



Governor Kim Reynolds  
Lt. Governor Adam Gregg  
San Wong, Director

## MINUTES

Iowa Commission on the Status of Women  
March 7, 2018, 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Room 208, Lucas State Office Building  
321 E. 12<sup>th</sup> St., Des Moines, Iowa

### Commissioners present (in person or by phone)

Phyllis Peters, chair  
Tom Carnahan  
David Gudenkauf  
Rachelle Hunt Russian  
Sherill Whisenand  
Beth Coonan  
Sean Bagniewski

### Commissioners absent

None

### DHR/ICSW staff

Kristen Corey, Program Planner, Office on the Status of Women  
Monica Stone, Deputy Director, Department of Human Rights  
San Wong, Director, Department of Human Rights

### Members of the public - present for all or part of the meeting

Carla Tillman, Program Analyst, Women's Bureau, Region 7

### Call to order

Called to order by Chair Phyllis Peters at 4:32 p.m.

### Approval of agenda

Motion to approve March 7<sup>th</sup> agenda made by Gudenkauf; seconded by Coonan.

Vote:

Aye: all

No: 0

Motion carried.

### Approval of previous minutes

Iowa Commission on the Status of Women

## **Minutes from January 11<sup>th</sup> and February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Motion to approve minutes from both January 11<sup>th</sup> and February 7<sup>th</sup> made by Carnahan; seconded by Hunt Russian.

Vote:

Aye: all

No: 0

Motion carried.

### **Public Comment**

Carla Tillman from the Women's Bureau introduced herself. She mentioned the Women's Bureau is interested in a potential partnership in the future, possibly related to the Iowa Women at Work project or in helping with some child care forums.

Corey offered to send Carla Tillman an e-mail after the meeting to follow up with the Women's Bureau.

### **DHR Board Report**

Coonan gave an update on the March 7<sup>th</sup> DHR board meeting. Coonan added that the majority of the meeting discussion was spent discussing different initiatives happening in each Division. She added that she talked about the four different initiatives the ICSW is focusing on: 1) talent bank, 2) Iowa Women at Work project, 3) Iowa Women's Hall of Fame, and 4) legislative planning committee. She mentioned that during the DHR board meetings, she listens to see if there are issues that come up where commissions are duplicating efforts, so that the ICSW is not doing something that another commission is already doing.

Gudenkauf also attended the DHR board meeting and added that there were a lot of legislative issues that were discussed that impact all of the populations DHR serves.

### **Iowa Department of Human Rights Update**

Stone gave an update from the Iowa Department of Human Rights. She let the Commission know that DHR received final confirmation that DHR received the grant from the Iowa Access board to cover the initial costs of the Iowa Talent Bank database. Corey and Stone drafted the RFP for the project and it is now with the Iowa Department of Administrative Services (DAS). She added that the next steps of the project will be more technical in orientation than marketing as we move forward.

She mentioned that another thing she wanted to discuss is how the Department and Commission talks about its work. She mentioned that DHR has a monthly blog and invited commissioners to write a guest submission for monthly the blog.

### **Office on the Status of Women Report**

Corey gave a report for the Office on the Status of Women. She went over several of the projects she has been working on, such as the Iowa Women at Work project, updating the Sexism in Education publication with the Iowa Department of Education, the Iowa Talent Bank project, and updating the Women in Iowa (2018) report. She also spoke about several of the committees she serves on, such as the Early Childhood Workforce Advisory Committee.

Corey also outlined a social media campaign the Office on the Status of Women started for the month of March (Women's History Month): #UnsungIowaShero. She added that she has received a good response to this campaign as a way to highlight great things that women are doing across Iowa.

### **Committee Reports**

#### *Iowa Women at Work Committee*

Coonan gave a report for the Iowa Women at Work committee. She mentioned that the committee met before the Commission meeting and the bulk of the conversation centered on how can the Commission can push out information throughout the state about the project. Coonan added that at the next committee meeting, the committee would plan out how to do a media blitz.

Coonan mentioned that the Commission is looking to collect positive stories, but the Commission will also get some negative stories. The goal of the project is to highlight women's stories and give them a voice so that others who are similarly situated can build on their success.

Peters added an idea for a future focus in May for Mother's Day – collecting stories and highlighting how things are different now than they were when our mothers were growing up.

#### *Talent Bank Steering Committee*

Stone discussed the RFP process and let commissioners know a tentative timeline for the RFP.

#### *Legislative Planning Committee*

Corey handed out a document detailing the legislation that Office on the Status of Women intern Brett Norris has been tracking throughout the session.

Peters asked if commissioners would be interested in sending the Women in Iowa: 2018 data report to legislators.

Corey offered to split up the list of state legislators and get a list to commissioners along with a draft e-mail commissioners could use to send them the report.

By consensus, commissioners agreed that the Office on the Status of Women staff will give commissioners talking points and split up legislators for commissioners.

Peters also added that this would be a great report to send to campuses throughout Iowa, including various Women's Studies departments, universities, community colleges and other partners. Whisenand offered to send it to all of the Iowa campus deans.

### **Planning for the 2018 Iowa Women's Hall of Fame**

Corey let commissioners know that because of budget constraints, the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame would be moving back to the State Historical Building of Iowa. Corey added that she will be working with the Friends of the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women to schedule the reception after the ceremony.

She asked that commissioners help advertise the 2018 nominations for both the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame and Cristine Wilson Medal for Equality and Justice. Nominations are due April 1, 2018, but since April 1st is a Sunday, the Office on the Status of Women will take those nominations until the end of the day on Monday, April 2nd.

### **Commission appointments for 2018 and leadership of commission**

Corey mentioned that the Commission would have a new commissioner beginning in May 2018, Wendy Musgrave from Johnston, Iowa. Peters added that at the next meeting, the Commission could discuss a way for each commissioner to have a role to play somewhere.

Corey added that she and Vice-Chair Coonan would talk through setting an agenda for the May meeting and having an election for Commission leadership. Corey advised that commissioners think through personal schedules and whether they would like to serve as chair, vice-chair, or serve on the legislative committee.

Peters added that the Friends of the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women need the engagement of one or two commissioners and to think about who else would want to do that. She suggested commissioners come with ideas on who would like to be on the Friends board at the next meeting. Whisenand added that she may have people interested in being on the Friends board.

Corey agreed to send out a Doodle Poll to schedule the next meeting in May, which will be to vote on the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame committee's selections for 2018 and also to host elections.

### **Adjournment**

Whisenand made the motion to adjourn. Gudenkauf seconded motion.

Vote:

Aye: all

No: 0

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Kristen Corey, staff.