

Governor's Council on Women and Girls
Full Council Meeting
January 13, 2021 @ 3pm

Minutes

- I. Greetings and Opening Remarks
 - a. Chair Lt. Governor offers opening remarks; thanks attendees; asks that people use the chat function to advise of announcements; and introduces Vice Chair Sec. Melissa McCaw for legislative agenda update
- II. Report from Council Leadership
 - a. Sec. McCaw reminds that Council is re-endorsing legislation from last year and advises that there will be a new Governor's bill for purposes of the following:
 - i. Strengthening the requirement for DAS to maintain a system for people to submit themselves for consideration for boards and commissions by including information about the board or commission and requirements for membership; and
 - ii. Requiring appointing authorities to consider suggestions from organizations representing the interests of gender and racial diversity and make best effort to recruit members reflecting such diversity.
 - b. Sec. McCaw further notes administrative actions to support diversity on boards and commissions:
 - i. Planning structural website changes to link to each board's website setting out statutory authority and information about membership.
 - ii. Sending communication to all boards and commissions reminding them of requirement to comply with reporting to SOTS
 - iii. Creating a network of organizations to communicate with about vacancies
 - c. Lt. Governor invites people to submit their resume to her office, in the interim, if they are interested in serving on a board or commission
- III. Subcommittee Updates
 - a. Economic Opportunity & Workforce Equity
 - i. Lt. Governor notes that Deputy Commissioner Hanks previously shared status of the inaugural launch of the leadership academy and that a link to the application has been posted on the Economic Opportunity & Workforce Equity Subcommittee page of the Council website. Lt. Governor introduces Deputy Commissioner Hanks for more updates
 - ii. Dep. Comm. Hanks notes that applications are coming in slower than anticipated but they've received inquiries, particularly about the stipend, and they remain optimistic for 25 participants.
 - iii. Dep. Comm. Hanks shares link for applications in chat function:
http://www.hamdeneconomicdevelopment.org/Projects_Programs/Projects-Underway/Housing-and-Community-Development-Leadership-Institute/

- iv. Lt. Governor suggests a press release with her office about the academy
 - v. Lt. Governor introduces Laura Morris from Office of Health Strategy to provide updates from Financial Literacy working group.
 - vi. L. Morris notes that they have a 1.5hr planning meeting scheduled for next Wednesday and that if anyone has updates for the website to please email Kathleen Titsworth.
- b. Education & STEAM
- i. Lt. Governor introduces Exec. Dir. Larson
 - ii. E.D. Larson notes that he is filling in for Commissioner Magubane who had a last-minute conflict.
 - iii. E.D. Larson provides update re the Lt. Governor’s Coding Challenge - launches on January 25th; themed “Coding for Good;” they’re working on filling gaps of low participation in last year’s challenge; and private contributions are helping with expenses.
 - iv. E.D. Larson further notes that the arts team is hosting a women and girls in arts series on Facebook throughout the month of March which will include an arts gallery and a speaker series to highlight arts in the State; museums, art organizations, students and artists are participating; there will be four master class sessions; and more information will be provided in February.
 - v. E.D. Larson further notes that Internship and information hub groups have been meeting frequently and will have more updates in March.
 - vi. Lt. Governor encourages Council community partners to help generate girl participation in subcommittee efforts.
- c. Health & Safety
- i. Lt. Governor introduces Commissioner Vannessa Dorantes.
 - ii. Commissioner Dorantes presents (see Attachment 1)
- d. Leadership
- i. Lt. Governor introduces Sec. McCaw.
 - ii. Sec. McCaw advises that they’ve made progress towards securing a vendor for diversity, equity and inclusion workshops and training which will be a resource for all agencies, especially as we head towards significant retirements, so that agencies can create strong and diverse teams. She further notes that Dep. Commissioners Jodi Hill-Lilly and Nick Hermes have been leading this charge.
 - iii. Sec. McCaw reminds that there will be a leadership panel series for Black History month and welcomes recommendations for panelists
 - iv. Sec. McCaw introduces C. Coleman for follow ups on Affirmative Action data and methodology
 - v. C. Coleman explains that they have been evaluating affirmative action planning and working to make sure that the data relied on annually by EEOs at the agencies is more up to date than the 2000 census data currently used and that they’ve recently confirmed with CHRO that we can use updated Census data from American Community Surveys that are

released every five years so that we can keep up with the actual diversity of the labor workforce to identify hiring goals. C. Coleman further notes that they are working with CHRO on instructions for the EEOs.

- IV. Announcements
 - a. J. Steadman shares information about a women and girls study from CT Collective for Women and Girls
 - b. L. Mendoza shares opportunity to participate in virtual educational event 2/8 – 2/12 hosted by National African American Insurance Association
 - c. C. Alessi announces launch of Million Women Mentors CT Chapter and MWM CT Day on 1/29 and invites people to use MWM CT platform to promote STEM programs and events
 - d. Lt. Governor announces a chat note from J. Stein inviting people to the Connecticut Against Gun Violence community food drive as part of presidential inaugural day of action.
 - e. Lt. Governor announces upcoming meeting schedule:
 - i. Economic Opportunity & Workforce Equity, Wednesday 2/10 at 3pm
 - ii. Education & STEAM, Wednesday 2/17 at 1pm
 - iii. Health & Safety, Monday 2/1 at 10am
 - iv. Leadership Thursday 1/28 at 3pm and Thursday 2/18 at 3pm.
 - v. Next full council Meeting Tuesday 3/9 at 3pm.
- V. Lt. Governor adjourns at apx. 3:45pm

Attendance Report

Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz	Chair
Sec. Melissa McCaw	Office of Policy and Management, Vice Chair
Christine Shaw	Office of State Treasurer
Clare Kindall	Office of Attorney General
Tara Downes	Office of the State Comptroller
Shanté Hanks	Department of Housing
Kim Martone	Office of Health Strategy
Glen Thames	Department of Economic & Community Development
Tim Larson	Office of Higher Education
Vannessa Dorantes	Department of Children and Families
Beth Bye	Office of Early Childhood
Jorge Perez	Department of Banking
Rory Page	Department of Labor
Nicholas Hermes	Department of Administrative Services
Betsey Wingfield	DEEP
Sharonda Carlos	Department of Corrections
Amy Porter	Department of Aging and Disability Services
Kathy Brennan	Department of Social Services
Kimberly Karanda	Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services
Charlene Russell-Tucker	State Department of Education

Angel Quiros
Janice Floyd
Jordan Scheff
Andrew Mais
Michelle Seagull
Senator Marilyn Moore
Representative Dorinda Borer

Department of Corrections
Department of Motor Vehicles
Department of Developmental Services
Insurance Department
Office of Consumer Protection