

Minutes - Commission on the Status of Women: January 17th, 2023

Members Present

Helen Hunt
Ashley Wright
Michelle Estes
Paula Hinton
Nicole Cook- Seabold
Julie Stepp
Sid Bundy
Rufaro A Chitiyo
Aislynn Martin
Cindy Gates
Carla Hurt
Marlee Miller
Amy Foster
Erica Bower
Ramona Mayfield
Lauren Neal
Cassandra Gronendyke

Non-Members Present

Jordan Dicey

Notified of Absence

Stephanie Adams

Members Absent

Robert Owens
Diana Popa

Before business commences, we will have introductions.

1. Approval of Agenda was moved by Helen Hunt and seconded by Paula Hinton. Approved.
2. Approval of minutes from October 2022 meeting. Discussion: removal of Amber from member list, and fix “Witness” instead of “Whiteness” within minutes. Motion to approve with new amendments by Paula Hinton and seconded by Helen Hunt. Approved.
3. Women’s Center News: Helen discussed the new current events page on the WMC website, and the upcoming events. First one of the semester will have hot chocolate, the new attune and the period poverty t-shirts! Women in Leadership conversation series is continuing this semester, not just for faculty, with complimentary lunch. Also offering with the Business department, a round table discussion with leaders of tech about Financial Wellness in February. Focusing on helping young women with their financial independence and future once a month.
4. Treasurer’s Report: No updates.
5. Old Business:
6. New Business

7. Subcommittee Reports

a. Programming and Publicity

- i. Selected 3 finalists and contacted. All have accepted and we are now waiting on application packets to be submitted with February deadline.
- j. 2023 Center Stage speaker is being discussed, maybe the TN innocence project if they are interested.

b. Safety

- i. Met with President Oldham before the break. Funding for both door locks and security person has been secured and we will be updated on timeline. Funding was through THEC special funding. Will be following up with Lee if we have not heard by the end of January. Discussed per Pres. Oldham: leadership onsite broke down and why concerns were never discovered before.

c. University Policy

- i. Waiting on bereavement policy which is in faculty senate. Helen discusses the Paid Parental Leave policy and the need to request that HR review the policy to be able to make recommendations to this policy. Helen motions to have HR review policy, and create subcommittee to review and adjust. Julie and seconded by Nicole.
- j. Nicole shared that the preferred name policy/ form actively helped a student recently by being able to update their ILearn and some pages while waiting on legal name change!

8. Announcements: None.

9. Adjournment- moved to adjournment by Julie Stepp and seconded by Paula Hinton. Adjourned 3:37.