

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN
111 N.W. 1st Street, Suite #1034, Miami, FL 33128
Minutes of Meeting of May 22, 2013

Present: Nordis Alvarez, Viviana Jordan, Michelle Dunaj Lucking, Francesca Menes, Eveline Pierre, Kit Rafferty, Linda Robinson, Grace Signorelli, Marie Woodson, and Mara Zapata

Excused: Leah Blumenfeld, Marie Eloi, Sharon Kendrick-Johnson, Beverly Nixon, Grace O'Donnell, Rhonda Pinkney-Wimberly, Dona Zemo and Samia Taoulost Malik

Guests: Irene Lipof from the Financial Recovery Board/Public Health Trust

Staff: Laura Morilla

Chairwoman Michelle Dunaj Lucking commenced the meeting at 5:40 p.m. Michelle welcomed everyone.

Marie Woodsod moved to approve the agenda and Mara seconded the motion. The motion passed and the **agenda was approved.**

Grace Signorelli moved to approve the minutes of 04/24/13 and Nordis seconded the motion. The motion passed and the **minutes were approved.**

The **Committee Reports** were presented.

Legislative Committee. Kit thanked the CFW for signing on to a letter to Governor Scott urging him to veto House Bill 655. House Bill 655 would prohibit cities and counties from requiring employers to provide paid sick leave to their employees. Per Kit, petitions and letters have been sent to the Governor. Francesca also mentioned that Miami-Dade County's Wage Theft Ordinance will sunset in 2015.

Communications Committee. Michelle thanked Viviana for preparing the flyer for the CFW's June 10th reception. The flyer will be sent out and revised later to add future sponsors. Michelle also referenced the new CFW brochure, which will be available at the reception. After having reviewed the two different printing proposals from the County print shop and the print shop that does the work for the Miami-Dade County School Board, the committee recommended printing 750 Connections Directory. The recommendation is based on what it would cost to use the School Board's print shop. Linda moved that the CFW print 750 Connections Directory. Francesca seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Next there was a **presentation** by Irene Lipof, the new member of the Financial Recovery Board (FRB), which will soon revert back to being called the Public Health Trust (PHT). Irene is a retired administrator from Miami-Dade College but still teaches part time there. She was the president of the Miami-Dade Women's Political Caucus for about 12 years and she also ran twice for school Board when elections were County wide. Irene was very active in the Miami-Dade College faculty union and has been working part time for the union as a lobbyist, etc.

Irene is the labor appointee to the FRB and serves on the FRB pension committee. She got the one year term under the new staggered term system so she will be up for reappointment next year. She explained that only about 25% of the Jackson employees are in the Florida Retirement System (FRS) and that the other 75% are in the Jackson pension system. She hopes to make some changes so that this 75% can get a DROP-style program. She would like to see that all who need hospital care get treated for the longer term, and not just treated for the

moment and put out again. She also talked a bit about the Medicaid expansion and the \$51 billion that Florida would receive from the federal government.

Irene stated that Miami-Dade County has been good to Jackson. Jackson is doing better now because the economy is doing better, so more people are spending money. This leads to more money coming into the hospital because of the half cent sales tax that helps fund the hospital. She mentioned that doctors at Jackson are unionized. She also mentioned that she an issue she wants to look at is the Jackson vendors and who is getting the contracts. There will be a vacancy on the PHT on June 1st; it will be a community seat. Three applicants will be recommended by a nominating committee to the BCC and the BCC will select one person. She suggested that the CFW encourage or recommend women to apply for the PHT seat. Regarding any current privatization efforts, Irene said that the pediatric doctors in the emergency room might be contracted out because it is hard to get pediatricians to staff the emergency room.

Events Committee report. Michelle reported that the CFW is still trying to establish a paypal account, through the Friends of the DCCW, to handle RSVPs for the reception. Nordis said that perhaps paypal can be set up using the Women's Chamber of Commerce and that she would find out if it is possible. Michelle and Laura explained the request to pay for the reception audio/visual bill from the CFW trust fund, in case there are not enough funds from the Friends account. The amount of the bill is \$562.65. Mara moved that the CFW pay the bill and other expenses related to the reception from the trust fund. Linda seconded the motion, and the motion passed. Michelle reminded everyone that volunteers will be needed for the registration table. Linda volunteered to bring a camera and take pictures. This will be in addition to the County photographer. Michelle encouraged everyone to continue to seek our sponsors.

Several CFW members gave Laura their RSVP checks and cash for the reception.

Nordis asked if there was any way to bring special attention to the presenting sponsors. After some discussion, it was suggested that there be a separate sign on the stage just listing the presenting sponsors and that only the presenting sponsors be specifically named in the welcoming remarks. The volunteers at the registration table will be Mara, Kit, and Marie Eloi. Marie Eloi then reviewed the written committee reports. Regarding the menu for the reception, there was a long discussion about what to serve and the costs. Grace Signorelli moved to replace the suggested roast beef station with a turkey station. Marie Woodson seconded the motion, and the motion passed. Michelle suggested that the committee be given discretion to order a small amount of additional food in the event sufficient funds are available. Marie Woodson so moved and Grace Signorelli seconded the motion. The motion failed.

Under **Old Business**, Michelle reminded everyone to submit their completed financial disclosure forms.

Under **New Business**, Michelle reported on the meeting that she, Mara and Laura had with Chairwoman Sosa. The meeting was to acquaint Chairwoman Sosa with the CFW and see what issues the Chairwoman wanted the CFW to address. Michelle explained that the Chairwoman wants the CFW to do an event for girls, preferably in middle school, focusing on girls' self-esteem and empowerment. Grace Signorelli stated that perhaps the CFW could promote a "these are your rights" event or a campaign to make women aware of their workplace rights-pay equity, sexual harassment, etc. This would help young women who are starting out in the workplace.

As far as attending community events, Francesca reported that she will be attending the Eve Ensler event on June 1st. Eveline reported that she will attend many Haitian Heritage Month events at the end of the month.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Laura Morilla, Recorder