LAFAYETTE COMMISSION ON THE NEEDS OF WOMEN

Minutes

January 7, 2016

Members Present: Brenda Andrus, Martha Bryant, Ann E. Burruss, Sally Donlon, Elsie Jones-Azare, JoAnn LeJune, Kris Manuel-Sparks, Megan Morris, Tracy Mouton, Trasima Richard, Jennifer Webre, Deborah Elaine White, Marlice Young-Dugas

Members Excused: Patsy Randall

Members Absent: Claudia Hall

The meeting was called to order by Megan Morris at 5:30 pm.
Brenda Andrus read the Purpose and the Vision.

REFLECTION

Jo Ann Lejune read the reflection.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the December 2, 2015 meeting were reviewed. Motion made by Kris Manuel-Sparks to accept the minutes, seconded by Jo Ann Lejune. Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Trasima Richard, Treasurer had no report. Tracy Mouton, Past Treasurer, reported that there were no transactions since December's meeting. The signature card at the bank still needs to be signed by the new officers. Until that is done, no checks can be signed. Motion made by Kris Manuel-Sparks to accept the report, seconded by Elaine white. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education: Marlice Young-Dugas asked the members to write down their ideas for the Resource Directory to get a better direction for it. Also, Lafayette Parish School Systems is looking for mentors to go into the schools – contact Marlice if interested.

Health: Elaine White reported that LCNW participated in the Health and Resource Fair on December 12th at the Northgate Mall. Their table had information about LCNW available. They were able to distribute and get back about 30 completed surveys. They also had 4 people complete the first page of the membership application. Overall, the event was a success.

The UL Women's Conference will be in March. The Health Committee recommends having a presence there as well. Registration is $25. Elaine White will follow up on details and register for the event. Megan Morris asked that Elaine send her an email once it has been confirmed.

Sally Donlon moved to accept the report, Jo Ann Lejune seconded. The motion passed.

Legislative/Legal: Jennifer Webre reported that everyone was invited to the open house event for the Family Justice Center of Acadiana on January 22nd. She will also mail the invitation out to the commission members. She asked that the members also circulate the invitation. Ann Burruss moved to accept the report, Trasima Richard seconded. The motion passed.

Membership/Hospitality: Brenda Andrus reminded the commission that they need 5 members. They currently have 4 applications that are not fully completed. Jo Ann Lejune is in the process of calling these individuals and asking them to complete the application and return it directly to her. The Executive Board plans to review all completed applications at the next Executive Meeting, scheduled for January 25th. Kris Manuel-Sparks moved to accept the report, Ann Burruss seconded. The motion passed.

Publicity/Public Relations: Claudia Hall is the head of this committee. She was not at the meeting to make a report. Kris Manuel-Sparks said there was nothing for the committee to report at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

a. By-laws update: Please see the attached proposed by-law amendments.
   - 1st proposed amendment is to change "Section 7-90" in the Purpose to "Resolution R-679, Section 2." And to also remove the phrase, "of the City Charter." Jennifer Webre moved to accept this change, Elaine White seconded. The motion passed.
   - 2nd proposed amendment is to make changes to Article III, Section a. The suggested change is to remove the words "the community" and replace them with, "Lafayette Parish and shall reside and/or work in Lafayette Parish." Sally Donlon moved to accept the revised language, Jennifer Webre seconded. The motion passed.
     i. It was mentioned that this language would apply to new members of the commission <u>only</u> and that current members of the commission that may not reside and/or work in Lafayette Parish would be grandfathered in.
   - 3rd proposed amendment is adding a Recording Secretary to the list of elected officers in Article VI and removing the sentence "The Recording Secretary shall be the Secretary Liaison." Jennifer moved to accept these changes, Sally Donlon seconded. The motion passed.
   - 4th proposed amendment regarded the attendance policy as outlined in Article XI. There were multiple proposals regarding this policy. The motion put forth was to accept Jennifer Webre's version of the amendment. Sally Donlon moved, Jennifer Webre seconded. The motion passed.
     i. Sally Donlon then moved that LCNW revisit this amendment for re-wording at the next meeting, which is scheduled for February 4th. Kris Manuel-Sparks seconded. The motion passed.
   - 5th proposed amendment: Jennifer Webre made a motion to change "City-Parish President" to "Mayor-President" throughout the entire document. Elaine White seconded. The motion passed.
   - 6th proposed amendment: A proposal was put forth by Elsie Jones-Azare to change the name of the commission from the Lafayette Commission on the Needs of Women to Lafayette Commission on the Status of Women. Kris Manuel-Sparks made a motion to have the Liaison check into the protocol for changing the name of the commission. This was seconded by Trasima Richard. The motion passed.

b. Nomination of/Voting for new Recording Secretary was moved to New Business

c. Final Report for the Women of Excellence Banquet – there has not been a final report submitted.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Patsy Randall has resigned as President of LCNW due to a conflict. Patsy Randall's email to Past-President, Brenda Andrus, was read by Brenda to the members of the commission. Megan Morris has automatically moved up from the President-Elect position into the President position.
b. Nomination of President-Elect and Recording Secretary: Marlice Young-Dugas was nominated by Tracy Mouton, this was seconded by Kris Manuel-Sparks. Marlice accepted the nomination and was voted in. Trasima Richard nominated Kris Manuel-Sparks as Recording Secretary. Kris Manuel-Sparks accepted the nomination and was voted in.
c. Membership Applications are due by January 22nd and will be reviewed by the Executive Board on January 25th during the scheduled Executive Meeting.
d. Installation of new officers: Trasima Richard as Treasurer, Kris Manuel-Sparks as Recording Secretary and Marlice Young-Dugas as President-Elect were all installed as officers by Megan Morris, President.
e. Women of Excellence Banquet – the City Club has been booked for October 7th, 2016 from 11 am – 2 pm for this event.
f. Brenda Andrus spoke to the commission regarding Patsy Randall and her attendance at meetings relaying that a decision needs to be made on how to address this. Megan Morris proposed that an official letter be written accepting her resignation of the President position. Brenda Andrus suggested that a letter go out notifying her of all of the meetings that she has missed and suggesting that being a friend of the commission may better suit her lifestyle at this time.
g. Brenda Andrus also brought up the national convention for 2016. It takes place in Hawaii this year. Historically, the President-Elect attends the convention. However, it was suggested that both the new President and President-Elect attend. LCNW would like to know if they can fundraise to make this happen. The liaison will look into this option.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Elsie Jones-Azare announced that she ran across trophies for past commission members that were never handed out to them. Some of these dated back to 2012. It was determined that these would be hand delivered to the individuals.
- Elsie Jones-Azare congratulated Brenda Andrus for being appointed to the Alarm Review Board.
- Sally Donlon reported that Sarah Brabant, founding member of LCNW, would like to present to the commission. She will be put on the February agenda. Sally will confirm this date with Dr. Brabant and inform Megan Morris.
- JoAnn Lejune announced that all women of Lafayette are invited to a retreat on Saturday, February 13th at St. Pius Church from 8:30am-2:30 pm.
- JoAnn Lejune announced that the Sierra Club and other entities would be having another Y-49 meeting on Thursday, January 21st at the First Methodist Church on E. Main.
- Sally Donlon announced that the Region 6 Social Studies Fair will be held on Saturday, February 13th. She is looking for judges, if anyone is interested.
- Elsie Jones-Azare asked that Ann Burruss be placed on next month's agenda under New Business to go over the results of the survey that was distributed at the recent Health Fair.

Sally Donlon made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Brenda Andrus. Meeting was adjourned at 7:07 PM.

Megan Morris

Megan Morris
President

Amy Deaville

Amy Deaville
Secretary/Liaison