



## Frederick County Commission For Women

401 Sagner Avenue  
Frederick, MD 21701  
(301) 600-1200

CFW@FrederickCountyMD.gov

www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/fccfw

www.Facebook.com/fccfw



## Frederick County Commission for Women: Public Meeting Monday April 24, 2023 7:00pm via WebEx

### Meeting Minutes

#### COMMISSIONERS

**Maura M. Page**  
*President*

**Melissa Atherholt**  
*Vice President*

**Cindy Shubin**  
*Recorder*

**Kate O'Leary**  
*Treasurer*

**Marguerite Vacca-Kaye**  
*At Large*

Edwina Benites-LM  
Rosario Campos  
Lakshmi Darbha  
Valerie Dougherty  
Lois Jarman  
Sesha Jupudi  
Shauna Mulcahy

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### **Roll Call of Commissioners and Introduction of Guests**

President Maura Page called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m., a quorum was present.

Commissioners Present: Maura Page, Melissa Atherholt, Cindy Shubin, Kate O'Leary, Marguerite Vacca-Kaye, Rosario Campos, Lakshmi Darbha, Sesha Jupudi, Shauna Mulcahy, Valerie Dougherty

Commissioners Absent: Edwina Benites-LM, Lois Jarmin

Guests: Allison Rizzo and Donna Robison from **JustServe**, and County Council member Renee Knapp

Approval of the Minutes: Cindy motioned to approve the March meeting minutes, Marguerite seconded, motion passed unanimously. Cindy motioned to approve the special April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes regarding the budget for the SheLEADS leadership workshop, Shauna seconded, motion passed with one abstention by Lakshmi, who did not attend the special meeting.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **A. Executive Committee**

Treasurer's Report – Kate indicated that the RAW event had \$2975 of sponsorships and ticket sales and \$2803 of expenses. For the year, we've had a net expenses in excess of revenue of \$912. Kate noted that all revenues this fiscal year have related to RAW.

#### **B. Outreach – Chair, Lakshmi**

1. Update – all events and outreach have been posted to our facebook page. Returning Commissioner Rosario will be rejoining the outreach committee.

#### **C. Voter Outreach and Education – Chair, Kate**

1. Update – No report.

#### **D. Raving About Women Annual Awards – Chair, Shauna**

1. Update – No report. Financial summary of the event shared above.

#### **E. Recruitment – Chair, Melissa**

1. Update – Congratulations and welcome to our two new Commissioners, Sesha and Rosario. No other resumes received this past month.

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### F. SheLEADS – Chair, Maura

1. April 23<sup>rd</sup> Leadership Workshop Recap: Workshop was held from 2-4pm at Hood College – the event was a Leadership Skills workshop followed by a roundtable discussion on navigating college life, with 2 students from Frederick County high schools and 6 college students participating.

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### G. Legislative Committee – Chair, Eddie

Cindy gave the update due to Eddie's absence from this month's meeting. Cindy explained that all the bills MLAW championed this legislative session passed, listed below, including but not limited to the bills FCCFW specifically voted to support:

HB0003/SB0185 Maryland State Police Gun Center – Firearms Surrendered Under Final Protective Orders

HB0004/SB0129 Criminal Law - Sexual Crimes - Repeal of Spousal Defense

HB0297/SB0292 Criminal Law - Victims of Child Sex Trafficking and Human Trafficking - Safe Harbor and Service Response

HB0477/SB0341 Public Senior Higher Education Institutions - Reproductive Health Services Plans – Requirements

HB0495/SB0350 Early Childhood Development - Child Care Scholarship Program – Alterations

HB0705/SB0798 Declaration of Rights - Right to Reproductive Freedom

HB0808/SB0859 Reproductive Health Protection Act

On the Federal level, Texas US District Court Judge Matthew Kacsmaryk issued a ruling blocking the FDA's approval of Mifepristone dating back to 2000, which would in effect ban Mifepristone nationally. However, Washington US District Court Judge Thomas O Rice issued a conflicting ruling ordering the FDA to maintain the current availability of the drug in 17 states and D.C., which were the plaintiffs in that case. SCOTUS has issued a 7-2 ruling providing for a stay of Kacsmaryk's ruling, temporarily preserving national access to Mifepristone while the Biden Administration and the manufacturer Danco Labs appeal the lower court's ruling. Cindy noted that although only Judges Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito voted against a stay in that ruling, a final SCOTUS decision could have catastrophic implications for abortion access by women across the country if Mifepristone is banned nationwide, even including states like Maryland where abortion rights are protected. Cindy noted that data analyzed by CNN found that Mifepristone is safer than some common low-risk drugs, including Penicillin and Viagra.

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### Commission Business - Old Business

1. Vote on By-Laws changes: Article V Membership, Meetings, Quorum, Attendance – Sections 1, Section 2 and Section 5 as emailed and posted on March 15, 2023 (see revisions below). Cindy moved to approve the updated bylaws, Melissa seconded, motion passed unanimously. Maura will resend these revisions along with the December Commission-approved revisions to Kelli Goetz to forward to the County Executive for approval.

**Guest Presentation** – Allison Rizzo of JustServe demonstrated their JustServe tool that helps volunteerism in the community. It is an online volunteer recruiting tool, where organizations can post their needs for free and volunteers can look for opportunities and sign up for particular shifts as well as group service projects, and there's also an app for smartphones. They have a new partnership with United Way of Frederick County, and United Way is now using the JustServe tool for volunteer opportunities. The tool also has a new reporting functionality that helps JustServe quantify volunteerism resulting through the tool. JustServe hosts administrator training on Tuesdays and Fridays at Noon, which trains the nonprofits' JustServe admins to post their projects independently without relying on JustServe to post for them. The tool also has capability for an individual to track their own service/volunteer hours. The JustServe group is hosting a community volunteer fair on May 13<sup>th</sup> from 10am-1pm at the Church of Latter Day Saints in the City of Frederick.

### Commission Business - New Business

1. Update – None this month

### Commissioner and Guest Announcements

1. Lakshmi mentioned that the nonprofit Aavani continues to provide workforce training for women in the fields of IT Administration, HR and Cyber Security. Each program is an 8-week training that helps women get the training they need to return to the workforce. The training is currently funded by a grant from the Women's Giving Circle.
2. Maura indicated that the Frederick Remembrance Memorial Coalition is having their remembrance gathering on May 13<sup>th</sup> at 2pm in remembrance of the three black men who were lynched in Frederick Maryland in the late 1800s. Dr. Terry Scott is the keynote speaker. Details of the event are on Eventbrite.
3. Renee indicated that on Tuesday April 25<sup>th</sup>, the County Council will be having a public hearing at 7pm regarding the County's annual budget previously submitted by the County Executive.

Next Public Meeting will be Monday, May 22, 2023, 7p.m., via Webex

**ADJOURNMENT** Maura moved to adjourn and Cindy seconded. Meeting was adjourned by Maura at 7:54pm without objection.

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### *Proposed By-Law changes:*

## **Article V. Membership, Meetings, Quorum, Attendance**

**Section 1. Membership Meetings.** All Commission meetings shall be at a Frederick County location **or virtually**, be open to the public and be accessible to the handicapped. Minutes shall be recorded for all Membership meetings.

**Section 2. Regular Membership Meetings.** **The Commission will hold monthly public meetings with the exception of July when no meeting will be scheduled.** A calendar of meeting dates shall be part of the public record, and shall be publicized. Special meetings may be called as needed by a majority of the Members in office or the Executive committee with three (3) business days notice by phone or email.

**Section 5. Annual Review & Planning Meeting.** Within the first three (3) months of each fiscal year (July, August, September) the Membership shall meet to evaluate the activities of the Commission, reevaluate the long-range plan **and in following the requirement that "Each public entity subject to the Open Meetings Act must designate at least one employee, officer, or member to receive training on the requirements of the Act" a commissioner shall be designated during this planning meeting.**

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