

Somerville Commission for Women

Regular Meeting

June 19th, 2018

7:00pm

Cross Street Center

165 Broadway

Present: Cristina DeWeese, Co-Chair
Kristen Strezo, Co-Chair
Kat Rutkin
Maggie Norcross Devin
Sumayya Essack
Kaitlyn Dmyterko
Melissa Alfone (arrived 7:10)
Stephanie Goodell
Holly Fox
Daisy Monsalve (arrived 7:30)

Absent: Patricha Paul

Staff Members in Attendance: Chris Hosman

Guests: Stephanie Galaitsi
Katie Wallace

Meeting Called to Order: Meeting was called to order by Kristen Strezo at 7:05 p.m.

Chris will research the process for changing bylaws. Discussion regarding group dynamics

Previous Minutes: The May Meeting Minutes were amended and approved to indicate Cristina DeWeese is the co-chair based on a motion made by Kristen Strezo and seconded by Stephanie Goodell.

School Committee Letter Response: Discussion regarding the framework utilized by Somerville Public Schools to address consent and body autonomy. Past programming took place in the High School included RESPOND INC. Discussion regarding concrete action items the SCW can undertake. The SCW will research what is being done currently to identify precise outcomes. End goal was identified as ensuring consent curriculum is standardized between schools. Other sources for information may include the Youth Risk Behavior Survey, Cambridge Health Alliance, RESPOND and Mass General Curriculum law. Request Health Education and Social Emotional Learning Curriculum for K-12.

Steering Committee Update: Discussion regarding past initiatives and events. Most fall into three basic categories; creating safe spaces for women, domestic violence prevention and immigration. Members discussed what brought them to the commission and initiatives they would like to pursue. The conversation included the following topics:

- Single moms and child care
- Getting women involved in politics
- Bringing more voices to the table

Reaching out to underserved communities
Working with elder affairs
Make positive change and advocate for those in the community
that may not have a voice
Civic Engagement
Girls Education
Financial Empowerment and equity
Maternal Health conversations and post-partem care

Sub-Committee Structure: Sub-committees will revert back to former three topics Education, Police and Outreach based on a motion made by Melissa Alfone and seconded by Stephanie Goodell

Education: Melissa Alfone, Holly Fox, Maggie Norcross Devin, Patricia Paul

Policy: Kat Rutkin Taylor, Sumayya Essack, Kristen Strezo

Outreach: Cristina DeWeese, Stephanie Goodell, Kaitlyn Dmyterko

Personnel Response: Candace Cooper will provide the updated policy and the SCW will review.

Salary Negotiation Workshop: Attendance was phenomenal. Content wasn't as strong as last time. It was hard to hear in the room. Check on VNA Lowell St. Stephanie is a facilitator.

Arts Council Events : Doodle poll will be created to check on commissioner availability.

Late Agenda Items: Somerville Media Center Kickball game is scheduled for July 16th from 5:00-6:30. There will be representation from the SCW.

Adjourned: Based on a motion made by Stephanie Goodell and seconded by Kristen Strezo, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00.