

Governor's Council on Women and Girls
Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity & Workforce Equity
August 29, 2019 @ 3pm, Legislative Office Building, Hearing Room 1D

Meeting Minutes

- I. Greetings & Introductions – Lt. Governor Bysiewicz called the meeting to order, introduced herself and then went around the table for more introductions in the following order: Patrick O'Brien and Emily Byrne (CT Voices for Children); Lora Rae Anderson (Department of Consumer Protection); Amanda Aronson (Aronson Consulting); Debra Goss (Department of Transportation); Emily Demicco (AFSCME Council 4); Kimberly Glassman (Foundation for Fair Contracting); Commissioner Jorge Perez (Department of Banking), Commissioner Kurt Westby (Department of Labor), Caroline Smith (Collab); Assistant State Comptroller Michelle Gilman (Office of State Comptroller); Commissioner Amy Porter (Department of Rehabilitation Services); Madeline Granato (CWEALF and CT Campaign for Paid Family Leave); Patrice Peterson (CSEA); Astrid Poole (Department of Social Services); Cherie Phoenix-Sharpe (Office of Lt. Governor); Executive Director Vicki Veltri (Office of Health Strategy); Deputy Commissioner Shante Hanks (Department of Housing), Commissioner Sibongile Magubane (Department of Motor Vehicles); Chief of Staff Shannon Wegele (Office of The Secretary Of The State); Solicitor General Clare Kindall (Attorney General's Office); Deputy Commissioner Glendowlyn Thames (Department of Economic and Community Development). *(Representatives from DEEP and YWCA Hartford were also present).

- II. Updates
 - a. Workforce Equity Report - Assistant State Comptroller Michelle Gilman
 - i. Workforce Equity Report was released on July 24th. It is a review of executive agencies in state government for gender, race, ethnicity and compensation disparities. CT is doing well comparatively but there are inequities that can be addressed. Credit is given to UCONN for being an academic partner in preparing the report. The report is publicly available on the Council and Comptroller websites. Currently looking at whether this should be done annually and what kind of follow ups and deeper reviews may be helpful.
 - ii. Lt. Governor explains that the Governor and she appreciate the recommendations from the report and that they, along with Secretary McCaw, will speak with agency commissioners about how they may address these inequities.
 - b. Business Development Resources - Deputy Commissioner Glendowlyn Thames
 - i. Hard copy PowerPoint distributed about work that DECD is doing and how it intersects with the work of Council, other opportunities under

development and potential new opportunities. Thanks to Executive Director Beatriz Gutierrez who does a lot of front line work with business recruitment. (See attached PowerPoint)

- c. Financial Literacy – Executive Director Vicki Veltri
 - i. Working group met about a week and a half ago and, prior to, agencies who are members of the working group were asked to submit links to their sites that have financial literacy resources; working group members were asked to look at the resources and review which are most helpful.
 - ii. Lt. Governor’s office will ask other agencies to also provide their resources to the group
 - iii. Potentially planning a central website with links to all helpful resources and plan to review with Council leadership where this could be housed. Also expecting to have a focus group look at additional links and advise re most helpful information.
 - iv. Potential joint calendar among agencies for outreach and educational events so that agencies can work together
 - v. Potentially working with CWEALF and CT Collective for Women and Girls re an education outreach website app
 - vi. Also discussed building financial literacy tracks in events and conferences and requested that people send to the working group events and conferences of which they are aware

III. Public Comment – Lt. Governor asked if anyone from the public wanted to comment. There were no comments.

IV. Legislative Considerations – Lt. Governor

- a. Council Leadership is looking for legislative policy considerations from each Subcommittee to be reviewed by Council Leadership and the Governor’s Office for potential proposals.

V. Next Meeting is October 17th at 2pm. Other announcements:

- a. Governor and Lt. Governor had a good meeting with corporate leaders about how they can support the priorities of the Council
- b. Chief of Staff Wegele asked about how to submit legislative ideas and Lt. Governor advises giving it to Subcommittee Co-Chairs.
- c. Chief of Staff Wegele explains that they are already in staging and testing for adding, during the Secretary of the State business registration process, an optional survey for self-identification of type of ownership (e.g. women owned, veteran owned)
- d. Chief of Staff Wegele announces Suffrage Kickoff event on Thursday 9/12

VI. Adjournment