

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN
111 N.W. 1st Street, Suite 1034, Miami, FL 33128
Minutes of Meeting of October 22, 2014

Present: Leah Blumenfeld, Monica Interian, Eveline Pierre, Linda Robinson, Raisa Sequeira, Mara Zapata, and Dona Zemo

Excused: Nordis Alvarez, Marie Eloi, Viviana Jordan, Sharon Kendrick-Johnson, Michelle Dunaj Lucking, Noreen Lagault Mendoza, Francesca Menes, Beverly Nixon, Kit Rafferty, Phyllis Sloan-Simpkins, Rhonda P. Wimberly, and Marie Woodson

Staff: Laura Morilla

Guests: Marvin Cordero, Astrid Gonzalez. Mary Spio, and DeAnne Connolly Graham.

Chair Mara Zapata commenced the meeting at 5:50 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

First there was a presentation by Marvin Cordero, a Community Outreach Liaison for Jackson Health System, who wanted to share what Jackson has been doing in the community and see if there are opportunities for partnership. Marvin explained that the Jackson Mobile Mammography Unit goes to different facilities, municipalities and corporate headquarters and that Jackson sponsors health fairs at different venues. Working with the human resources departments, Jackson can also do private health fair at companies. Jackson has a clinic downtown and also had navigators to help people enroll in the Affordable Care Act. The Ryder Trauma Center at Jackson is nationally acclaimed and the U.S. military sends its medics there for training before they deploy. A trauma center will open at Jackson South soon.

Next, the **Committee Reports** were presented.

For the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Issue Committee report, Monica talked about her recent meeting with Marcia Olivo from Sisterhood of Survivors at the Miami Workers Center. Marcia, a D/V survivor herself, recruits survivors to become advocates for other survivors. Monica suggested that Marcia be invited to the CFW's January meeting to talk about a couple of legislative issues- unemployment compensation for D/V survivors and drivers' licenses for undocumented immigrants. The CFW will invite Marcia to its January 2015 meeting.

Under Old Business, Mara advised that the next CFW meeting will be an on the road meeting on November 19th at 5:30 p.m. in Palmetto Bay. Mara thanked Linda for making the arrangements.

At this point Dona's guest, Mary Spio, was introduced. Mary is the organizer of The B.I.G. Summit business and technology conference in January 2015 on Miami Beach. Mary's company, Next Galaxy, is a technology business that provides content for companies and is the producer of The B.I.G. Summit. Mary did research on people who are game changers and some of these prominent people will be speakers at the conference. Randi Zuckerberg, Mark Zuckerberg's sister, will be the keynote speaker. Mary would like for the CFW to help get the word out about the Summit.

Now back to **Committee Reports**. For the report of the Events and Fundraising Committee, Mara gave a brief recap of the CFW's Young Women's Success Summit on October 1st at the Young Women's Preparatory Academy (YWPA). The event was very successful and the CFW's relationship with the YWPA will be ongoing. The CFW will continue to support and interact with the school. The YWPA principal is especially interested in getting the students into internships at various locations. Laura encouraged everyone to look at the photos from the event posted on the Facebook page.

The CFW then discussed the Executive Committee's report from its retreat/planning session held on September 7th which recommends the priorities, issues, and events that the CFW should address and undertake. Mara reviewed the written report and said that as part of the discussion, the CFW's committees should be reviewed because there are some committee members who don't attend committee meetings.

Based on the input from the individual CFW members prior to the Executive Committee's retreat, the focus should be on the following areas: 1. Human trafficking; 2. Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault; 3. Economic Empowerment of Women; 4. County programs and services and their impact on women; and 5. Women and girls in technology.

There was a brief discussion on the importance of the CFW's advocacy role. Leah explained that some bills have already been filed and that after the November election the CFW will know who is on the Miami-Dade Legislative Delegation. Eveline suggested that the CFW meet with Legislators during the off period to discuss issues and that the CFW also go to Tallahassee. Raisa stated that she is very interested in education issues and that education is part of economic empowerment. She has an idea to do a database of women's scholarships and is willing to work on it. Eveline stated that she did not know that human trafficking was such a prevalent issue and she thinks that this is really important and that the CFW can really have an impact in this area.

Mara then went over the committee list. Mara appointed Linda as Chair of the Human Trafficking Committee. Mara would like to give up the chairmanship of the Bylaws Committee so at the next meeting more members should be added to the committee. Leah volunteered to serve on the Bylaws Committee. Dona asked about the Communications Committee and Mara wants the Communications Committee to meet more often. Leah said that she would call a meeting of the Legislative Committee after the elections. Mara mentioned that a Technology Committee may be good. Eveline asked about fundraising and suggested that Friends of the DCCFW participate in Give Miami Day on November 20. Mara then said that she wants the Communications Committee to meet as soon as possible and asked Laura to email Viviana the next day.

Continuing with **Old Business**, Mara reminded everyone about the screening of the "Brave Miss World" film on November 20. The CFW is a co-sponsor of the event.

Laura explained the follow-up to "The Envelope Please" initiative to encourage hotel guests to leave a tip for the housekeepers. The CFW sent the letters to the Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau and the Greater Miami and the Beaches Hotel Association. The County Commissioners also passed a resolution yesterday supporting the Initiative.

Mara mentioned one last thing about the CFW meeting in Palmetto Bay on November 19th - part of the meeting will be dedicated to hosting the Florida COSW's "Community Conversation" with women.

Under **New Business**, Mara explained that everyone is asked to bring a donation for the homeless women at the Homestead Homeless Assistance Center at the next CFW meeting. The donations will be given to Sharon, who has a non-profit that serves these homeless women.

Eveline announced that she is organizing her first women in technology event this Saturday at The Lab Miami.

Under **Announcements**, Mara stated that she is forming a NOW campus affiliate at the Miami-Dade College Inter American Campus. The group has already had several activities, including a Hobby Lobby protest.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Laura Morilla, Recorder