



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

## **MINUTES**

**Iowa Commission on the Status of Women  
October 24, 2019, 12 p.m. to 2 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)**

Beth Coonan (Chair)  
Rachelle Hunt Russian (Vice-Chair)  
Sherill Whisenand  
Sean Bagniewski  
Wendy Musgrave  
David Gudenkauf  
Tom Carnahan

### **Commissioners absent**

None

### **DHR/ICSW staff**

Kristen Corey, Program Planner, Office on the Status of Women

### **Member of the public (present for all or part of meeting)**

None.

### **Call to order**

Called to order by Chair Beth Coonan at 12:01 p.m.

### **Approval of agenda**

Motion to approve October 24<sup>th</sup> agenda made by Gudenkauf; seconded by Musgrave.

Vote:

Aye: all

No: 0

Motion carried.

### **Approval of previous minutes**

### **Minutes from August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

Motion to approve minutes from August 24<sup>th</sup> (as presented) made by Whisenand; seconded by Musgrave.

Vote:

Aye: all

No: 0

Motion Carried.

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

Corey gave an update for the Iowa Department of Human Rights and gave a brief update on the Iowa Talent Bank, presented the Iowa Department of Human Rights annual report and the October Office on the Status of Women written report.

Commissioner Gudenkauf asked if we have received commissioner input on the Iowa Talent Bank. Corey answered that DHR has received input from several of the CAS commissioners, as well as staff for the Iowa Developmental Disability Council.

### **Constitutional amendment for gender neutral language and 2019-2020 policy agenda**

Coonan, Corey and Hunt Russian met with Fultz McHenry, Friends of ICSW president several weeks ago to discuss planning.

Coonan mentioned that she met with the Governor's office several weeks ago discuss a proposed constitutional amendment for gender neutral language.

#### *Policy recommendations:*

Coonan mentioned that Corey sent out a proposed 2020 policy recommendations document to the commission and asked if the commission should carry over the same recommendations from the last year.

Commissioners discussed and agreed that the recommendations from last year should be carried over to 2020.

Carnahan mentioned that he has been working on a project against human trafficking with the Network Against Human Trafficking. He will keep the rest of the commission informed as to the status of the work.

### **Motion to adopt the 2019 Policy Recommendations as the commission's 2020 Policy Recommendations, as set forth during the commission meeting.**

Motion made by Whisenand; seconded by Hunt Russian.

Vote:

Aye: all

No: 0

Motion carried.

Coonan asked if any commissioners would be interested in the legislative strategy around the Constitutional amendment and asked commissioners to contact her if interested.

### **Massachusetts Gender Balance legislation**

Corey and Coonan talked about some of the gender balance legislation that the state of Massachusetts is trying to pass.

Coonan asked if the commission should draft a letter in support of the legislation in a way that provides the Massachusetts women's commission with the reason why gender balance is critical. She added that it should go beyond what Iowa did, but also add why it is important.

Hunt Russian added that we should consider adding the Carrie Chapman Catt Center data on gender balance as attachments.

**Hunt Russian moved that the ICSW provides a support letter for the Massachusetts legislation S. 1878 and H. 2711 with the suggested edits by the ICSW and also provides the 2018 data from the Catt Center.**

Motion made by Hunt Russian; seconded by Whisenand.

Vote:

Aye: all

No: 0

Motion carried.

Plan: moving forward, the office will clean up the letter and append the reports from the Catt Center and get those to the Massachusetts commission. Corey and Coonan will clean up the letter and circulate to the commission.

### **Old/New Business**

Corey and Coonan met with Dawn Oliver Wiand last week. The Iowa Women's Foundation (IWF) is meeting with others throughout the state to build grassroots support. The group talked about possibilities to work together in the future.

Hunt Russian talked about the work that IWF has been doing throughout the state and the listening sessions that have taken place.

Corey added that the next in-person commission meeting will be Thursday, Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> on the DHR Day on the Hill.

Hunt Russian asked if the commission should we put the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame on the radar to get the public interested. Coonan added that the commission could push out on social media after the New Year.

Hunt Russian asked if commissioners were interested in participating on the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame committee/chair, to let Beth Coonan know.

### **Adjournment**

Whisenand made the motion to adjourn. Hunt Russian seconded motion.

Vote:

Aye: all

No: 0

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 1:19 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Kristen Corey, staff.