

Governor's Council on Women and Girls
Full Council Meeting (Virtual)
Tuesday November 16, 2021 @ 3pm

Minutes

- I. Greetings and Opening Remarks
 - a. Lt. Governor notes that this is the last full council meeting of the calendar year and highlights:
 - i. Women leadership panel discussions;
 - ii. Lt. Governor's computing challenge, with high participation;
 - iii. Housing and Community Development Leadership Institute;
 - iv. Increased access to health resources for new mothers; and
 - v. Panel discussion encouraging more women to express interest in serving on State Boards and Commissions, in furtherance of Council legislation.
 - b. Lt. Governor thanks Council members and acknowledges and welcomes newest member, Department of Public Health Commissioner-Designate Dr. Manisha Juthani, who will also serve as a Tri-Chair for the Health & Safety Subcommittee.
 - c. Lt. Governor asks that announcements be shared in that chat function for re-circulation, noting that they may also be acknowledged (time permitting) during the announcements portion of the agenda.
- II. Report from Council Leadership (Lt. Governor Bysiewicz)
 - a. Acknowledges receipt of suggestions for potential Council legislation in the upcoming session, with respect to:
 - i. promoting financial management and debt education;
 - ii. protecting consumers from certain credit reporting that can have negative impacts on their scores; and
 - iii. increasing employment data transparency across different arms of government.
 - b. Notes that she and Sec. McCaw are considering whether some of the proposals can be taken on administratively and exploring legislative impact for others.
 - c. Thanks the financial literacy working group, Deputy Commissioner Shante Hanks and Assistant Comptroller Tara Downes for their suggestions.
 - d. Notes that January meeting should have updates on status of proposals and administrative work relevant to concepts previously submitted by Health & Safety.
- III. Subcommittee Updates
 - e. Lt. Governor notes order of Subcommittee updates:
 - i. Education & STEAM Subcommittee;
 - ii. Economic Opportunity & Workforce Equity;
 - iii. Leadership;
 - iv. Health & Safety
 - b. Education & STEAM

- i. Lt. Governor acknowledges that Education & STEAM is co-chaired by DMV Commissioner Magubane and Office of Higher Education Executive Director Larson and that Director Larson will report out
 - ii. Dr. Larson presents (see Attachment 1) and further notes:
 - 1. He spearheads the Computing Challenge and Information HUB work and Commissioner Magubane spearheads the Internship and the Arts work
 - 2. Noele Kidney and Janie Floyd have been fantastic at keeping everyone focused and on target
- c. Economic Opportunity & Workforce Equity
 - i. Lt. Governor acknowledges that she co-chairs Economic Opportunity & Workforce Equity with the Comptroller's Office, Department of Housing and the Office of Health Strategy
 - ii. Lt. Governor thanks, and acknowledges the work of, former DECD Deputy Commissioner Glendowlyn Thames who also co-chaired for over 2½ years
 - iii. Lt. Governor notes the following about the last Subcommittee meeting:
 - 1. Held on October 13th
 - 2. Reviewed some of the State activities in support of Hispanic Heritage month from mid-September through mid-October; Deaf Awareness Month in September; and National Disability Employment Awareness Month in October
 - 3. Summarized legislative proposals submitted
 - 4. Closed with a presentation from Steering Committee member, Girls With Impact.
 - iv. Lt. Governor further notes that Steering Committee members should let Cherie Phoenix-Sharpe know if interested in presenting at a meeting
 - v. Lt. Governor introduces Assistant Comptroller Tara Downes.
 - vi. Assistant Comptroller Downes notes:
 - 1. Equity report presentation on state workforce was also presented to Leadership subcommittee
 - 2. Meetings have been held with other agencies that may be impacted by the recommendations
 - 3. Discussions about the report continue and feedback is welcome
 - vii. Lt. Governor introduces Deputy Housing Commissioner Shante Hanks.
 - viii. C. Phoenix-Sharpe notes that Deputy Commissioner Hanks is held up
 - ix. Lt. Governor introduces Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Authority CEO Andrea Barton Reeves
 - x. A. Barton Reeves Presents (see Attachment 2) and further:
 - 1. Introduces Marketing Officer Jessica Vargas who is primarily responsible for outreach and engagement
 - 2. Notes that partnership with Public School Superintendents is to reach the parents of students in public schools
 - 3. Notes that applications accepted starting December 1 are for benefits payable starting January 1

- d. Leadership
 - i. Lt. Governor acknowledges that Leadership is Tri-chaired by Sec. McCaw; Office of the Treasurer; and DEEP and introduces Sec. McCaw
 - ii. Sec. McCaw presents (see Attachment 3) and further notes:
 - 1. Subcommittee last met on October 20th
 - 2. Thankful for the work of undersecretary Claire Coleman who will soon transition into Consumer Counsel role
 - iii. Lt. Governor notes that roundtables have been a good spotlight on incredible women leaders in the State and that we are also looking forward to an AAPI community roundtable next year
- e. Health & Safety
 - i. Lt. Governor acknowledges that Health & Safety is Tri-chaired by DCF Commissioner Dorantes; OEC Commissioner Bye; and Commissioner-Designate Juthani and introduces Commissioner Dorantes to report out
 - ii. Commissioner Dorantes presents (see Attachment 4) and notes that they also reviewed process for legislative proposals.
 - iii. Commissioner Dorantes asks if co-chairs have anything to add and Lt. Governor asks that Commissioner-Designate Juthani introduce herself
 - iv. Commissioner-Designate Juthani thanks Commissioner Dorantes and Lt. Governor Bysiewicz and notes that she is looking forward to tri-chairing the subcommittee
- f. Economic Opportunity & Workforce Equity (*cont'd*)
 - i. Lt. Governor acknowledges and introduces Deputy Commissioner Shante Hanks, who has joined the meeting
 - ii. Deputy Commissioner Hanks shares updates on HCDLI:
 - 1. Partnership with Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) who just presented at Connecticut Affordable Housing Conference to raise awareness about the program
 - 2. Partnership with Neighborworks America and modifications and improvements to the web-based curriculum
 - 3. Partnership with Solutions for Community on the internship and mentorship component of curriculum
 - 4. Program is currently working with new cohort and is growing with attendees, participants, partnerships (open to more) and staff:
 - a. Job posting for program assistant
 - b. LISC has an RFP for more presenters and instructors
 - iii. Deputy Commissioner notes how happy she is with the growth and success of the program and shares the following in chat function:
 - 1. HCDLI Program Assistant position listing:
<https://www.lisc.org/connecticut-statewide/who-we-are/careers/program-assistant/>
 - 2. Contact Info: Shante` Hanks DOH Deputy Commissioner
shante.hanks@ct.gov

3. Housing & Community Development Leadership Institute website:
<https://www.hcdli.org/>

IV. Announcements

- a. Lt. Governor shares the upcoming subcommittee meeting schedule:
- i. Economic Opportunity & Workforce Equity - December 9th at 3pm;
 - ii. Education & STEAM - December 8th at 1pm;
 - iii. Health & Safety - December 6th at 10am; and
 - iv. Leadership - December 15th at 3pm.
- b. Lt. Governor further notes that for 2022 there will be quarterly full council meetings starting in January and asks the subcommittee co-chairs to schedule meetings during the months in between: February; March; May; June; August; September; November; and December.
- c. Lt. Governor notes that there are no announcements in chat functions.

V. Lt. Governor adjourns at approximately 3:42pm

Attendance Report

Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz	Chair
OPM Sec. Melissa McCaw	Vice Chair
Commissioner Vannessa Dorantes	DCF
Executive Director Timothy Larson	OHE
Assistant Comptroller Tara Downes	Office of State Comptroller
Commissioner-Designate Manisha Juthani	DPH
Deputy Commissioner Shante Hanks	DOH
Commissioner Beth Bye	OEC
Deputy Commissioner Kim Martone	OHS
Jennifer Putetti	Office of State Treasurer
Commissioner Deidre Gifford	DSS
Commissioner Michelle Seagull	DCP
Commissioner Jorge Perez	DOB
Commissioner Angel Quiros	DOC
Interim Danté Bartolomeo	DOL
Shannon Wegele	Office of the Secretary of the State
Clare Kindall	Office of the Attorney General
Kimberly Karanda & Samia Hussein	DMHAS
Brian Foley	DESPP
Katherine Grady	DMV
Jane Siegel	DVA
Lindy Lee Gold	DECD
Senator Marilyn Moore	Senate Democrats
Senator Heather Somers	Senate Republicans