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Senator John A. Kissel
Representative Michael P. Lawlor
Representative Arthur J. O'Neill

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Teresa C. Younger

**PCSW COMMISSION MEETING
THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2009
PERMANENT COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM
18-20 TRINITY STREET, HARTFORD, CT 06106**

Present: Commissioners Susan O. Storey, Tanya Meck (via phone), Adrienne Farrar Houël, Barbara DeBaptiste, Carrie L. Gallagher, Melanie O'Brien, Jean L. Rexford, Denise Rodosevich, Cindy R. Slane (via phone)

Staff Present: Teresa C. Younger and Rosemary López

Excused and/or Absent: Commissioners Elizabeth Donohue, Patricia E.M. Whitcombe, Cecilia J. Woods, Senator McDonald, Senator Kissel, Representative O'Neill, and Representative Lawlor

Chairperson Susan O. Storey called the meeting to order on Thursday, June 4, 2009 at 2:40 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE
THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2009 COMMISSION MEETING**

Action Item # 06-09-01

Commissioner Rexford moved the approval of the minutes of the Thursday, May 7, 2009 Commission meeting. Commissioner Carrie L. Gallagher seconded the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously. Commissioner Gallagher requested that two grammatical errors be corrected on page 3, second sentence in ED's report change "but" to "for". Page 4, second sentence in Treasurer's report change "frugil" to "frugal". The minutes were approved as modified.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

No Report

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Action Item # 06-09-02 Election of PCSW Officers

On behalf of the Nominating Committee Commissioner Tanya Meck introduced the following slate of officers for election to office during the 2009-2010 year:

Chairperson	Adrienne Farrar Hoüel
Vice Chairperson	Cecilia J. Woods
Treasurer	Elizabeth Donohue
Secretary	Denise Rodosevich

Chairperson Storey asked three times if there were any nominations from the floor and there were none. Commissioner DeBaptiste moved acceptance of the new slate of officers for PCSW. Commissioner Rexford seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Everyone thanked Chairperson Storey for her dedication to the Commission and stated that it had been a pleasure to work with her as Chairperson this past year.

Ms. Younger thanked the Executive Committee the excellent job done this past year.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Action Item # 06-09-03 Approval of FY10 Budget w/ 20% cuts

Teresa Younger, Executive Director distributed copies of the proposed budget for FY 2010 with 20% cuts for their information. Commissioner Rexford moved the approval of the FY '10 budget. Commissioner Storey seconded the motion. The budget was approved unanimously. The budget was accepted as presented and placed on file.

Ms. Younger, distributed copies of an email with back-up materials that she chosen to attend the 2009 Class of the Legislative Staff Management Institute (LSMI) an 8 day training program. LSMI is the nation's premier program for developing and enhancing management and leadership skills for legislative staffers. LSMI emphasizes learning by doing, with practical application of skills for effective communication, team building, negotiation, conflict resolution and creating professionalism based on core values of representative democracy. The faculty leading the training is nationally recognized experts with extensive professional experience as well as research-based knowledge. The curriculum is demanding and the admissions committee seeks senior and up-and-coming staffers who can benefit most from a challenging practical and academic experience.

Action Item # 06-09-04
Approval of LMSI Participation

The cost for Ms. Younger to participate, which includes hotel, some meals and materials is \$2,250. There will be some additional expenses, after a brief discussion on the cost and expenses, some commissioners suggested that maybe a Foundation might be able to help off-set some of the additional expenses that might occur. Commissioner DeBaptiste supports Ms. Younger's participation in this great opportunity and moved the approval for Ms. Younger to attend the Legislative Staff Management Institute presented by the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) scheduled from August 1-8, 2009 in Sacramento, California. Commissioner Rexford seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

In addition to her written report Ms. Younger was happy to share that she attended the retirement event where 20 women were recognized for their years in the building and construction trades. The event was very well attended with attendees from around the state and throughout New England. A video was produced of the women and will be shared in the next newsletter once it's completed. She announced that she read a proclamation on behalf of the Governor recognizing the groundbreaking role of the women being honored and the work of PCSW.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Ms. Younger distributed a list of the PCSW bills that we had been monitoring and another document that had the analysis of the passed bills that Natasha Pierre, Legislative Director provided for everyone's information. Unfortunately Ms. Pierre was unable to attend the meeting because was very busy trying to get a legislative report ready.

Ms. Younger addressed some the legislative bills that passed during this legislative session:

- **PA 09-13, AA Implementing the Guarantee of Equal Protection Under the Constitution of the State for Same Sex Couples.** The law redefines marriage as the legal union of two persons, and repeals or amends any statute that is contrary to the redefinition.
- **PA 09-101, AAC Penalties for Violations of Certain Personnel File Statutes (Pay Equity Bill).** Prohibits pay discrimination on the basis of sex. Expands the possible employer defenses against gender wage claims.
- **PA 09-70, AAC Updates to the Family and Medical leave Act.** Makes technical changes to bring CT's FMLA statutes up to date with federal FMLA changes. Changes permit the use of FMLA to care for a family member who is a member of the U.S. armed forces National Guard, or the military reserves.
- **PA 09-19, AA Requiring Small Business Impact Analyses for Proposed Regulations.** It requires any state agency proposing a regulation to identify how it affects small businesses and include the analysis as part of the fiscal note it must submit to the Regulations Review Committee.
- **PA 09-41, AA Requiring Communication of Mammographic Breast Density Information to Patients.** Requires all mammography reports given to a patient to include information about breast density based on the American College of Radiology's Breast Imaging Reporting and Data System.

Ms. Younger also reported that the legislators have not done anything on the budget. She did mention that there are even more cuts in the new Governors budget proposal and that they have also been monitoring the Dem's

Appropriations proposal. We really don't know anything yet, when she hears anything she will inform everyone on what's happening with the budget.

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Younger informed everyone that she send a packet of PCSW information to President Barack Obama as well as to Valerie Jarrett, chair of the White House Council on Women and Girls so they can get an idea of our scope and expertise.

Ms. Younger also distributed the following PCSW publications for everyone's information and review: "Speaking Out-An Op-ed Broadside from PCSW", "Getting out there...2009 steps", "Merger Myths & Realities about Legislative Commissions-PCSW".

She was very happy to report that PBS contacted her because they are applying for a grant to produce a piece on gender and health disparities and where looking on highlighting us.

On another note, she was saddened to say that many of the other women's commissions around New England are not looking to good.

She informed everyone that Jeanne Miner, our Trainer will be participating in the Retirement Incentive Program (RIP), and we are very sad to see her leave the PCSW team; however, her insight will allow us to take a look at our training opportunities moving forward. The RIP will also mean that many state employees will be retiring; we learned that DOC Commissioner Theresa Lantz will also be retiring.

Commissioners agreed that the first commission meeting in September should be used for the commissioner's retreat.

Ms. Younger wished everyone a great summer and informed them that she will continue to update everyone on what is happening with the budget.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Adrienne Farrar Hoüel
Secretary

Rosemary López
Date Approved