



**Minutes of the Brockton Women’s Commission
Meeting in GAR Room
December 18, 2024**

Attendance	<p>Rita Spinola, Chair-Present Martha Testa, Vice-Chair- Present Beverly Post, Secretary-Present Karlene Derozier-Brizard, Commissioner-Present Oluwatoyin Adewumi, Commissioner-Absent Sonja Dixon, Commissioner-Present Janice Johnson Plummer, Commissioner- Present Ruth Moore, Commissioner-Present Caren Benjamin. Commissioner- Present Lori Pinkham, Commissioner- Present Cynthia Hodges- Commissioner- Present</p>
Call to Order	5:30 pm
Meeting Minutes	The motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the November 2024 minutes.
Old Business	<p>Follow-up from the December meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rita Welcomed newly appointed commissioners: Lori Pinkham, Cynthia Hodges, and Caren Benjamin. • Rita Impressions of ‘The Gift of Listening’ session at Massasoit CC, Dec. 10th: They did not reach the women they hoped to reach. Those that attended were from an agency or commission like ours. Great roundtables talk about how to help. This non-turnout reconfirms our new mission to reach women and girls by ‘going to where women are at.’ • Rita/ Janice WC email: Rita told only Bev P, Rita and Martha now on WC email distribution list. (Bev still not on it). • Martha Perfect Print/ Name Tag Lanyards: Order completed- \$299.75. Ready & will be mailed to each Com. (\$55 cost).
New Business	<p>Any motions made were seconded and passed to accept.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rita BHS Career Awareness Partnership Event: As only the principle’s interest confirmed so far, more info to be reported at the Jan. 15 Zoom meeting. Sonja will help flyer BHS. • Janice Tina Cardoza- Cape Verdean Assn. Has ESL classes, wants to partner. Rita suggests asking her which event would be good to partner on.

Martha | **Proclamation**/ March Is Women's History Month. Decided WC proclamation should be for the month and not just on March 4.

- Rita will create sign-in sheets for event.
- Martha will contact Suzanne McCormick, the city's PR/Comm. associate to ask if they can use their city email account distribution lists (Brockton Historical Society, NAACP, League of Women Voters in Greater Brockton) to invite residents interested in attending. She will ask Suzanne to send out EventBrite invites and if respondents contact info can be shared with WC.
- Lori suggests we find out if other orgs, doing anything that month & try to partner with them.
- Sonja will check with City Hall to see what else is happening in March.
- Toyin will work on promotions to begin at the end of Jan/ early Feb. Bev will email a list of free advtg. resources she compiled last year. Ie: Patch.com, FB, Insta, and BuzzAround, to name a few.
- Beverly will reach out to City Clerk, Tim Cruise to get a high rez logo & permission to use.
- Cynthia Hodges | owner of Lady C & J Café (at the BAT bus station on 10 Commercial Street), will set up a pastry tray for the event & help with refreshments. WC will invoice her. Cynthia is already a city vendor. Also note that Ocean State donates a lot to nonprofits.
- Lori will contact reporters Chris Helms & Kathy Bossa from Brockton Enterprise.
- Martha will get a podium from City Hall.
- Martha will be the points person till Feb. After that, Cynthia will be the points person. Rita will support the lead
- Toyin, re: WC Excel contact list we can access via shared link & each adds info to. We can't create a Google email for com.
- Janice will reach out to BPS IT to find out which servers host the city's email services and if it comes with some sort of cloud computing. Toyin will look into Microsoft or other free shared link vehicles.
- Rita | Let's actively read com. emails and reply quickly, not wait a month for a meeting to move forward.
- Toyin | Women's Entrepreneur group: Idea for meeting women where they are. Ask a sampling of women business owners in Brockton what they need, and what is challenging them right now.
- Sonja suggested a future big need discussion subject for the event could be teen pregnancy. Martha will also add this to the Proclamation.
- Martha & Cynthia | We need a 'points person' to track everything is being done. Martha can do it till February. After that, Cynthia Hodges will take over.
- Beverly | Possible free event room from SCU on Commercial Street (also on Belmont St). Bethany Souto met at United Way Brown Bag Lunch on 11/13/24. Said would give free room during regular business hours.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beverly Got a long list of 'Resources' from Jazmine Bradsher, Dir Soc. Svs. Not gender specific, few resources for women. Brockton women & girls need a resource list. WC should take the lead in creating a list. • Beverly We can now share docs on Zoom. There was no way to do this. Unless I am the host, however, as discussed with Stephanie Pierre, and she is willing to start the Zoom meeting at 4:15 pm before she leaves, make me the meeting host, and if I keep the meeting live & don't sign off, as host I can use the Zoom widgets. • Rita, Martha Women & Girls awareness campaign & partnership. Create buttons we can hand out, 'I Support the Women & Girls in Brockton.' Also, develop a flyer & list where women & girls can go for help. Martha will contact agencies we will put on the list. • Tabled for Jan. meeting: Discussion on who to invite to speak at our Zoom meetings (and how long each talk should be).
Adjourned	6:30

Respectfully submitted,
 Beverly Post
 Secretary