



RHODE ISLAND COMMISSION ON WOMEN AND GIRLS

MINUTES

FULL COMMISSION MEETING
JULY 7, 2016
6:30 PM
STATE HOUSE
2nd FLOOR SENATE LOUNGE

Attendance: Betty Bernal, Lisa D'Agostino, Adriana Dawson, Dr. Eileen Kwesiga, Linda Mahoney, Randy Martinez, Lisa Middleton, Tejal Tarro, Kathleen Wilson, Barbara Wong.

Absent: Kimberly Brito, Maribeth Calabro, Janet Coit, Carol Anne Costa, Representative Doreen Costa, Seema Dixit, Elizabeth Francis, Senator Hanna Gallo, Senator Gayle Goldin, Stephanie Gonzalez, Representative Joy Hearn, Representative Maureen Messier, Senator Elaine Morgan.

Call to Order

Chair Tejal Tarro called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

Chair's Update

Tejal Tarro alerted the Commissioners that the New England Women's Policy Initiative (NEWPI) conference will be occurring in November, and Rhode Island and Connecticut have been asked to prepare a Pay Equity panel. Tejal asked for volunteers to assist with this initiative. Volunteering would include a commitment to the monthly steering committee and meeting planning and progress objectives. Additionally, Tejal discussed the RICWG holding a longer and larger strategic planning session so that Commissioners can have more time to brainstorm and strategize together.

Bryant University Consulting Associates Project Presentation

Graduate students from Bryant University presented their findings and report entitled, "Equity for all: Strategic Proposal Report for the RICWG." This project expands on an earlier report prepared by students from Roger Williams University. The final report contains a gap analysis, detailed information in terms of what other groups/organizations are working on, and possibilities for the Commission to consider in terms of future agenda and action items.

New Business

Tejal advised that a quorum was not reached, therefore a vote on a new Treasurer could not occur. Commissioners agreed that a half-day retreat is needed to further review and discuss the Bryant University Consulting Associates' findings and to determine the strategic direction the Commission wishes to take. This will be a working session rather than an informational or presentation session. A tentative date of August 1st from noon to 4 pm was agreed upon.