

Edward M. Augustus, Jr.
City Manager



Donna Connolly
Priscilla Elsass
Madison Friend
Amanda Gregoire
Deborah Hall
Ariel Lim, Vice-Chair
Jennifer Madson, Chair
Krystal Vanhorne

CITY OF WORCESTER

City Manager's Advisory Committee on the Status of Women

Monthly Meeting Summary Tuesday August 7th, 2018, 5:45 PM
Worcester City Hall, City Hall Room 401

Present: Jennifer Madson, Deborah Hall, Amanda Gregoire, Ariel Lim, Krystal Vanhorne
Absent: Donna Connolly, Madison Friend, Priscilla Elsass
Staff: Jayna Turchek

1. **Call to Order and Introductions.** Chairperson Jennifer called the meeting to order at 5:53 PM
2. **Approval of July 5th, 2018 minutes.** Commissioner Lim motioned to approve with one grammatical edit. Commissioner Gregoire seconded. Unanimously passed.

3. New Business- Discussion

A. Election of Officers

B. Strategic planning (continued)

Top 2 issues from last month's conversation: socioeconomic inequalities and economic development

Proposed action items:

- Commissioner Gregoire: roundtable meeting of agencies to discuss current needs from folks with boots on the ground. What are the real needs that we can address
- Commissioner Hall: agrees about hosting community forums. Underrepresented groups won't necessarily be at the roundtable; how can we actively recruit diverse populations? Coalescing with other groups on forums is good but we should be actively recruiting a diverse group of women to participate in community. Can we be the committee to actively encourage women not represented to be at decision making tables/be involved?
- Chairperson Madson: think about hosting events not necessarily at city hall. Consider accessible sites with transportation options. Schools and different libraries, lots of other options.
- Commissioner Vanhorne: focus on persons who are actually affected not just advocates and other professionals. For example women at the DV shelter at YWCA, let's speak to them.
- Commissioner Gregoire: this should be our first prioritized action item; speaking with women affected by issues we want to address
- Commissioner Gregoire: listening sessions could be helpful and sharing with city manager
- Commissioner Gregoire: can we collect/disseminate women's events? Figure out a way to know what it going on and supporting what is happening in the community. Perhaps add a community announcements section at end of each meeting agenda?



c/o Jayna Turchek, Director of Human Rights & Disabilities
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- Commissioner Hall: Struck by Worcester voter turnout statistics. How can we be more actively involved? What is it that we do? We are here to promote women's voices. We should be doing more; pushing boundaries. Revisit bylaws/discuss work with city manager and request concrete assignments/roles.

Timeline:

Fall

- Request to speak with City Manager after submission of year - end report
- Status of Women Action Summit or Town Hall (possibilities October 17 or 24, 5:30-7:30pm)

Spring

- Young and Women of Consequence Awards (March 2019)

Ideas for Fall community engagement event

- Push the vote
- Community conversation (invite politicians to listen)(could we get Elizabeth Warren) (moderated town hall)
- Announce award applications
- Potentially Girls Inc. or Youth Center: Chairperson Madson will check with Girls Inc, Commissioner Vanhorne will check with Youth Center, Commissioner Gregoire will check with Library if 18th or 25th, Director Turchek will reserve Levi Lincoln chamber as backup if available.
- Invite people to table/CDCs
- Conversation at tables with facilitator and note taker at each table

→Research if others are also hosting events in October/conflicts

→Solidify plans at next meeting

YWOC/forum

- Have former women of consequence awardees as part of the program

→Nomination forms to be updated for next meeting

7. Adjournment 7:15 PM (Commissioner Lim motioned, Commissioner Hall seconded)