



**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN
NOTICE OF MEETING & AGENDA**

Wednesday, April 24, 2024, 6:00 PM

Stephen P. Clark Government Center

111 NW First Street, 18th Floor, Conference Room 18-4, Miami, FL 33128

- I. Welcome The meeting commenced on 6:07 PM.
- II. Approval of the Agenda
- III. Approval of the January Retreat Minutes – The January Retreat minutes were approved unanimously following a motion by Sharon Kendrick-Johnson, and a second by Mercedes Carlson.
- IV. Approval of the February Meeting Minutes - The February minutes were approved unanimously following a motion by Clara Adkins, and a second by Mercedes Carlson.
- V. Approval of the March Meeting Minutes – The March meeting minutes were approved unanimously following a motion by Lunicel Alvarado, and a second by Mercedes Carlson.
- VI. Reasonable Opportunity for the Public to be Heard
- VII. The Women’s Fund – Power of the Purse

Chair Michelle Abreu discussed the Commission attending the Power of the Purse at \$175 each ticket.

Two tickets were secured with the Women’s Fund, the following members were interested in attending:

- Mercedes Carlson
- Lourdes Abadin
- Millie Del Valle
- Yvette Ayala
- Sharon Kendrick Johnson
- Nadege Vilsaint

Nadege Vilsaint, Mercedes Carlson, Lourdes Abadin, and Millie Del Valle removed themselves from the running.

Yvette Ayala and Sharon Kendrick-Johnson will be attending on behalf of the Commission.



VIII. State of Florida Award Nomination – Dr. Lynette Long

- Dr. Lynette Long shared information about three awards/recognitions that the Commission should be aware of and should consider nominating the original 8 Women's Hall of Fame inductees: The Florida Women's Hall of Fame, the Great Floridian program, and the Historical Markers program.
- A motion was made by Lunicel Alvarado to submit an application for Carrie Meek for the Historical Marker Program. The motion passed unanimously.
- A motion was made to nominate Carrie Meek and Mary Brickell to the Florida Women's Hall of Fame. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. 2024 Calendar Update

- New calendar provided (attachment).
- Next meeting is scheduled for May 22nd and we will either be at FIU or at Stephen P Clark. The location will be confirmed by Nina by email.
- We will be at the City of West Miami, Community Center for our July meeting.
- Lunicel Alvarado is working with the Homestead Women's Club to secure a location for the October meeting.

X. Subcommittee Meeting Dates

- The Communications Committee will be meeting on May 8th at 10AM at the Stephen P. Clark Government Center to review the scholarship applications. Everyone is welcome to attend.
- The Events subcommittee will be meeting on May 3rd at 10AM in Coral Gables.
- The 2024 Status of Women Report has been released. Dr. Ilcheva will be presenting at our next meeting. The Legislative Committee should be meeting after that to discuss.
- Next we will be discussing Board Procedures since we have quite a few new members, this is a good time for the Commission Goals and Bylaws Committee to meet and review the rules and bylaws and provide recommendations.

XI. Board Procedures

- Attendance- The Commission meets on the last Wed. of every month at 6pm at Stephen P Clark. We have a few meetings out in the County throughout the year. Those are noted on the calendar and at least one month notice is provided.
 - If, in a given fiscal year, a member fails to attend two consecutive regular meetings or a total of three regular meetings without an acceptable



excuse, the Chairperson shall certify the same to the Board of County Commissioners after the Executive Director has notified said member in writing. An "acceptable excuse" is defined as an absence for medical reasons, business reasons, personal reasons, or any other reason which the board, by a two-thirds vote of the membership, deems appropriate. Such absence shall be calculated from October 1st until September 30th. The member shall then be deemed to have been removed and a vacancy created. No member shall be considered to have attended a meeting unless she/he has remained and participated at a regular meeting for no less than 75% of the time. (Bylaws)

- Committees - Section 3. Each member shall serve on at least one full Committee. (Bylaws)
 - Members, while serving, shall not become candidates for election to any public office. (Bylaws)
 - No member of any County board shall become a candidate for elective political office during his or her term. Should any member of a County board qualify as a candidate for elective political office, such qualification shall be deemed a tender of resignation from such board. Any County board member who qualifies as a candidate shall immediately notify the County Commissioner who nominated or appointed the board member. It is provided, however, that this paragraph (iii) shall not apply to Community Council or Community Zoning Appeals Board members. (County Code)
 - We have been advised by the County Attorney multiple times not to invite political candidates to present at the Commission for Women meetings. Everyone and anyone is welcome to attend and provide a statement/comment during the reasonable opportunity period.
 - Agenda Items – send them to Nina in writing/email, who will then discuss with Chair. Chair will decide if to put on agenda or send to committee.
- A. Other Updates/Announcements
- Millie Del Valle shared the importance of this Commission being active and engaged on issues related to the 2024 election, most specifically abortion access. What can this Board do to raise awareness? Discussion was had on bringing various speakers to raise awareness. Lourdes Abadin mentioned that the League of Women Voters will be accepting applications for their Board.
 - Lunicel Alvarado brought up supporting each other at events throughout the County.
- B. Adjournment – the meeting was adjourned at 7:17PM.