

Governor's Council on Women and Girls
Full Council Meeting
November 10, 2020 @ 3pm

Minutes

- I. Greetings and Opening Remarks
 - a. Lt. Governor Bysiewicz thanks and welcomes Council members and guests, acknowledges last full council meeting of the year and reflects on calendar year work of the Council: Women and Girls' Day at the Capitol on Friday March 6; tele-town halls on economic and health and safety resources; Financial Literacy website launch; computing challenge for 3rd through 12th grade students throughout the State; leadership academy upcoming launch; and celebrating women in leadership roles.
 - b. Lt. Governor introduces Sec. McCaw for the report from Council Leadership
- II. Report from Council Leadership
 - a. Sec. McCaw reminds council members that legislative proposals previously endorsed will be re-endorsed in the upcoming session and briefly summarizes them (SB 14 re childcare expenses under CEP; SB 85 re Anti-age discrimination; UPASS access expansion in DOT Agency bill; HB 5121 re licensed group and family childcare facilities; early childhood business incubator model; employment protections for domestic workers; SB 13 re recognizing occupational licenses from other states)
 - b. Sec. McCaw further notes that a subgroup, led by Shannon Wegele, of the Leadership Subcommittee submitted a legislative proposal to memorialize the commitment to achieving gender and racial diversity, create more marketing and outreach for a more diverse pool of candidates and improve the data system in communicating with the public information about vacancies. McCaw notes that the proposal is currently under review by the administration including how some of the proposal may be accomplished administratively.
 - c. Lt. Governor thanks Sec. McCaw and moves on to Subcommittee updates.
- III. Subcommittee Updates
 - a. Economic Opportunity & Workforce Equity
 - i. Lt. Governor notes that she co-chairs Economic Opportunity & Workforce Equity Subcommittee with the Comptroller's Office, DECD, Department of Housing and Office of Health Strategy. She also notes that yesterday she and DECD Deputy Commissioner Glendowlyn Thames were on panel with Fran Pastore of the Women's Business Development Council about the CARES Act Small Business Grant Program administered by DECD and introduces Subcommittee Co-Chair Glendowlyn Thames.
 - ii. G. Thames describes two DECD programs with CARES Act Funding
 1. \$9 million relief support for arts organizations, particularly performing arts, which has already launched. Apx 160 applications being processed to date.

2. \$50 million program for small businesses and non profits (applications scheduled to go live this week) intended to aid the smallest of small businesses and nonprofits (those less likely to have previously received federal stimulus funds) and be intentional about equity / the disproportionate impact on those businesses in the economically challenged communities. The program offers a one time grant of \$5,000. Eligibility includes
 - a. 20 or less full time employees OR no more than \$1.5 million in annualized payroll expenses;
 - b. Demonstrated 20% or more loss in revenue;
 - c. Established business as of October 1, 2019 and still active.
 3. G. Thames further notes that yesterday DECD started office hours with a representative in a virtual platform to answer questions and the schedule is available at business.ct.gov
 4. G. Thames further notes that they are working on getting through data of the most recent business impact survey which focused on women- and minority-owned businesses (80% of responses were women-owned businesses). 79% of respondents said revenue is down compared to last year, 55% of respondents anticipate decreasing staff if economic situation continues, and 53% say they will not survive next 12 months.
- iii. Lt. Governor thanks Deputy Commissioner Thames and notes that they will continue to keep people informed. She then introduces OHS Deputy Executive Director, Kim Martone, for an update on Financial Literacy.
 - iv. K. Martone reports that the group is now led by Kathleen Titsworth from DOB and Catherine Blinder from DCP with continued administrative support from Laura Morris of OHS and is discussing
 1. How to expand to new communities and populations
 2. Examining need for healthcare literacy
 3. Additional participation in the working group to assist with diversity of considerations and will reach out to other state agencies and organizations for ideas.
 4. Maintaining and updating existing website/calendar and assuring it is accessible and translatable.
 5. "white paper" draft of past efforts and legislative history
 - v. Lt. Governor thanks Deputy Director Martone and introduces Deputy Commissioner Shante Hanks from Department of Housing.
 - vi. S. Hanks reports that there is a working draft of application, program and fact sheet; there will be multiple tracks with specific career ladders associated with them; they're on schedule to accept applications in December and start program in February; and there is potential sponsorship for wifi and laptops. S. Hanks shares application draft.
 - vii. Lt. Governor thanks Deputy Commissioner Hanks.
- b. Health & Safety

- i. Lt. Governor introduces Commissioner Bye to report out for Health & Safety Subcommittee which is tri-chaired by Commissioner Bye, Commissioner Delphin-Rittmon and Commissioner Dorantes
 - ii. Commissioner Bye shares PowerPoint (see Attachment)
- c. Education & STEAM
 - i. Lt. Governor introduces T. Larson.
 - ii. T. Larson provides updates for Lt. Governor Coding Challenge group
 - 1. Upcoming challenge will offer three different submission opportunities for students ranging from ideology only to a fully functioning application. Funding commitment from AT&T, potential funding commitment from Infosys Foundation and in-kind services offered by Infosys.
 - 2. Tentative timeline for the challenge is an announcement during Computer Science Education Week (second week of December), open the challenge in mid-January, judging in early May and a recognition event in June. Specifics of judging and “awards” are still being determined
 - iii. T. Larson provides updates for Information HUB group
 - 1. T. Larson explains that they i) recently received a presentation from a national STEM Map platform; ii) are also exploring if there already exists a feasible State platform; and iii) are working with members of Governor’s workforce council
 - iv. T. Larson provides updates for Arts group
 - 1. T. Larson shares that the Arts group will host a virtual women and girls in the arts series during the month of March 2021 which will include an arts gallery and speaker series on social media highlighting the arts in our state with the goal to have museums, arts organizations, students and artists to showcase their artistry. He further notes that last week a survey and invitation to participate was sent to arts organizations across the state and they received favorable responses
 - v. T. Larson provides updates for Internships group
 - 1. The Internship Group has developed a thorough outline for an internship toolkit. It was discovered that the Governor’s Workforce Council is also working on an internship program and the group is currently working with a couple members of GWC in a coordinated effort to develop and execute a toolkit
 - vi. T. Larson further notes that the next Education and STEAM subcommittee meeting will be held virtually on Wednesday, December 9th at 1:00 p.m.
- d. Leadership
 - i. Lt. Governor introduces Sec McCaw to report out.
 - ii. Sec. McCaw notes that Affirmative Action review and recruitment strategy group, led by OPM Undersecretary Claire Coleman and Asst.

Treasurer Christine Shaw, is working on enhancing the data used for our affirmative action goals (instead of outdated census information they are working on regular access to accurate and up to date workforce information) and improving Affirmative Action Plans. She further notes that as we approach 2022 retirements this work can assist with new entry into, and promotions in, the state workforce.

- iii. Sec. McCaw also notes that the cultural competency employee development and training group is under the leadership of Deputy Commissioners Nick Hermes from DAS and Jodi Hill-Lilly from DCF and that DAS is rolling out the Linked-in-Learning program with a robust offering of courses including women in leadership and inclusive leadership ; agencies can build out their training programs with this free resource. She also notes that there is an RFP for a statewide diversity equity and inclusion contractor or consultant using national best practices as another tool for agencies to ensure their climate / work environment is conducive to success for all, including women leaders
- iv. Sec. McCaw recognizes success of the virtual Hispanic women in leadership panel and thanks all who worked to put the panel together.

IV. Announcements

- a. Lt. Governor thanks Sec. McCaw and notes that there was also a Hispanic women elected officials panel and further notes intent for future women panels.
- b. Lt. Governor calls for announcements and notes that December Subcommittee Meetings are scheduled as follows:
 - i. Economic Opportunity & Workforce Equity, Wednesday 12/9 at 3pm
 - ii. Education & STEAM, Wednesday 12/9 at 1pm
 - iii. Health & Safety, Monday 12/7 at 10am
 - iv. Leadership, Wednesday 12/9 at 10am
- c. Lt. Governor further notes that the next full council Meeting is Wednesday January 13, 2021 at 3pm.
- d. Lt. Governor recognizes Tina Corpus, Exec. Director of the from Permanent Commission on Status (PCSW). T. Corpus notes that they are doing a statewide data collection to assess the economic impact of COVID-19 on CT women consisting of a five minute survey and a series of 8 zoom forums, county by county. Information can be found on website (www.pcswct.org).

V. Adjournment

- a. Lt. Governor adjourns meeting at apx. 4pm.

Council Member Attendance Report

Susan Bysiewicz	Lt. Governor, Council Chair
Melissa McCaw	OPM Sec., Council Vice Chair
Betsey Wingfield	DEEP
Glendowlyn Thames	DECD
Miguel Cardona	SDE
Beth Bye	OEC
Shannon Wegele	SOTS
Katie Rock-Burns	DDS
Christine Shaw	OTT
Thomas Saadi	DVA
Kimberly Karanda	DMHAS
Margaret "Peg" Hackett	DAS
Brian Foley	DESPP
Michelle Seagull	OCP
Kim Martone	OHS
Andrew Mais	Insurance
Amy Porter	DADS
Bob Ross	Military Affairs
Vannessa Dorantes	DCF
Tim Larson	OHE
Tara Downes	Comptroller's Office
Kathleen Titsworth	DOB
Rory Page	DOL
Eric Smith	DOT
Clare Kindall	AG
Shanté Hanks	DOH
Max Carter	DRS
Angel Quiros	DOC
Kayleigh Royston	DOAg