However, she believes DOA's budget staff can identify some funding in other CFWYI line items to cover the cost of printing 100 copies of the report.

Carman directed the Council members to the section of her written memo on the Poverty & Opportunity report that described a list of targets for printed or electronic copies of the report, including the Governor and staff, select legislators, other Cabinet and Council of State agencies, members of the Councils and Commissions housed in CFWYI and DOA, county-based women's councils and commissions, and North Carolina foundations that address women's issues. She said she would be giving a presentation to the New Hanover County Commission for Women in late February and would share some highlights of the report. She also summarized the staff's planned digital launch strategies and the revised timeline for various steps.

Robinson asked if there would be any in-person launch events for the report later in the year, perhaps in partnership with organizations that are already planning other events. Carman said Taylor had mentioned the possibility of events in Greensboro with their women's commission and in New Hanover with their local YWCA. Taylor mentioned a conversation with the New Hanover County YWCA Director about a joint event and said the Council should explore that possibility in addition to Carman's presentation to the Women's Commission in February. Robinson said the YWCA and UNC-Wilmington were involved with a report launch several years ago and it was a well-attended event. Posner said she is the Chair of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee

at UNC Law School and suggested that the Law School could host a virtual event about the report in March, perhaps in conversation with Gene Nichols.

Women's History Month 2022:

Carman said March will be Women's History Month, and the national theme will be "Providing Healing, Promoting Hope," honoring the work of caregivers and frontline workers during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. She said CFWYI is tentatively planning to partner with the Governor's Office of Public Engagement (OPE) and DOA's Communications Division to host a virtual lunch and learn in March. The idea is to feature 4-5 panelists who will discuss Women's History Month in conjunction with the key findings of the upcoming Poverty & Opportunity report, and to also use the time to raise awareness of the prior Status of Women in NC reports. She said the staff is asking the Speaker's Bureau or some other working group of the Council to take the lead on identifying the 4-5 panelists and preparing the content. Carman said the staff is continuing to explore other possible joint efforts with OPE for the month of March. Robinson encouraged the Council and staff to continue to seek other virtual or in-person event possibilities. Taylor agreed, noting that this is an opportunity to continue to strengthen partnerships with other organizations.

Gingles noted that the Political Participation report was launched in a virtual environment in 2020. She said the piece of the plan that seems to be missing is a detailed dive into the report findings to include IWPR staff going through the data and methodology to frame the findings and provide perspective and focus. Robinson encouraged staff to look at the August 2020 Political Participation launch events as a model for a virtual release. She said we may be able to identify some experts in this field to participate in a launch event. She encouraged the Council and staff to continue to look for opportunities for additional live, hybrid, or virtual events as the year goes on. Taylor agreed and said she would like to see the August 2020 model that was used.

Robinson said the New Hanover YWCA's Women of Achievement fundraiser event will be held virtually on March 3, and she will ask their Director to share the virtual link with the Council. She said there may be an opportunity to include a spot for the Council on the program to announce the unveiling of the report. Taylor and Robinson will reach out to the YWCA Director to see if that would be possible. Taylor encouraged everyone to think about local events that Council members and staff could participate in.

Chair's Report – Annette Taylor

Taylor stated that the Andrea Harris Task Force met yesterday. The Governor charged that Task Force with looking at ways to eliminate disparities in the social, economic, environmental, and health arenas. She said the Task Force divided its work among six different committees and approved [its December 2021 biannual report](#) at yesterday's meeting. She said Council Vice-Chair Thompson is passionate about identifying areas of alignment between the Task Force's recommendations and the findings in the Council's 2020 COVID-19 report. She said she informed the Task Force yesterday of the Council's upcoming Poverty & Opportunity report, including the recommendations around the care economy, and she then received an invitation to join a DHHS Office of Minority Health Disparities panel that is part of their Women's History Month series on March 29, 2022. Taylor asked all Council members to look at the groups they are part of to identify opportunities to insert information about the Poverty & Opportunity report.

Taylor said she is asking all Committees to establish one to three goals for the next year and to report back to the Council at its next quarterly meeting. She added that the Outreach/Speaker's Bureau Committee will be meeting soon. She said the Committee's initial focus will be on supporting the Poverty & Opportunity launch and Women's History Month. In conjunction with the Partnerships Committee, she also would like to focus on ways to support more local women's commissions and councils. Robinson said the existing local commissions and

councils should provide additional opportunities to speak about the Poverty & Opportunity report. Taylor asked anyone with those connections to let her and Carman know.

Partnerships Committee Report – Candace Gingles

Gingles discussed the various types of collaborative partnerships, including:

1. **Network**, through which people are connected by relationships and leverage communication and distribution modes;
2. **Funding**, which involves donations, co-funding, and in-kind services; and
3. **Alliance**, which reflects the pursuit of common goals, aligning programs, and leveraging capabilities.

She proposed scheduling Partnership Committee meetings for February 17, March 31, May 19, August 28, and December 8, 2022. She said she would check with the Committee members on the best time of day for meetings.

With respect to the release of the Poverty & Opportunity report, she outlined a number of steps for the Committee, including:

1. Creating and maintaining an outreach contact list.
2. Structuring a collaborative pitch and what individual partnerships might look like.
3. Making contact and solidifying interest and the mode of collaboration, such as report distribution, news releases, Outreach/Speaker's Bureau Committee events, and/or recommendation endorsements.

Gingles said she created a new Partnerships channel on the Council's Teams team and added a copy of the prior COVID report contact list there. Gingles encouraged all Council members to help update that outreach list for the Partnerships Committee. She said the Committee can then prioritize those contacts with respect to the release of the Poverty & Opportunity report at its February 17th meeting and identify the best person to make initial contacts.

Taylor said DOA Communications will be creating a press release about the report, and asked whether that would be used to invite partners. She asked whether the Committee or staff would create a written invitation memo to partners. Gingles said that invitation could be shared with higher priority contacts. She further suggested a more personal follow up with the Priority 1 contacts. Robinson suggested using the one-pager that had already been developed in making contacts before the full report and press release are available. Gingles agreed, and said it would also be helpful to have some portion of a PowerPoint presentation about the report ready fairly early in the process. Carman said the CFWYI Information and Communications Specialist position has not yet been filled, so there will not be as much internal staff support for these efforts as there has been in the past. Gingles said the one-pager and PowerPoint will both be helpful, and that we should consider developing county-specific one-pagers for any presentations. Taylor suggested that the Winer Family Foundation may also be interested in working with us to host some virtual events. Robinson said, if we are able to proceed with a virtual launch for the Poverty & Opportunity report, it would be good to include someone from IWPR to explain the highlights of the report and to introduce the research methods. She asked all Council members to think about who else should serve on a launch panel.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.