

Morris County Advisory Committee on Women

May 17, 2018

Morris View Meeting Room

Present: Pam Bennett-Santoro, Joann Bjornson, Allison Delcalzo-Berens, Virginia Lyttle, Elaine Muller, Gayle Pearson, Shelby Rhodes

Absent: Jennifer Carpinteri, Kathy DeFillippo, Carole Harper, Patti Page

The meeting was called to order at 6:12pm by Chair Gayle Pearson.

## MEETING SUMMARY

<b>May 17, 2018 Minutes</b>	Bennett-Santoro made a motion to adopt minutes. Motion was seconded by Muller. No changes were recommended and the committee adopted minutes without discussion at 6:13pm
<b>Presentation: Barclay's</b>	The staff from Barclay's was unable to attend the meeting. It was determined that Pearson and Bennett-Santoro will meet with them before the next meeting to decide next steps.
<b>Human Services Report</b>	Carpinteri was unable to attend the meeting due to a large-scale accident and the need to be present in the hospital.
<b>Old Business</b>	<p><u>Annual Report:</u> While the committee found no issues with the content of the report, the committee decided to update the format of the report. Delcalzo-Berens will revise to add a cover/title, purpose and introduction and areas of focus. She will also rearrange the chronological format into a topical format.</p> <p>As an addendum to the annual report discussion, Bennett-Santoro brought a small file box with old committee records to the meeting and asked what to do with it. Pearson will bring the box to Kisatsky for storage in the county facilities.</p> <p><u>Bylaws:</u> New bylaws were reviewed for changes. Bennett-Santoro suggested to add the dates of revisions. Bjornson made a motion to accept the new bylaws with suggested revisions. Rhodes seconded the motion and the committee adopted the bylaw changes. Delcalzo-Berens will make final changes and send to Kisatsky.</p> <p><u>Debrief about Leanna Brown Memorial:</u> Delcalzo-Berens stated she felt the event was nice for the families and for the freeholders, that Harper spoke well about Leanna Brown and that the theme was well conceived. She suggested that next year, there is a certificate of some kind to give to the recipient of the award. Pearson stated that she was disappointed that the committee was not featured prominently. Lyttle stated she felt it was sufficient. Bennett-Santoro distributed an article about the tree planting event from the Morris News Bee. The committee discussed how to proceed for next year. Rhodes recommended reaching out to Anna Riker as she is starting a foundation in Leanna Brown's name. She also recommended finding out what the cost of the event was this year to create a budget for next year. There was a conversation about whether or not the event should involve a tree planting. The committee decided not to have a tree planting. Muller suggested having the event in March in order to link with Women's History Month. The committee decided on March 22, 2019. Pearson will reach out to Larry Ragonese to find out the itemized cost of the event and to schedule the arboretum.</p> <p><u>Seeds of Change Nomination Form:</u> Bjornson reviewed proposed changes to the form. Some minor changes were suggested in addition, such as changing the date and the contact person and making the form less restrictive to ensure sufficient nominations. The committee agreed to continue prioritizing nominations whose work is in line with current committee areas of focus. Bjornson will prepare final revisions for the next meeting.</p>

	<p><u>Response from Sheriff:</u> The committee received a written response from the sheriff. Rhodes proposed that the response be reviewed independently and discussed at the next meeting.</p> <p>Delcalzo-Berens suggested the committee add an additional summer meeting as too much time will pass between the May and September meetings and there is much work to be done. The committee agreed and Pearson added a July 19 meeting. Delcalzo-Berens will alert Kisatsky of the meeting change.</p> <p><u>Business Cards:</u> Bjornson distributed business cards to members who requested them. The committee members were appreciative.</p> <p><u>Freeholder Meetings:</u> Pearson asked the committee to consider what the original purpose was of attending freeholder meetings. One reason was for the committee to be more prominent with the freeholders and another reason was to keep the committee informed about the issues the freeholders are reviewing on a regular basis. Some committee members voiced that the freeholders will not know we are there unless we speak up during the meeting. Bjornson recommended that members simply introduce themselves before or after meetings. Pearson suggested that a meeting schedule for the year be distributed to the committee and members should volunteer to attend at least one meeting. Delcalzo-Berens will email the schedule to members.</p>
<b>New Business</b>	<p><u>Women in the Military:</u> Pearson reported that the Seeds of Change Award recipient, Lila Bernstein, had received a grant to do research on women in the military in the county. Furthermore, she reported that the vet clinic just opened. She would like to invite Bernstein and a female veteran to come talk to the committee. Muller stated that something Bernstein told her is that many women veterans have had negative experiences in the military and do not want to be identified as veterans. Delcalzo-Berens voiced concern about bringing a veteran into the committee to discuss her experiences as the conversation could re-traumatize the individual. She suggested having a few providers come in to discuss their thoughts and answer questions so the committee could determine next steps. After some discussion about this, it was decided that having a separate stakeholder meeting would be required and Pearson will discuss the idea with Carpinteri. Possible attendees at the meeting could be at the vet clinic, Community Hope, Picattiny Arsenal, Cornerstone (if still open) and Lila Bernstein to present her research.</p> <p><u>Voter Registration:</u> Pearson reported she did not have a chance to contact the League of Women Voters but that she has learned that women are expected to vote at higher rates this year and to win more political seats. Rhodes made a motion to move this topic to the July or September meeting. Delcalzo-Berens seconded the motion and the committee decided to remove from today's agenda. Rhodes added that she thinks the committee should invite freeholder candidates to one of the meetings to establish a better relationship with incoming freeholders. This will be added to a future agenda.</p>
<b>Announcements</b>	<p>Bjornson announced an upcoming "Friendraiser" for Family Promise. Delcalzo-Berens will send invitation with minutes.</p> <p>Lyttle announced there will be an event for the NJ Trafficking Coalition coming up in June.</p>
<b>Meeting End</b>	<p>Meeting was adjourned at 7:57pm</p> <p>The next meeting will be July 19, 2018 at 6:00pm.</p>

## ACTION ITEMS

Who	What
All members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volunteer to attend freeholder meetings</li> <li>• Review and be prepared to discuss sheriff's response</li> </ul>
Pam and Gayle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have separate meeting with Barclay's to determine next steps and appropriateness of meeting attendance</li> </ul>
Gayle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bring old committee materials to county offices for storage or scanning</li> <li>• Contact Larry Ragonese to schedule arboretum for 3/22/19 and to ask for an itemized cost from the memorial tree planting event</li> <li>• Contact Jen Carpinteri to discuss the idea of a veteran's stakeholder meeting over the summer/early fall</li> <li>• Reach out to League of Women Voters to ask how we can support its mission</li> </ul>
Allison	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revise annual report</li> <li>• Update bylaws and send to Kisatsky</li> <li>• Alert Kisatsky of additional meeting for 7/19/18</li> <li>• Send list of freeholder meeting dates to committee</li> </ul>
Joann	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revise Seeds of Change Nomination form for final adoption at next meeting.</li> </ul>
Jen (previous items)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporate list of NJ Coalition for Human Trafficking legislative priorities into her report to the Freeholders at the next meeting.</li> <li>• Obtain a schedule to solicit new members from Larry Ragonese</li> <li>• Gather a list of what counties have women's committees</li> </ul>