

# MINUTES

## MORRIS COUNTY WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 20, 2012

Board Room, Morris View Healthcare Center  
540 West Hanover Ave., Morris Township

**Members Present-** Michelle Roers, Sibi Saenz-Williams, Patricia O'Dowd Donohue, Dianne Hartshorn, Pam Bennett-Santoro, Ginny Lyttle, Edith Frank, Frank Pinto

**Absent:** Maryellen Wenten, Elaine Muller, Carole Harper

**Also in Attendance:** 0

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 PM by Chair Michelle Roers

### Compliance with the Open Public Meetings Law

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

Corrections to the June 2012 Minutes- It was noted that the time of the meeting was incorrect, should be dinner at 6 pm and meeting begins at 6:30 PM. Also noted that Sibi Saenz-Williams, Carole Harper and Elaine Muller were absent. With these corrections, Edith Frank moved the June 2012 minutes to be accepted and Dianne Hartshorne seconded.

### Agenda

1. Morris County Website review (feedback/discussion)
2. Report of our Community Outreach/Media "Focus on Morris County" TV segment
3. Community Survey
4. Vacancies on our Committee
5. Spring Women's Symposium workshop for Teenage/College age women
6. Focus for remainder of year

New Business

Announcements

### Minutes

Old Business-

1. Morris County Advisory Committee's Website-  
<http://www.morrishumanservices.org/boards/Women/index.asp#agendas> Morris County's New Human Services Website was nominated to be a Best Site in Local Government by the National

Association of Government Webmasters. <http://www.nagw.org/pinnacles> Our webpage went live in July. This website will enable our events to be included on the Morris County online calendars. It was suggested that we could send weblinks to Michelle Roers and get them linked on our webpage, for example the latest ALICE report from United Way, and publications that our speakers and members have recommended with a possible quote too. Will check with Joe Garifo to see about this process.

**2. Vacancies in our Committee**

Frank Pinto says he will follow-up with Tina Lu Jen from Neighborhood House, to see if she has been appointed yet. He also asked if we wanted to be reappointed for 2013, to let him know. Frank will poll the Advisory Committee members who were not present in September to see if they want to be reappointed. We will all continue to reach out for new members. Another suggestion is to invite women to work with us on committees as a way to reach more members.

**3. Survey-**

The Survey committee will meet and discuss ways that our Women's Advisory Committee can support Morris County women and their issues. Pat O'Dowd Donohue, Pam Bennett-Santoro and Dianne Hartshorn will be on the survey committee.

- a. Press Release- committee of Pam Bennett-Santoro, Ginny Lyttle, and Michelle Roers will create one about our committee for November meeting.
- b. Community Outreach/Media- Joe Garifo's public access TV program. Sibi and Michelle recorded the show on June 8, 2012. Will air 2-3 times after July. There will be a link from the Morris County Website.
- c. Morris Minutes – we could do a two minute video.- Joe Garifo
- d. Social Media- Frank Pinto says he will follow-up to see about connecting with Linked In and Facebook. It was suggested we discuss this with the Morris County Webmaster, Carole Spenser also.

4. **Spring Program/Forum-** We began discussion for the Spring program/forum/workshop. Ginny Lyttle talked about the AAUW "Start Smart" program and we thought this might be a good program to do if they could condense the program to fit our one evening/afternoon timeframe. Ginny will follow-up. Sibi Saenz-Williams spoke about "Girls Surviving" plays at Morristown High School on topics of importance to young women, i.e. diversity/color, bullying, caring for young people. We thought this might be good instead of a keynote speaker. Sibi will follow-up with this group. One idea was to talk about Women's Health Issues and ask Deb Zastocki, Ex. Director of Chilton Memorial Hospital for speakers, as she was one of our past committee members.

Another idea was to include a segment on "Preparing Women for the World of Work". Dianne Hartshorn can speak to this topic. We also discussed having Maryellen Wentz and her daughter do their clowning that deals with a specific topic like compassion v. bullying. And there was a discussion about Human Trafficking, teenage runaways being picked up and put into bondage. All these topics were discussed and will more specifics will be discussed at future meetings.

Michelle Roers will ask Frank Pinto about seeking sponsors for the costs of the Symposium in March. As part of Lady Gaga's "Born This Way foundation", we might ask for support here. 2011 costs for forum was \$2070. Perhaps we could link with the Women's Center at CCM, and Sr. Rafferty at College of St. Elizabeth, Michelle will contact. Edith Frank suggested we sell ads in a booklet to raise the funds for the program.

Decided to work as a committee of the whole, so no specific chairperson is needed.

CCM spring Break is March 11- 16, 2013, so this might be a good time to hold the workshop, due to the easy availability of parking when students aren't there.

Frank Pinto says the County will mail the letters for us.

**New Business**- Sibi Saenz-Williams brought up an issue about availability of services in Morris County, domestic violence, counseling that was only available in shelters, but not in Morris County. Need for private clinicians specifically trained for dealing with children living with domestic violence situations. Deidre's House, Newbridge, Family Intervention Services in Morris County, JPWS referral. Patricia O'Dowd Donohue gave some referral information to Sibi Saenz-Williams.

Pam Bennett-Santoro will write a letter of congratulations to Melyssa Pickett, who will receive her Girl Scout Gold Award in a ceremony in January. This will be from the Women's Advisory Committee, as she worked with us during our Back to School Drive 2011 and consulted with us for this Gold Award process.

#### **Announcements-Letters**

1. Frank Pinto announced that there was a competition being encouraged between Morris County municipal governments, called MCMatch, to see who can donate the most food to the Interfaith Food Pantry. Hope to donate 14,000 lbs of food. Frank Pinto, director of the Morris County Department of Human Services, said each municipality has been assigned to a division based on its population. Towns that collect the most food in their divisions will be recognized at the Human Services Public Officials Forum in late September.
2. [yougivegoods.com](http://yougivegoods.com) is a way to support the Interfaith Food pantry, and other food/soup kitchen charities. Check it out.
3. "Menopause Mondays" sponsored by Red Hot Mamas, and the Menopause Center of NJ (new at Morristown Medical Center), and Lifeline Medical Associates, being held at the Morristown Medical Center, 9/24, 10/22, 11/19, 12/17. Free lecture, to register and for more information 1-800-247-9580
4. Morristown's Fall Festival will be held on Sunday September 30, 2012.
5. Governor's conference on Volunteerism, October 5, at Hyatt Regency in New Brunswick.  
[www.vmcnj.org](http://www.vmcnj.org)

#### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for November 15, at 6:30 PM. Dinner served at 6:00 PM.

Time will be changing beginning with our meeting on January 17, 2013. Dinner at 5:30 PM, meeting begins at 6 PM.

Dates for 2013 meetings are- January 17, March 21, May 16, June 20, Sept. 19, November 21

#### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, on motion of member Sibi Saenz-Williams, seconded by member Ginny Lyttle, the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Pam Bennett-Santoro, Committee Secretary