

MINUTES OF MICHIGAN CITY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN MEETING

February 21, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.

West Conference Room in City Hall

Call to Order: Dalia Zygas called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm.

Present were Commissioners Jo Ann Engquist, Dalia Zygas, Albertine Allen, Kay Hill, Sharlene Livesay, and Nicole Coleman Arrived late: Faye Moore Absent: Bonita Schaaf, Kristina Isabelle, and City Council Liaison Sean Fitzpatrick.

Approval of Minutes of the Prior Meeting: Minutes of the January 17, 2019 meeting were reviewed with motion to approve by Engquist, second by Hill. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Commissioner Livesay presented the report, and the report was reviewed with a motion to approve by Allen, second by Hill. Motion carried.

Conversation regarding the 2018 requested dispersements discrepancies were brought up by Livesay. Livesay states the report is financially balanced. Zygas will check with comptroller.

Old Business:

Discussion of Womens Access to Healthcare in Michigan City:

Commissioner Albertine Allen – Minority Health Coalition – Minority Health Coalition provides services to address infant mortality rate. They offer a free 8 week program regarding caring for your baby, open to all family members. The program brings in experts to speak about different topics. They offer breastpumps to nursing mothers as well as a Doula program.

Discussion of Mental Health / Homelessness in Michigan City: Postponed till we can get Ed Seals and/or the Salvation Army to present on their programs.

Lubeznik Proposal:

Zygas checked regarding the ordinance on providing a grant that is larger than \$500, and we are approved to allocate more funds. Lubeznik Center presented at the January meeting regarding a request of a \$5,000 sponsorship for their Well-Behaved Women: Celebrating 100 years of Women's Suffrage (working title) exhibit, June-October 2020. Livesay motioned to be a sponsor, second by Engquist. Motion carried.

New Business:

Women in the Arts: Dalia requested to postpone till Isabelle is present at the next meeting.

Plans for 2019:

International Women's Day- Ester from The Next presented to host International Women's Day at the Nest. There will be an exhibit of women's art, comedy, and women performers. Food and mocktales will be provided. Education on females first and a timeline of women contributions will be available along with art experiences. To host on March 8, 2019, from 4-8PM. A \$500 grant from Mainstreet Association has been approved. Cost will be approximately \$702.48. Moore motioned to approve, second by Livesay. Motion carried.

Women's Equality Day- Postponed for discussion

Commissioners' Comments: Coleman mentions to think about business awards for being family friendly. This will be an agenda item next meeting.

Engquist shares the Women's League of Voters is hosting a candidate forum on March 28th at City Hall.

Engquist shares that the Commission for Women can have committees, but they need to have meeting minutes and be announced prior to meeting.

Council Liaison's Comments: Fitzpatrick was absent.

Adjournment: Motion to dismiss at 6:15 pm by Livesay, second by Coleman. Our next meeting will be held on March 21, 2019.

Submitted by:

Nicole Coleman, Michigan City Commission for Women