



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

MINUTES
Iowa Commission on the Status of Women
June 17, 2015, Phone Conference

Commissioners present for some or all of the meeting

Rachelle Hunt Russian, Chair, 2015 Iowa Women's Hall of Fame Selection Committee
Phyllis Peters, Chair, Iowa Commission on the Status of Women
Sherill Whisenand
David Gudenkauf
Beth Coonan
Aaron Sewell

Commissioner Absent

Tom Carnahan

DHR/ICSW staff

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

Call to order

Chair Peters called the meeting to order at 12:31 pm explained for the purpose for the conference call and turned the meeting over to the Chair of the Hall of Fame selection committee Rachelle Hunt Russian.

Gudenkauf made the move to approve agenda. The motion was seconded by commissioner Hunt Russian.

Aye: 6

No: 0

Motion carried.

Public comment

None.

Report from the 2015 Iowa Women's Hall of Fame committee regarding the selected 2015 Cristine Wilson Medal recipient

Commissioner Hunt Russian gave a brief a background of the nomination/selection process. She confirmed that all commissioners had received a short written summary of the Cristine Wilson Medal for Equality and Justice and also read the biography for the proposed Cristine Wilson honoree selected by the 2015 Iowa Women's Hall of Fame committee. Hunt Russian asked if commissioners had any questions.

Hunt Russian stated that the selection committee's initial recommendation for the Wilson Medal recognition did not garner approval by the Commission. The follow-up option given to the selection committee were to do nothing, to submit a new name or to submit a name from a previously-compiled list of potential awardees the office has maintained and updated with each annual awards cycle. Hunt Russian shared with the committee that there were several years in the past when no Cristine Wilson medal recipient was awarded. She added that one of the public members of the committee did not want to let this year pass without awarding a medal and that the other public member provided information on two of the people included on the ad hoc list. She added that the person the committee selected when they re-considered the 2015 Cristine Wilson award was a person from the previously compiled, ad hoc list.

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Discussion and vote on the selected 2015 Cristine Wilson Medal recipient

Peters stated that names on the list of potential Wilson awardees was compiled by prior HOF selection committees and had not been evaluated against a list of set criteria. She added that commission may want to develop more structure or tangible evaluation criteria. Commissioners Coonan and Hunt Russian agreed.

Gudenkauf added that he thinks the list should be updated with the person's current contributions and there is currently no way to know how old the contributions are that are on the running list. Corey added that she can add that information from this point forward.

HOF Selection Committee's recommendation: The person selected by the Hall of Fame Selection committee to be recognized with the 2015 CW award is Adrien Katherine Wing, J.D.

Hunt Russian, as chair of the HOF selection committee, asked for a vote on the committee's recommendation for a 2015 Christine Wilson medal recipient. Commissioner Coonon seconded her motion.

Commissioners expressed reluctance to proceed without more specific award guidelines, and proceeded to a vote.

Aye: 0

No: 5 (Coonan, Gudenkauf, Hunt Russian, Sewell, Whisenand)

Abstain: 1 (Peters)

Motion failed.

Peters asked if there was any other action the commission wished to take regarding the 2015 Iowa Women's Hall of Fame committee work.

After receiving no response, she added that the commission would not be advancing a name for a 2015 Cristine Wilson award recipient.

Peters asked Corey to consider finding information, resources or experts to guide a process of developing criteria or guidelines for the Cristine Wilson medal award and asked that commissioners send their ideas to Corey. Peters added that there will be an agenda item at our August Iowa Women's Hall of Fame meeting to discuss the Cristine Wilson award.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Hunt Russian. Motion seconded by Gudenkauf.

Aye: 6

No: 0

Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:


Phyllis Peters, Chair


Kristen Corey, Program Planner