

City of Worcester  
Advisory Committee on the Status of Women

Meeting minutes – Tuesday, April 4, 2023  
Levi Lincoln Chamber (3<sup>rd</sup> Fl)

<https://cow.webex.com/cow/j.php?MTID=mec5f5ee5dbf88ebdea1960bf33c1f400>

Meeting number: 2311 267 6845 Password: G2TmSkhJA32  
Call in: 415-655-0001 Access Code: 2311 267 6845  
Spanish subtitles were made available over WebEx

**Attendance:**

**Members Present:** Esther Boama-Nyarko, Heather Borelli, Amaris Gonzalez, Jennifer Hernandez, Marcia Macri, Samantha Sendrowski

**Staff:** Jayna Turchek

**Call to order**

Committeewoman Sendrowski called the meeting to order at 5:50 pm. Quorum was established on a roll call (5/0/0). (Committeewoman Gonzalez arrived late)

**Review and approval of February 7, 2023 and March 14, 2023 meeting minutes**

Committeewoman Sendrowski motioned to accept the minutes as distributed for the February 7, 2023 and March 14, 2023 meeting. Committeewoman Borelli seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved on a roll call vote of 5-0-0. (Committeewoman Gonzalez arrived after the vote)

**Conversation with Worcester Police Department**

**(Follow up on recommendations in the May 2022 Committee report on Gender Based Violence)**

Committeewoman Sendrowski informed members that the Police Department was not able to present this evening. Ms. Turchek had provided alternative dates and has not received response. An additional Tuesday meeting may be held in May as a speaker is already confirmed for May. Alternatively the agenda item will be taken up on the June meeting date.

**Planning for participation in Arbor Day event Friday April 28, 2023 (10am)**

**(University Park tree planting and plaque in memory of women victims of gender-based violence)**

Committeewoman Sendrowski began by making a motion to have Jennifer Hernandez as the speaker on behalf of the Committee at the April 28, 2023 Arbor Day Event. Committeewoman Hernandez seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved on a roll call vote of 6-0-0.

Committeewoman Hernandez asked for suggestions to include in the speech. The run of show and time is not know at this point.

- Three to five minutes might be good aim
- Name the woman known and open to collaborators to include others.
- Recognize the number of women affected
- Take a moment of silence
- Remember those who are still struggling with abuse
- Tie in the roots of violence
- Talk about the meaning of the tree

Next week she will send a draft of the speech to members.

Patrick Sargent of Unsolved Worcester who brought this idea to the Committee has invited Committeewoman Hernandez to join him on his podcast for a small segment. The goal is to inform the public about the Arbor Day Event and what the Committee is doing. This was accepted as a motion from Committeewoman Sendrowski and Committeewoman Borelli seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call (6/0/0)

The language with font size on the plaque was reviewed as follows:

(insert filigree)

*Remember the Women*

In Memory of

Victims of Gender-Based Violence

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Committeewoman Sendrowski moved to accept the changes in the wording for the plaque above. Committeewoman Sendrowski seconded. The motion was unanimously approved on a roll call vote of 6-0-0.

### **Election of Officers**

Committeewoman Sendrowski shared her intention to step off the Committee in May as long as a quorum was maintained. Last month Chairperson Kayanna James resigned to dedicate her time to her new position. The Committee will need to hold an election of officers and Committeewoman Sendrowski asked the members if they wanted to vote today or in May?

Discussion:

The job descriptions of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson are in the board manual.

Committeewoman Hernandez is interested in nominating herself for Chairperson.

Ms. Turchek is waiting to hear if there are applicants that have been recommended from the Citizen Advisory Council. All members were encouraged to help recruit new members.

The following outreach ideas were suggested:

- At Arbor Day Event
- On Unsolved Worcester Podcast
- Each member brings a couple of friends to the May meeting and make time to talk about the Committee's role and activity.
- Share Committee brochure and applications and request flyer be created to promote vacancies.

**Adjournment**

Committeewoman Sendrowski moved to adjourn. Committeewoman Macri seconded. The motion was unanimously approved on a roll call vote of 6-0-0. Adjourned at 6:33pm.

Next meeting Tuesday May 2, 2023

Lead topic: Annual conversation with City of Worcester Human Resources Director on the status of women in city employment and volunteer opportunities