



Brockton Commission on Women's Issues

June 21, 2023

Brockton City Hall
GAR Room
45 School Street
Brockton, MA

In Attendance:

Janice Johnson Plumer, Chair–Present
Karlene Derozier-Brizard, Vice-Chair–Present
Martha Testa, Secretary–Present
Oluwatoyin Adewumi, Commissioner–Present
Sonja Dixon, Commissioner–Present
Rita Spinola, Commissioner–Present
Ruth Moore, Commissioner–Present

1. Call to order - 5:22
2. Annual report—The report was circulated and updated information was discussed and added. The report will be sent to Sydne Marrow to distribute to the Mayor and City Council. Each Commissioner will also receive a final report.
3. The invitation letter to the mayor was shared. He was unable to attend the June meeting, but he will be invited to a meeting in the fall so that the Commission can share goals.
4. The introduction letter was shared and discussed. Martha sent the letter to Sydne Marrow to share with groups at City Hall. The Commission will send the letter to community agencies. Discussion was held about setting up a distribution list of relevant agencies for future communication.
5. Rita Spinola discussed awarding honors to women in the city who have positively impacted homelessness. Discussion was held about combining an awards ceremony with the Meet and Greet to be scheduled in the fall in cooperation with Massasoit Community College Women's Center. Rita will contact Donna LeClair from MCC to coordinate.
6. Ruth Moore discussed delegation of tasks based on Commissioner's expertise. Rita has a project task template that she will use to organize tasks and timelines to delegate tasks and still work as a team.
7. Karlene Derozier-Brizard discussed the criteria for awards. Discussion was held that the Women's Commission would remain neutral and request nominations for awards through a Google Docs form. Toyin will create a Google account for the Women's Commission so that submissions can be obtained through that account.

8. Discussion was held about timelines for establishing criteria for awards and it was decided that work would need to occur during the summer.
9. Sonja Dixon suggested that the Commission accept nominations from individuals who may not be acknowledged in other ways so that city residents can be rewarded for personal accomplishments, such as sobriety.
10. Janice Johnson Plumer will get award criteria translated and will also develop a rubric for assessing award submissions fairly.
11. Rita clarified that the project list will pertain to the application process only. Additional project lists will be developed as needed.
12. Rita suggested meeting more frequently than once per month to improve accountability. Discussion was held about meeting during the summer, and it was decided that the Commission would meet by Zoom in August.
13. Ruth Moore suggested music for the Meet and Greet and provided information about the Boston Public Quartet.
14. Further discussion was held about the introduction letter, specifically, who has already received the letter. Martha Testa will follow up with Sydne Marrow for details.
15. City of Brockton email was discussed. Who has access to the email account womenscommission@cobma.us. ? Does the IT department need to add Commission names to access the account? Martha will follow up with Sydne for clarification.
16. Sonja Dixon suggested the Brockton Community Network channel to find out what is happening in Brockton.
17. Karlene Derozier-Brizard will work on the nomination letter for the awards.
18. The next meeting is August 17, 2023, by Zoom.
19. The meeting adjourned at 6:35.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Testa