

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN  
MEETING MINUTES**

**August 31, 2011**

**Levi Lincoln Room – 6:00 p.m.**

**Attendees:**

ACSW Members: Jenith Charpentier, Sarah Gruhin, Elizabeth Tomaszewski, Jeanine Paul, Marianne Sarkis, Ann Sheehy

ACSW Members not Present: Kristen Lemire, Kathleen Linton, Daisy Reeves

City: Maureen Vail-Sandstrom – CM Office

Minutes Prepared by: Maureen Vail-Sandstrom

**1. Welcome**

Meeting brought to order at 6:15 p.m.

**2. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Chairperson Marianne Sarkis made a motion to accept minutes of July 27, 2011 seconded by Jenith Charpentier. All in favor; minutes approved.

**3. Updates**

*a. ACSW Brochure:*

Committee members reviewed the ACSW brochure and made recommendations for edits before approving a final version- the edits are as follows:

- Inside Cover on page 1 – remove hyphens from words “function”, “recommendations”, “additional”.
- Page 4 – remove hyphens from the words “Massachusetts”, “Assessment”, “including”, “Consequence”, “committee”.
- Further recommended that Google website reference on back page (bottom) of brochure be removed.
- Page 4 under Meetings section... put the initials p.m. on same line as 6:00.
- Remove Heather Gould’s name from cover page of brochure and leave to read as simply “Staff Liaison, City Manager’s Office”.
- Page 2: 5<sup>th</sup> paragraph should read ...distribute a Women’s Needs Assessment Survey –pluralize the word Need.

b. Services for Women in Worcester Brochure – Resource Guide

Committee members reviewed the Services for Women in Worcester Resource Guide and made recommendations for edits – the edits are as follows:

- Remove the current logo from the brochure.
- Ask Christina Andreoli to check that photos in the brochure are not copyrighted and can be legally copied and used in the brochure.
- Under Health Section: Merge the YWCA’s Battered Women Resources with the Daybreak Program as both share the same web address (URL).
- Under Legal Aid Section – DAWN Program – change from prostitution-related offenses to sex-related offenses.
- Under Senior Services Section – Worcester Senior Center- remove one of the commas after the word “programming”.

Maureen will ask Christina Andreoli to send both of the original brochures and logos to Marianne Sarkis in order for Marianne to make final changes.

Committee voted to accept brochures with changes – all in favor.

c. Logo/Facebook Page

Committee voted with unanimous approval to choose one of the four (4) ACSW logos and further voted and approved to add only the ACSW logo to Facebook without words.

**4. Women in Action, Inc.**

Chantel Bethea, CEO and President of Women in Action, Inc. will be hosting a community forum at the Worcester Youth Guidance Center, 326 Chandler Street on Saturday, September 17, 2011 from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Forum is to “...promote a shared discovery among citizens about their power to effectively deal with public issues.” Sarah suggested that committee members should attend and support Chantel’s cause – members agreed and those members that are available will attend. Sarah also proposed that perhaps 10 of the Resource brochures be made available at the forum – (even if not in final form)

Jenith will contact Chantel prior to the event to ascertain if local political candidates will be on hand and if so, ask if there will be a Q&A session with the candidates – Committee asked if Chantel is a voting member of the ACSW - Maureen will find out and e-mail members.

**5. New Business**

- a. Meeting Schedule-Remainder of 2011:            September 28<sup>th</sup>

October 26<sup>th</sup>  
November 16<sup>th</sup>  
December 21<sup>st</sup>

Meetings held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every month at 6:00 p.m.

**b. Young Women of Consequence**

Committee discussed the Young Women of Consequence (YWC) Award and the Women of Consequence Award – Committee will go back through past meeting minutes to see if the committee had decided to drop the Women of Consequence Award and focus on the Young Women of Consequence instead...some members thought that they voted to skip the Women of Consequence Awards last year but understood that they would be awarding the Women of Consequence along with the Young Women of Consequence this year.

Committee agreed to send out the applications for the YWC Award the week after Thanksgiving with a deadline return date of Friday, January 6, 2012.

**6. Other Business**

Liz Tomaszewski brought up two (2) women's awards that are seeking nominations:

The Worcester Business Journal's –Women in Business Award –  
Nomination Submission deadline is September 9, 2011.

The Massachusetts Conference for Women - Be the Change Awards –  
Nomination Submission deadline is October 24, 2011.

Marianne asked that the Be the Change Awards be added to the agenda for discussion at the September meeting.

7. Departing Members: Jenith Charpentier and Ann Sheehy were given Certificates of Appreciation signed by City Manager Michael O'Brien in recognition of their dedicated service as members of the ACSW – Committee members extended their thanks and best wishes to these two departing members.

8. Meeting Adjourned at 7:27 p.m.