

## **Hillsborough County Commission on the Status of Women Meeting Recap-June 23, 2015**

The meeting was called to order by Treasurer Kim DeBosier.

**Members present:** Chair Yvonne Fry, Treasurer Kim DeBosier, Stacy Frank, Mindy Murphy, Connie Gage, Dotti Groover-Skipper, Susan Leisner, and Geraldine Twine.

**Members absent:** Vice Chair India Witte, Linda D'Aquila, Ashley Carl, Denise Chavez, Ann Porter, Kathleen Pravlik, and Jennifer Whelihan.

**Additional attendees present:** Hillsborough County Staff - Renee Warmack

**Public Comment:** Ms. Tee Solomon, retired Hillsborough County School District administrator, introduced herself and expressed enthusiasm about her anticipated membership on the COSW. Ms. Twine shared that June 23<sup>rd</sup> is her last COSW meeting and expressed her admiration for Ms. Solomon.

**Approval of Meeting Recaps:** A motion was made to approve the April 28<sup>th</sup> and May 26<sup>th</sup> COSW meeting recaps. The item was unanimously approved.

**Communications Update:** Chair Fry provided a social media update on behalf of Ms. Whelihan. All WHOF photos have been posted to Facebook; and articles have been posted to Facebook and Twitter.

**Staff Update:** Ms. Warmack asked members to review the revised attendance log and calendar; and requested their feedback. She reminded members whose terms are expiring to submit their applications by June 26<sup>th</sup>. She shared that the COSW has a new, dedicated conference call password.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer DeBosier distributed a report which shows a \$25,012.71 COSW account balance. A \$1,000 WHOF sponsorship payment is outstanding and the florist bill has not yet been paid.

**Women's Hall of Fame (WHOF) Debriefing:** Concerns regarding the Convention Center's costs and policies were discussed. The venue is tentatively booked on May 6, 2016 for the WHOF. Several members agreed to contact venues as other options for next year's WHOF and forward their findings to Ms. Warmack. Ms. Warmack will distribute the information to the COSW. A motion was made that Ms. Witte, Ms. Murphy, Ms. Leisner and Ms. Carl form a subcommittee to refine WHOF award criteria. The item was unanimously approved.

**Advisory Council:** Chair Fry provided a Fall Issues Forum update on behalf of Ms. Witte. The manifesto proposed by the Advisory Council was reviewed. The COSW supported the proposal, but requested that the Advisory Council rearrange some text and add an impactful title. The Forum is scheduled for November 13<sup>th</sup> from 1 pm to 3 pm. The next Advisory Council meeting is August 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 pm at County Center, Clerk of the Court Conference Room, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor.

**Tiger Bay Club of Tampa:** The June 19<sup>th</sup> Tiger Bay Club event was discussed by those who attended the event. It was decided that the title of the November 20<sup>th</sup> Tiger Bay Club of Tampa event will be Pay Equity versus A Living Wage: What's the Big Deal. Ms. DeBosier and Ms. Leisner will form a subcommittee to develop the program and logistics. The COSW studies were discussed and Ms. Warmack will post them to the COSW website, as requested. Ms. Warmack shared that County Administrator Mike Merrill is tentatively scheduled to provide a Go Hillsborough update at the COSW's July meeting.

**2020 Women on Boards:** The COSW agreed to support the efforts of the 2020 Women on Boards – Tampa Convening event scheduled for November 19, 2015.

**Calendar Updates:** Ms. Groover-Skipper shared that the statewide Sex Trafficking Conference is Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, from 1 pm-4 pm, Chester Ferguson Law Center. There is no charge to attend.

**Friends of the COSW:** County Attorney Mary Helen Farris discussed examples of external organizational models. She reviewed membership and Sunshine Law considerations. The COSW agreed that the purpose of an external Friends of the COSW organization would be to serve as a "bank" for accepting tax exempt donations; that it would not initiate programming; would perform its work in compliance with the Sunshine Law; and have some common members on both

**Hillsborough County Commission on the Status of Women  
Meeting Recap-June 23, 2015**

entities. Ms. Farris will report back on the following: whether the COSW's funds could be placed in a trust while the new organization is being established; whether the County can serve as the Registered Agent and/or mailing location; and if County staff can support the external organization. A motion was made that Stacy Frank and Susan Leisner draft Articles of Incorporation to share at the July COSW meeting and proceed with setting up the 501c3 organization. The item was unanimously approved. An agreement between the COSW and the County Commission will be drafted which delineates the collaborative aspects of the partnership.

**Recap to Appointing Authority:** The July COSW Report to the County Commission will contain updates regarding the Fall Issues Forum and Tiger Bay Club of Tampa Bay event; a WHOOF recap; and the COSW's intent to form a Friends of the COSW organization. Ms. Warmack will develop a draft recap document for Chair Fry to review.

**Other Business:** The COSW presented Ms. Twine with a floral arrangement to thank her for her service to the COSW. Ms. Twine expressed her gratitude for the gift and the enjoyment she has experienced during her tenure.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned by Chair Fry.

\*\* Staff directives underlined