

Morris County Advisory Committee on Women

March 15, 2018

Morris View Meeting Room

Present: Pam Bennett-Santoro, Joann Bjornson, Jennifer Carpinteri, Allison Delcalzo-Berens, Carole Harper, Virginia Lyttle, Gayle Pearson, Shelby Rhodes (by conference call)

Absent: Elaine Muller, Patti Page

The meeting was called to order at 6:17pm by Acting Chair Virginia Lyttle.

MEETING SUMMARY

January 19, 2018 Minutes	Pearson made a motion to adopt minutes. Motion was seconded by Bjornson. No changes were recommended and the committee adopted minutes without discussion at 6:18pm
Old Business	<p><u>Update about human trafficking coalition:</u> Lyttle reported that the NJ Human Trafficking Coalition held an honor session to recognize individuals who have been active in the cause. Bill HR1865 is going through the Senate currently to provide victims the right to sue Backpage. NJ Senators are supporting the bill. Lyttle recommended members to call to thank them. Lyttle also passed out a list of current legislative priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Posting a single hotline number widely throughout the state to improve victim referrals and data collection- Improving first responder training- Ensuring children and those who work with children are educated about the risks posed by traffickers- Implementing a prostitution users program to reduce demand- Helping victims to become survivors through better court processes and clean slate laws <p>Carpinteri will incorporate this list into her report to the Freeholders at the next meeting.</p> <p><u>Committee membership:</u> Bjornson reported that she followed up with Carpinteri on some of the questions about recruiting new members. First, the process is that committee members may recruit or solicit new members based on its own criteria. Those nominations would come to the committee first for review. Then the candidate would complete a biographical form which would be presented with a memo to the Freeholders by Carpinteri. The Freeholders would then make the choice to appoint that candidate. Carpinteri will obtain a schedule to solicit new members from Larry Ragonese and the committee will review nominations in September.</p> <p>Other updates on committee membership and freeholder meetings were also made by Bjornson and Carpinteri. Carpinteri stated that members can have name badges to use during Freeholder meetings, however, whatever is done for one committee, must be done for all. Additionally, members cannot have access to business cards with any County affiliation, but they can have nondescript business cards with basic contact information. Bjornson volunteered to print a small number of cards for each member. Carpinteri reported that the April and May Freeholder meeting agendas are already full and that the committee should be able to present its annual report in September. The Women’s Committee will not be able to present to the Freeholders on a quarterly basis, but can present one to two times per year. Larry Ragonese is attempting to align the Freeholder agendas with specific services. For example, Women’s History Month is in March so the Women’s Committee would appear on the agenda in March.</p> <p>Rhodes asked if the Women’s Committee has the ability to make information public. Carpinteri responded that it can and can utilize Larry Ragonese’s contacts to do so. Rhodes stated that it would be positive to leverage the power of the internet to highlight issues that are in need of</p>

	<p>public support. Carpinteri recommended creating a link from the County homepage to a special Women’s Committee webpage. The committee will consider this at a future meeting.</p> <p><u>Memorial Tree Dedication:</u> Bennett-Santoro and Lyttle volunteered to schedule a meeting with Larry Ragonese for next Monday or Tuesday to finalize details such as date, agenda, dedication, cost, responsible payer, proclamation for the Seeds of Change Award recipient, etc. They will email the committee after their meeting to provide an update. (Tentative date is April 27th, Arbor Day.)</p> <p><u>Meeting with the Freeholders:</u> It was determined that the agenda for meetings will be sent out to all members so they can decide if they will attend a meeting to represent the committee. It was not determined who will be responsible for sending out the agendas ahead of time.</p> <p><u>List of follow up items for Sheriff about the jail:</u> The committee reviewed questions gathered at the January meeting for the Sheriff. Questions have been approved and will be sent to Carpinteri to connect with the Sheriff.</p> <p><u>Work Plan:</u> It was again suggested that the committee create a work plan or calendar to guide its work each year.</p> <p><u>Committee Officers:</u> Pearson volunteered to be the Chair and Lyttle volunteered to be Co-Chair. Delcalzo-Berens made a motion to vote these individuals into these respective offices. Bjornson seconded. The motion passed at 8:09pm.</p>
<p>New Business</p>	<p><u>Annual Report:</u> Bennett-Santoro distributed a draft of the annual report for review. Delcalzo-Berens will send it to all members via email. Members should come prepared to make edits at the May meeting for final adoption and presentation at the September Freeholder meeting.</p> <p><u>Bylaws Review:</u> Committee reviewed and made edits to the Bylaws. Delcalzo-Berens will type changes and circulate to the committee for feedback.</p> <p><u>Seeds of Change Award:</u> The committee reviewed three nominations for the award and voted on a winner. Delcalzo-Berens will work with Kisatsky on a rejection letter and to notify the winner. Bjornson recommended changes to the nomination form and criteria. She will prepare a list of recommendations for review at the May meeting.</p> <p><u>Letters to Governor and Kean:</u> Pearson distributed a draft letter which was reviewed and edited by the committee. The letter thanks them for their support in women’s equal pay and equal access to healthcare and encourages further support of future legislation that expands on these rights. She will make changes and mail to Governor Phil Murphy and Representative Tom Kean.</p> <p><u>Barclays:</u> Bennett-Santoro has spoken with a representative for Barclays who is in charge of gender neutrality. She has reached out to the committee to try to engage women in the county. Bennett-Santoro will invite her to the next meeting.</p> <p><u>Human Services Report:</u> Delcalzo-Berens will make this a standing agenda item for future agendas.</p> <p>Carpinteri reported that the transition of Morris View to private ownership had a difficult beginning with staff turnover and a challenging transitional period. However, she stated the state of the facility is recovering and moving forward. Carpinteri also reported that Human Services is opening an out-station in the jail to do coordinated reentry and prevention services. Human Services will also be outfitting a van to work in tandem with the Hope One van in providing ancillary and case management services.</p>

	<p>Bjornson reported that there will be a celebration honoring the first anniversary of the Hope One van on April 3 at 11:30am on the Morristown Green.</p> <p>Bennett-Santoro asked what other women’s committees throughout the state are working on. Carpinteri will gather a list of what counties have women’s committees for the members to outreach.</p>
Women and Housing Discussion	<p>The committee reviewed the stakeholder’s meeting minutes and determined next steps. Delcalzo-Berens will prepare a draft letter to the group with a note of thanks, a list of attendees and the next steps with updates on committee follow up. The letter will announce that a debriefing meeting will be held in the fall of 2018, invitation to follow.</p> <p>Bjornson reported that the Continuum of Care is not yet ready to move forward on the Homeless Trust Fund advocacy with the Freeholders. This topic will be placed on the May agenda for follow up.</p>
Announcements	<p>Bennett-Santoro distributed a flyer about a #Metoo panel event taking place next week. Delcalzo-Berens will send it out with the minutes. The event is being sponsored by the League of Women Voters. Pearson suggested the Women’s Committee advocate voter registration. She will reach out to the organization to learn how we can support its efforts.</p>
Meeting End	<p>Meeting was adjourned at 8:17pm</p> <p>The next meeting will be May 17, 2018 at 6:00pm.</p>

ACTION ITEMS

Who	What
Pam and Ginny	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet with Larry Ragonese to confirm final details regarding the Memorial Tree Dedication and provide update to committee.
Pam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invite Barclays representative to May meeting
Carole	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare remarks about Leanna Brown’s commitment to the advancement of women
Allison	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add “webpage discussion” “work plan” and “voter registration” to future meeting agendas Add “Human Services Update” as a standing agenda item Send list of questions for Sheriff to Carpinteri for follow up Email #metoo panel event flyer Email 2017 Annual Report to members for review Email revisions to Bylaws to members for review Prepare draft letter to stakeholders Work with Kisatsky on rejection letter and to outreach the winner of the Seeds of Change Award Determine who will be responsible for sending out freeholder agendas to members
Joann	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Print a small number of business cards for each member Prepare a list of recommendations for Seeds of Change Nomination Form
Gayle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reach out to Booker’s office regarding data on women in the military Edit and send letters to Phil Murphy and Tom Kean regarding support for equal pay Reach out to League of Women Voters to ask how we can support its mission
Jen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate list of NJ Coalition for Human Trafficking legislative priorities into her report to the Freeholders at the next meeting. Obtain a schedule to solicit new members from Larry Ragonese Gather a list of what counties have women’s committees