

Governor's Council on Women and Girls
Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity & Workforce Equity
March 15, 2022 @ 3pm
Virtual Meeting

Minutes

- I. Lt. Governor offers greetings and opening remarks, acknowledging Women's History Month, and specifically noting:
 - a. International Women's Day Paradigm for Parity® pledge announcement with new signatories: Trinity Health of New England; Hartford HealthCare; Yale New Haven Health System; The Jackson Laboratory; and Pfizer
 - b. Million Women Mentors Connecticut Chapter Stand Up for STEM Awards recognizing and elevating those who continue to mentor women and girls to pursue and persist in STEM careers
 - c. Women in leadership panel discussion entitled "Preserving Our History, Preparing for our Future: A Conversation featuring black women leaders in education," co-moderated with State Department of Education Commissioner Charlene Russell-Tucker and featuring panelists: UCONN School of Law Dean Eboni Nelson; Mitchell College President Tracy Espy; Norwalk Community College CEO Cheryl De Vanish; and Yale School of Medicine Associate Dean of Diversity and Inclusion and Associate Chief Diversity Officer Rochelle Smith
 - d. Lt. Governor reminds attendees to note announcements in the chat function
- II. Subcommittee Updates
 - a. Lt. Governor introduces Co-Chair, Assistant State Comptroller Tara Downes
 - b. T. Downes presents (*see Attachment 1*)
 - c. Lt. Governor introduces Co-Chair, Deputy Commissioner Shante Hanks from the Department of Housing.
 - d. Deputy Commissioner S. Hanks notes:
 - i. Third cohort for the HCDLI is training in CDBG
 - ii. The cohort is diverse in ethnicity and age and a majority are women
 - iii. DOH is hoping that this program will bring more women into the field; will follow up with more information about graduates and internships
 - e. Lt. Governor introduces Laura Baker from the Office of Workforce Strategy
 - f. L. Baker presents (*see Attachment 2*) also noting:
 - i. Targeted marginalized communities include women and women of color
 - ii. Grant application period just closed; they received over 50 applications totaling an upwards of \$250 million in requests
 - iii. They are hoping to retain some funding for a second round of applications in August and the Governor's proposed budget includes an additional \$15 million

- g. Lt. Governor adds that she understands from Congressman Himes' office that he was successful in securing \$1 million in federal funding for the Housatonic Community College manufacturing program.
 - h. Lt. Governor introduces Department of Consumer Protection's Catherine Blinder and the Department of Banking's Kathleen Titsworth for Financial Literacy update
 - i. C. Blinder & K. Titsworth present:
 - i. C. Blinder refers to S. Hanks' comment on internships and notes that DCP has a robust internship program and just hired its first intern from four years ago for a permanent position at the agency
 - ii. C. Blinder further notes that they now have over 50 resources that will be accessible on the financial literacy portal, to be organized by subject matter, and that they hope to have the website updated sometime in April for Financial Literacy month. She further notes that there are national conversations around changing the term Financial "Literacy" to "Well-Being," "Wellness," "Empowerment," or something else
 - iii. K. Titsworth shares [results](#) from survey sent to council members gathering information about existing state agency financial literacy efforts and notes that the following agencies responded to the survey: State Comptroller's Office, DCP, DOB, SDE, DESPP, DDS, Insurance Department, Veterans Affairs, DECD, DCF, OHS. She further notes that CHESLA also responded
 - iv. C. Blinder notes that they may try to encourage agencies to work together more, as a project moving forward
 - v. C. Blinder also notes that DCP produced [a guide for women interested in entering in the skilled trades](#) and that they are participating in, and making the guide available at, OHE's CareerConn program
- III. Steering Committee Member Presentation
- a. Lt. Governor introduces Kenyetta Banks and Louise Lisboa from [Women's Business Development Council](#)
 - b. K. Banks and L. Lisboa present (*see Attachment 3*)
 - c. Lt. Governor thanks WBDC and notes that if any other Steering Committee members want to present to let us know
- IV. Announcements
- a. Lt Governor acknowledges chat message from WBDC with their website and notation about Women Owned Business Day on April 21st
 - b. Lt. Governor acknowledges C. Blinder's chat note link to the Trades' Guide
 - c. Lt. Governor announces that this is her last meeting as Co-Chair of the Economic Opportunity and Workforce Equity Subcommittee and that she is transitioning to help co-chair the Leadership Subcommittee
 - d. Lt. Governor acknowledges the work of, and thanks, fellow co-chairs and support:

- i. Executive Director Vicki Veltri, Deputy Director Kim Martone, and Mayda Capozzi from the Office of Health Strategy.
 - ii. Commissioner Seila Mosquera-Bruno and Deputy Commissioner Shante Hanks from the Department of Housing.
 - iii. Assistant State Comptroller Tara Downes from the Comptroller’s Office.
 - e. Lt. Governor also thanks C. Blinder and K. Titsworth for leading financial literacy efforts
 - f. Lt. Governor notes that DECD will step back in as co-chair
 - g. Lt. Governor announces next month full council meeting on April 13th at 3pm, noting that meeting access information is available on the [Council on Women and Girls Website](#).
 - h. Lt. Governor notes that there are no other announcements in chat
- V. Lt. Governor adjourns at apx. 3:49pm

Council Member / Designee Attendance Report

Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz	Co-Chair
Assistant State Comptroller Tara Downes	Office of the State Comptroller, Co-Chair
Deputy Commissioner Shante Hanks	Department of Housing, Co-Chair
Deputy Commissioner Kim Martone	Office of Health Strategy, Co-Chair
Commissioner Michelle Seagull & Catherine Blinder	Department of Consumer Protection
Kathleen Titsworth	Department of Banking
Laura Baker	Office of Workforce Strategy
Commissioner Amy Porter	Department of Aging and Disability Services
Debra Goss	Department of Transportation
Solicitor General Clare Kindall	Office of the State Attorney General