

Morris County Advisory Committee on Women

May 21, 2019

Morris View Meeting Room

Present: Pam Bennett-Santoro, Lila Bernstein, Kathy DeFillippo, Allison Delcalzo-Berens, Carole Harper, Gayle Pearson

Guests: Kaitlyn Garrett

Absent: Joann Bjornson, Elaine Muller, Shelby Rhodes, Sharon Yoo

The meeting was called to order at 5:52pm by Chair Gayle Pearson.

MEETING SUMMARY

April 30, 2019 Minutes	
	Pearson presented the April 30 minutes for approval. No changes were recommended, and the committee adopted minutes without discussion at 5:59pm.
Human Services/Freeholder Report	
	DeFillippo reported that the new Director of Human Services is Sharon Yoo who will be attending Women's Committee meetings in future, announced a new initiative for school violence prevention and reported that the Head Start program will be doubling its number of slots.
Old Business	
	<u>Membership</u> The committee reviewed a committee composition document prepared by Delcalzo-Berens and discussed gaps in demographics. The committee identified a need for great ethnic diversity and for membership that reflects younger women under the age of 30. The committee discussed the difference between membership that represents issues that affect women (women in the military, homemakers, self-employed women, etc.); talents that can contribute to the work the committee does (technology skills, finance background, strategic planning, etc.); and types of capitol that the committee needs to resource (political, financial, development, etc.). Pearson recommended that the committee focus on talents that the committee needs represented more than issues or resources. The committee members will review the document again before the next meeting and come prepared with three gaps that they feel should be filled by new membership.
	<u>Housing Provider Stakeholder Follow Up</u> This item continues to be on hold until the new Human Services Director can devote attention to this.
	<u>Chamber of Commerce</u> The committee continued its discussion about whether efforts should be made to complete a needs assessment of business women in the county. DeFillippo reported that the county's strategic plan incorporated the Chamber of Commerce and the Women in Business Committee. The committee agreed that the strategic plan should be reviewed by all members prior to the next meeting and discussed at the next meeting to determine next steps.
	<u>Female Empowerment Youth Conference</u> Bernstein reiterated her hopes that the committee do a conference around female empowerment. Harper and Delcalzo-Berens strongly recommended that the committee continue its course of building membership and strengthening the committee before doing any large events. This topic will be put on hold until 2020. Harper and DeFillippo emphasized that projects that the Women's Committee takes on need to be approved by the freeholders via the support of the Human Services and Freeholder liaisons and that publicizing the committee should be done through the county communications director.
New Business	
	<u>Webpage/Marketing Update</u>

	This agenda item will be placed on hold until the new Human Services Director is in attendance.
Announcements and Updates	
	Diversity Day will be on the Morristown Green on July 14 th and will feature food, entertainment and an interfaith religious service.
	Pearson noted that a letter of resignation has been received from Patti Page.
Meeting End	
	Meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.

ACTION ITEMS

Who	What
All members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer to attend freeholder meetings • Review materials prior to meetings • Review strategic plan and committee composition – come prepared with recommendations and ideas
Gayle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite STAR program staff to a future meeting (maybe November)