



Governor Terry E. Branstad
Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds
San Wong, Director

MINUTES
Iowa Commission on the Status of Women
August 22, 2015
Renaissance Des Moines Savery Hotel, Room 210
401 Locust St, Des Moines, IA

Commissioners present

Phyllis Peters, chair
Sherill Whisenand
Tom Carnahan
Rachelle Hunt Russian

Commissioners absent

Elizabeth Coonan
David Gudenkauf
Aaron Sewell

DHR/ICSW staff

Kristen Corey, Program Planner, Office on the Status of Women
Brayton Deprey, Intern, Office on the Status of Women
Monica Stone, Deputy Director, Iowa Department of Human Rights (DHR)

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

None

Call to order

Called to order by chair, Phyllis Peters at 2:21 p.m.

Motion to approve August 22, 2015 agenda:

Carnahan made motion; Hunt Russian seconded.

Aye: all

Nay: none

Motion carried.

Motion to approve minutes from May 13, 2015:

Whisenand made motion; Carnahan seconded.

Aye: all

Nay: none

Motion carried.

Motion to approve minutes from June 4, 2015:

Whisenand made motion; Hunt Russian seconded.

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Aye: all
Nay: none
Motion carried.

Motion to approve minutes from June 5, 2015:

Whisenand made motion; Carnahan seconded.

Aye: all
Nay: none
Motion carried.

Motion to approve minutes from June 17, 2015:

Whisenand made motion; Hunt Russian seconded.

Aye: all
Nay: none
Motion carried.

Motion to approve minutes from July 29, 2015:

Whisenand made motion; Hunt Russian seconded.

Aye: all
Nay: none
Motion carried.

Public Comment

None.

Iowa Department of Human Rights update

Deputy Director Monica Stone gave the Iowa Department of Human Rights update in Director San Wong's absence. Stone let commissioners know that the Division of Community Advocacy & Services (CAS) – the division housing the Office on the Status of Women - will be going through a strategic planning meeting on September 10th, 2015. Stone added that CAS will be looking at the common issues that all offices within CAS share. At the end of strategic planning, the office and CAS will have goals and areas of focus and the Department will be asking commissioners for input and engagement in the plan. Stone added that the Department wants commissioners' feedback on the strategic plan and the process. The goal is to have strategic planning done for the CAS division by early October 2015.

Stone added that the DHR board will review the DHR budget at the next DHR board meeting in mid-September. Stone stated that DHR will be providing all commissioners with information about our budget requests.

Office on the Status of Women update

Corey stated the majority of work she has done since May has been focused on changes to the website and on planning the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame. Corey added that this would be Brayton Deprey's last week as an intern in the office. She will seek another intern in the Fall and Spring semesters after we know the outcome of the CAS

strategic plan and the areas of focus in the coming years. Corey also briefly touched on some projects that are in the works for the office, such as an event that she is co-coordinating with the AAUW – Grand View chapter and the possibility of hosting a speaker from the Department of Labor’s Women’s Bureau in the Spring.

2015 Iowa Women’s Hall of Fame Induction ceremony debrief

Commissioners discussed date possibilities for the 2016 Iowa Women’s Hall of Fame ceremony. Commissioners and staff settled on Saturday, August 20th for the 2016 ceremony.

Commissioners also discussed other venue possibilities for both the ceremony and the luncheon. Some other possibilities discussed were:

- Setting up chairs in the atrium of the State Historical Building and broadcasting the speeches into the atrium during the ceremony.
- Holding the Iowa Women’s Hall of Fame ceremony in the House Chambers at the Iowa State Capitol building.

Feedback given to the office and the commission for next year:

- Peters stated that the office only needs to print name tags for the current year’s inductees and the Iowa Women’s Hall of Fame members and Cristine Wilson medal recipients. More blank name tags are needed at the event.
- Peters suggested that future Iowa Women’s Hall of Fame selection committees should not feel that there have to be four Iowa Women’s Hall of Fame members and a Cristine Wilson medal award given every year.
- Peters asked if the commission could do a better job of outreach outside of the Des Moines area and added that it’s never too early to start advertising for 2016.
- Hunt Russian suggested moving the nomination deadline to mid-March in future years to give the commission and office more time to plan.

Cristine Wilson award discussion

Hunt Russian suggested that Cristine Wilson’s bio should be considered and used to develop some criteria for the award. Carnahan added that because only women are inducted into the Iowa Women’s Hall of Fame, the Cristine Wilson award has been used to also honor men who have pushed for women’s issues and equality. Peters added that the award has a justice and equality focus.

Peters added that the commission has not had a process where anyone from the outside submits names and suggested that the commission could ask Iowa Women’s Hall of Fame members and past Cristine Wilson medal recipients to participate in the process and to suggest possible award recipients. Commissioners Hunt Russian and Carnahan agreed.

Peters asked Corey and commissioner Whisenand to work together to develop some parameters around the Cristine Wilson award for future selection committees. Corey and Whisenand agreed to work on parameters for this award.

Schedule of 2015-2016 commission meetings

Carnahan mentioned that he will talk to DHR board legislative representatives Rep. Phyllis Thede and Senator Rita Hart to see if they can come to a future commission meeting to talk to the commission about the legislative process and how best to get involved.

Commissioners scheduled upcoming commission meetings for:

- Tuesday, October 6th at 9:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, January 26th at 9:30 a.m.
- Third meeting: commission decided to schedule this meeting at a later date (April/May) depending on the legislative session

Recap of July 29, 2015 strategic planning session

Corey gave a brief synopsis of the strategic planning session the commission held on July 29th for the commissioners who were not present.

Discussion of 2015-2018 draft strategic plan and plan for moving forward

Commissioners discussed the draft 2015-2018 ICSW strategic plan. Whisenand asked if Corey could fill in some suggested due dates for each action. Peters suggested we should take the motto out of the strategic plan.

Corey added that she will send out a meeting summary and the draft strategic plan with some suggested timelines filled in in early September. Corey will add a deadline for commissioners to get comments back to her for late September, before the next commission meeting on Tuesday, October 6th.

Adjournment

Whisenand made a motion to adjourn. Carnahan seconded the motion.

Ayes: all

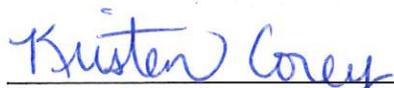
Nay: none

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:


Phyllis Peters, Chair


Kristen Corey, Program Planner