

**CALVERT COUNTY**  
*Maryland*  
**Commission for Women**

**MINUTES**

**Calvert County Commission for Women Monthly Meeting**  
**February 17, 2022**  
**Via ZOOM, 7:00 pm**

The meeting called to order at 7:03 pm by Chair, Joan Winship.

Members Present (via Zoom): Joan Winship, Ariane Odom, Anna Grabowska, Margaret Dunkle, Brenda Street, Kathryn Marsh, Sierra Mitchell , Denyonne Corley, Lisa Stallings, Carol Harvat  
Associates Present: Diane Bell  
Associates Absent: Nadine Hunt, Suzanne Haynes

Approval of Agenda by consensus.

**Discussion of Title IX with Invited Guest:** Chair Winship introduced James Kurtz, Director of Student Services for Calvert County Public Schools, Mr. Kurtz has spent 16 years as a CCPS administrator and is currently responsible for Title IX for students, parents and community. Mr. Zachary Seawell, Director of Human Resources, is responsible for Title IX for employees. Chair Winship explained the CCCW mission and why Title IX as an obvious area of interest. Mr. Kurtz explained how the schools hold assemblies and training to discuss appropriate behavior at all levels, and how to report issues to counselors, administrators, or teachers. He indicated that employees are trained every year in policies and procedures specifically under Title IX. If a formal complaint is filed affecting students under Title IX, including sexual misconduct and harassment, there are detailed procedures for review and implementation, including the available online Calvert County School Form. Current key issues concern the fact that young people often do not make wise choices; the appropriate adult tries to respond promptly to teachable moments from inappropriate comments to actual harassment and contact. He mentioned that sports and programing concerns are brought to his attention. Mr. Kurtz primarily focused on sexual harassment, which falls under Title IX.

M. Dunkle advised that the overarching CCPS policy of harassment addresses a variety of issues including sexual harassment, race and bullying. But not all Title IX issues fall under 'harassment'. Members of the CCCW want to make sure that other Title IX concerns are addressed if necessary, It was noted that the Commission is always interested to collaborate with the schools, to educate others about Title IX as well as the various programs of the Commission. K. Marsh discussed the Commission's career 'I Can' program designed to encourage girls to consider careers traditionally dominated by men. It was agreed that the CCCW and the CCPS could explore more ways that the CCCW could support programs and areas of mutual concern.

**Approval of January meeting Minutes** –M.Dunkle moved to approve and A. Grabowska seconded. All accepted, none opposed.

**Treasurer's reports** – There are several expenses not reflected in the current financials. These will be followed up and resubmitted if necessary.

**Membership:** A. Odom reported that the Membership Contact List should be complete and correct,

**Chair's Report:** Chair Winship shared some personal information news with members. She also reported that the Calvert Library was seeking partnership with the CCCW to support the showing of the documentary film, "The Six Triple Eight" about more than 800 African American Women sent to Europe in 1945 to support the war effort there and clear the backlog of mail for service personnel. This would be a program for Women's History month as well as Black History month from February. The producer will participate in a zoom discussion afterwards. M. Dunkle moved to sponsor the program with a contribution of \$50; S. Mitchell seconded this. Unanimously approved.

**Legislative Action** – K.Marsh reported on legislation during the Maryland General Assembly. House passed repeal of spousal defense to rape. Voted on by judiciary proceedings committee. Stalking definitions passed the House. K. Marsh testified real stalking seeking enhancements of convicted stalkers. Doesn't look like there will be a repeal of child marriage. J. Winship testified on the Commission support for the Harriet Elizabeth Brown resolution submitted by Delegate Mark Fisher.

**Clothes Closet** – VP Odom reported on the First Friday 4-6 pm. Four bags were donated to St. Paul's Church. Odom reported that two shoppers were scheduled and two shoppers had already come this week.

**Financial Literacy** –will be a two-part program- February 26<sup>th</sup> Zoom 1-3p. S. Mitchell presenting on estate planning (Wills, Power of Attorney, Advanced Directives). Nate Novotney from Edward Jones will speak on 3 things to prepare for retirement. Discussion of future topics for a fall financial literacy program was discussed. S.Mitchell and B. Streat, co-leads, are working on a flyer and getting information out to the public.

**Women of the World (WOW)** – Chair Winship indicated that everything is in place and registration for the event on March 12<sup>th</sup> is open. She discussed the overall program, including CCCW awardees, the theme celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Title IX, with M. Dunkle a keynote speaker to provide the historical context and Emily Martin, Emily Martin, Vice President for Education and Social Justice at the National Women's Law Center providing some of the current issues

**Human Trafficking** – K.Marsh reported that the ZOOM program was held on January 31<sup>st</sup> coordinated with Calvert Library. Two Maryland experts spoke on human trafficking. The numbers of participants were 15-20, the program highlighted Human Trafficking Awareness Month and can be found on the Library You Tube files.

**Sexual Assault Awareness Month** – A book discussion with Calvert Library 'Know My Name' by Chanel Miller, will be held on April 7<sup>th</sup>, 6-7 pm. J. Winship and K. Marsh coordinating.

There will also be a ‘Take Back the Night’ event on April 23<sup>rd</sup> from 12-2pm at King Park in Prince Frederick. The Center for Change and the Calvert County Family Network are partners. Help will be needed so contact A. Odom or K.Marsh, co-leads.

**Health Expo** – Susan Haynes, Diane Bell and Joan Winship are coordinating event with Calvert Health and the CC Health department. The event will be held at Calvert Hospital on May 10<sup>th</sup> outside from 2:30-6:30pm. This is the same time as the Farmer’s Market. Certain screenings may not be available due to COVID. Rain Date is May 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Harriet Elizabeth Brown Center:** N/A

**Social Media** – K. Marsh and N.Hunt have been posting information on Facebook.. We are no longer able to anything on the County website; all information must be submitted to the County.

**Ongoing Recognition of the contributions and achievements of girls and women-** M.Dunkle and L. Stalling still coordinating.

**Potential CCCW Brochure:** Still in process.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm

Minutes submitted by D. Corley Acting Secretary