

Governor's Council on Women and Girls
Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity & Workforce Equity
Friday, April 12, 2019
Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to Order and Introductions** – Meeting was brought to order at 11:05 a.m. by Co-chairs Assistant State Comptroller Michelle Gilman; Department of Housing Commissioner Seila Mosquera-Bruno; Office of Health Strategy Executive Director Victoria Veltri; and Department of Economic & Community Development Deputy Commissioner David Kooris (on behalf of Commissioner David Lehman). The following Council members / designees were in attendance and introduced themselves: Senator Marilyn Moore (Senate Democrats), Solicitor General Clare Kindall (Office of the State Attorney General), Chief of Staff Shannon Wegele (Office of the Secretary of the State), Commissioner Roderick Bremby (Department of Social Services), Commissioner Josh Geballe (Department of Administrative Services), Commissioner Bongsi Magubane (Department of Motor Vehicles), Commissioner Jorge Perez (Department of Banking), Commissioner Amy Porter (Department of Rehabilitation Services), Commissioner Michelle Seagull (Department of Consumer Protection), Commissioner Kurt Westby (Department of Labor) and Chief of Staff, Operations and Performance Victoria Hackett (Department of Energy & Environmental Protection on behalf of Commissioner Katie Dykes). (Co-Chair Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz joined later in the meeting.)
- II. Public Comment**
- a. Dorothy Lovett Buckley
 - b. Barbara Arafah (AAUW)
 - c. Mary Barneby (CEO of Girl Scouts of Connecticut)
- III. Discussion of Subcommittee priorities and timeline** – Co-Chairs began the conversation discussing the Transition Team recommendations, end goals for the subcommittee and topics of discussion among the different departments
- a. Senator Moore mentions Transition Team Recommendations - raise minimum wage to fifteen dollars by 2023, paid family medical leave, CT Innovations investments in women owned businesses, pay equity and funding Care for Kids
 - b. End Goals & Discussion
 - i. Chief of Staff Wegele explained that her office wants to develop an optional question to identify women owned business in the SOS registry; interest in advocating for diverse representation on corporate boards

- ii. Commissioner Magubane inquired / suggested about an internship program across all departments; raised affordable daycare for those in the workforce; suggested conducting research on gender representation
- iii. Discussion of cross functionality between subcommittees and looking at groups and organizations around the state that can join and advocate for Council commitments; support for women owned businesses – Chief of Staff Wegele mentioned Women’s Business Development Council
- iv. Commissioner Geballe mentioned that some State programs aren’t well-known, looking to do more outreach
- v. Commissioner Westby discussed how his department is encouraging more women in apprenticeships (later raised nursing opportunities at Yale), manufacturing pilot programs and insurance; suggested expanding programs and encouraging industries to have programs.
- vi. Commissioner Bremby mentioned the DSS Jobs First Employment Program with basic needs for women
- vii. Commissioner Mosquera-Bruno inquired about / suggested internships throughout the state where girls can gain experience in finance
- viii. Executive Director Veltri mentioned working with leaders in healthcare industry
- ix. Commissioner Perez mentioned a banking camp and notes that the industry is growing and creating more opportunities
- x. Commissioner Seagull mentions internship program and working with those agencies that have a robust one
- xi. Chief of Staff, Operations and Performance Hackett discusses recruiting women in the industry as scientists and analysts and suggests bringing high school students in as well
- xii. Solicitor General Kindall mentions an agency internship program for law students and raises a gender equity report
- xiii. Chief of Staff Wegele raises policy changes in licenses to businesses and advocacy work for more women in underrepresented trades

IV. Next Steps – Subcommittee Discussion

- a. Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz – some initiatives are being advanced in the legislature but the Council will advance executive efforts as well
- b. Next subcommittee meeting for June 2019 after session

V. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m.