

City of Worcester
Advisory Committee on the Status of Women

Meeting Summary
Tuesday October 1st, 2013, 5:30pm
Worcester City Hall, Room 401, 4th Floor

Members Present: Sonya Atherley, Chantel Bethea, Robin Currie, , Heidi Sue LeBoeuf, Kathleen Linton, Karen Pelletier, Jessica Donovan, and Elizabeth Tomaszewski

Staff: Catherine Nash, Human Rights Specialist, the Office of Human Rights and Disabilities.

1. Call to Order:

There being a quorum the Chair called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

2. Approval of September 3rd , 2013 Minutes:

The Minutes were approved, and the Committee discussed having each member take notes per meeting. The motion was made and approved.

3. Speakers: Ms. Linda Cavioli, YWCA and Ms. Kimberly Dawkins, Pathways for

Change, addressed their agencies' needs regarding a forum around sexual education. Kimberly Dawkins stated the best way to get back to the community would be a community forum. She stated that the subject is a difficult one to discuss but the community in general is supportive of the continued progress. Suggestions made to engage the community were 1. Better policies in the workplace. 2. Education on preventing sexual violence and, 3. Education on sexism and oppression.

Linda Cavioli stated the best ways to get back to the community would be working on policy issues. Ms. Cavioli stated gaps were 1. Community mobilization toward intolerance. 2. Economic Barriers, and, 3. Housing/Safety Planning.

The YWCA invited members to the Advocacy Breakfast Oct. 28th 2013 which Daybreak is organizing.

4. Planning a Community forum

Members will research two key issues facing women in Worcester.

5. Annual Women of Consequence Award Planning

The award ceremony will be March 20th 2013 in City Hall's Levi Lincoln Room at 5:30pm. Members of ACSW will reach out to at least two local organizations which they are familiar with within their district for those organizations to submit their nominees for the Women of Consequence Award.

6. Adjournment:

The Motion to adjourn at 6:45pm was made by Ms. Tomaszewski.