

Somerville Commission for Women

Regular Meeting

October 15, 2019

7:00pm

Cross Street Center

165 Broadway

Present: Holly Fox
Maggie Norcross Devin
Stephanie Galaitsi
Crystal Turner
Fabia Oliveira
Deborah Lormeus

Absent: None

Guests: Eliza Hopkins, RESPOND INC.
Caroline Garrido
Casey Cummings
Victoria Campisi

Staff Members in Attendance: Chris Hosman

RESPOND INC. Presentation: Eliza discussed the current programs and initiatives of RESPOND. This included a discussion about connecting with survivors at the the House of Corrections and Police Partnerships on High-Risk Teams. Discussion regarding trauma informed survivor approach. RESPOND runs an emergency shelter. Eliza mentioned the need for more transitional housing. Teen Dating Violence work is also taking place. RESPOND is in the process of bringing this work to Somerville. Another topic raised was utilizing teens to design social media campaigns to raise awareness. RESPOND is also working on their Holiday Wish List for families.

Meeting Called to Order: Meeting was called to order by Holly Fox at 7:40p.m.

Previous Minutes: Approval of September meeting minutes was put on hold.

Steering Committee Update: Budget is unchanged. Deborah Lormeus, Crystal Turner and Fabia Oliveira have officially been appointed to the Somerville Commission for Women. SCW will not table at October SomerStreets event.

Subcommittee Updates: Outreach did not meet.

Policy did not meet.

Education Sub-Committee met. While the RAD training sold out, only 4 people attended. Looking into providing classes in January. There was also a request to run the training in Spanish. One person attended the Feminist Book Club. Next one is scheduled for November 21st.

Vigil Discussion: Names of those whose lives were lost to intimate partner violence were read at the City Council Meeting. If this continues in the future, it complements the vigil but would not be an effective replacement for the vigil.

How does the commission want to commemorate Domestic Violence Awareness Month moving forward? There was resistance from some businesses to post the flyer. Work with Chamber of Commerce to support the vigil in the future. Print materials in other languages.

Year Long Planning: The January meeting will be used to make a plan for SCW efforts over the course of the year.

Imposter Syndrome Training: Community member Crystal Huff is interested in bringing her Imposter Syndrome training to the community. A 90 minute version of the training would be best for a typical SCW audience. The SCW will complete some background research and discuss this in November.

Managing Sub-Committees: Based on a motion made by Holly Fox and seconded by Stephanie Galaitsi, the SCW monthly meeting time will be changed to 7:30-9:00. 7:00-7:30 will be reserved for Sub-Committee work.

Revisit Trafficking Data: Draft DCF records request for specific data.

November and December Meetings:
November 19th meeting should have full attendance.
December 17th meeting there will be 2 absentee commissioners.

Late Agenda Items: None

Adjourned: Based on a motion made by Holly Fox, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm. Seconded by Maggie Norcross Devin.