

MINUTES

MORRIS COUNTY WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

June 20, 2013

Board Room, Morris View Healthcare Center

540 West Hanover Ave., Morris Township

Called to order 6:05 PM by chairperson Michelle Roers

Members Present-Michelle Roers, Pam Bennett-Santoro, Sibi Saenz-Williams, Edith Frank, Virginia Lyttle, Elaine Muller, Carole Harper

Absent- Tina Lzu Jen, Patricia O'Dowd Donohue

Guests- Frank Pinto

Compliance with the Open Public Meetings Law

Co-Chairperson Michelle Roers announced that in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided and filed with the public.

Approval of Minutes

On motion of member Sibi Saenz-Williams, seconded by member Elaine Muller, the committee approved, with corrections, the minutes of May 16, 2013.

Agenda-

1. Call to order
 2. Update freeholder conversation
 3. Update data discussion
 4. Vacancies
 5. New business
 6. Announcements
2. Sexual Assault Awareness- Elaine appreciated the support of Freeholder Lyons, who is willing to help our committee in any way we need.

3.Data Discussion- What else do we want to do with this information?

Sibi presented the data that she has been collected from the committee so far and our conversation began.

A recommendation to read the June 19, 2013 Star Ledger newspaper article "Changing Face of NJ" for data.

-What does local government need to know- some suggestions were to do a statement paper/position paper/press release

- It needs to be accurate, with reliable sources, in order for us to have credibility- Michelle, and Elaine M.

- Edith Frank reminded us that a lot of information is not reported by gender. We should advocate the collection of data by gender, so we can better understand specific issues as they relate to women.

- Ginny Lyttle said that in reading the US Census reports, Morris County grew to 8.8 million residents but the report showed a proportion of change, but not by gender. It was problematic/

-Frank Pinto recommended we reach out to two folks. Christine Marion-973-829-8120, who does the statistics for Morris County. She might be helpful with data. Ginny would follow-up with this. Pam asked to come along to this meeting. Also Frank suggested talking to Sara Weissman @ the Morris County Library research might be helpful.

Michelle Roers- is having her intern tabulate the # of women on town councils and freeholder boards in Morris County.

Sibi says that we need to be more specific, Frank suggests we look at the State of the County Report to see how they collect data. Sibi and Michelle will discuss this.

Ginny spoke about the issue of collecting information on the women in the military and assaults in Morris County

NEXT STEPS for data collection

To find missing 2010 data would be good. Available from the Alice report?

Edith will check with the Chamber of Commerce and the Dept. of Labor, County Clerk.

Michelle will f/u with politics and women in Morris County, Pam asked if she could include number of women on Boards of Education in Morris County. Michelle will also find out about numbers of women in the military in Morris County.

Carole will check about Teen Mothers at the Dept. of Health, possibly find out about grandmothers who are caring for their grandchildren.

Sibi asked about undocumented children living with their families here.

As we collect data, we could send it to Sibi, who will send it to Frank who offered his help.

Also questioned if we could find out specifics of human trafficking/slavery in Morris County. Ginny told us about the governor signing a partial program to help cut down on human trafficking during the upcoming Super Bowl event.

4.Vacancies- We had three women interested in 2 of the current openings on our committee. Sibi and Michelle had met with all 3 women and found them very well qualified. Discussion was that all 3 brought a new perspective to our committee, so we needed to amend our bylaws to include two alternates for our committee.

Michelle proposed the amendment to our by-laws, to include a 1st and 2nd alternate committee position. Ginny moved to accept the motion, Sibi seconded. Roll call vote taken- all in favor, passed the amendment.

Elaine moved that Connie and Deirdre be our new members, and Aida be our 1st alternate. Carole seconded it, all were in favor.

NEXT STEPS- Michelle will forward resumes to Frank, Frank will take our recommendations to Freeholder Lyons, to get it on the July agenda. Sibi will let the candidates know what's happening. Look forward to meeting them at our September meeting.

5. New Business – Michelle announced that she is pregnant! She will be stepping down as Chairperson in September 2013. Who will take over?

6. Announcements- Congratulations to Michelle.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for September 19, 2013 at 6 PM. The final 2013 meeting is scheduled for November 21. Dinner served at 5:30 PM.

Adjournment

There being no further business, on motion of member Edith Frank, seconded by Virginia Lyttle, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Bennett-Santoro, Secretary