

DURHAM COUNTY WOMEN'S COMMISSION (DCWC)

MEETING SUMMARY

JUNE 25, 2012

Present: Heidi Marks, Marissa Streyle, Jocelyn Harper, Carnetta Reid, Sandra Davis, Stephanie Watson, Rosa Anderson

Absent: Sharon Mullen, Danielle Kowalczuk, Shonda Santos, Jina Dhillon

Guest: Bessie Carrington, Orange, Durham and Chatham County League of Women Voters

I. Call to Order

The meeting began at 6pm but was called to order at 6:42pm when the guest speaker was done and a quorum of members were in attendance.

II. Guest Speaker

Bessie Carrington of the Orange, Durham and Chatham County League of Women Voters (LWV) was the guest speaker. She described the mission and work of our local LWV and its focus on issues that affect all three counties. In addition, Ms. Carrington listed fracking, voter identification and redistricting as issues that the statewide LWV is lobbying the state legislature on. Because many organizations are focused on voter registration, the LWV chose not to take up that activity this year. Ms. Carrington suggested that it would be helpful if the DCWC recommended to the County Commissioners that Women's Equality Day, on August 26, should be recognized countywide. DCWC Commissioners suggested to Ms. Carrington that the local LWV consider partnering with NC Women United and us on the issue assembly we will host in September.

III. Treasurer's Report

No report this meeting.

IV. Old Business

One note, Commissioner Marks received approval for use of DCWC funds towards the Issue Assembly because NC Women United is a non-partisan organization.

V. New Business

Commissioner Marks met with Michelle Parker-Evans, Clerk to the Board, after re-reviewing past DCWC meeting summaries and realizing that the issue of a vague mission and description of the Commission has been a burden to many past Commissions. Ms. Parker-Evans suggested that the DCWC put forward a new mission and new set of bylaws for the County Commission's approval. Commissioner Marks suggested the Commission review the bylaws, particularly the membership bylaw and consider decreasing the number of members. At the July Commission meeting there will be a discussion of the bylaws and we will work to put together a new recommendation.

Ms. Parker-Evans also suggested that the DCWC begin to partner more with other county boards and commissions, particularly around our interests in the county's strategic plan.

Commissioner Marks also reported that only three of the county's citizen boards have a budget, one of which is DCWC. Beginning July 1 the DCWC budget will be \$300.

VI. Announcements

- A new orientation schedule is available for new commissioners
- Durham's Neighborhood College begins in September. Deadline for applications is July 20
- "Colores" a Latino Art Exhibit will open at the NCCU Art Museum on August 25

VII. Adjournment

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:12pm