

**BARRY GLASSMAN**  
HARFORD COUNTY EXECUTIVE

**BILLY BONIFACE**  
DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION



**AMBER C. SHRODES**  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

*To be the visible resource for Harford County women in their endeavor for social, political and economic equality.*

Lead. Empower. Inspire.

**Commission for Women  
Meeting Minutes**

Monday, January 27, 2020, 6:45 p.m.  
Department of Community Services  
Cayman Conference Room, 125 N. Main Street, Bel Air, MD

**ATTENDANCE**

**Attending:**

Mary Hastler, Chair  
Jill Hamilton, Vice Chair  
Kristi Halford  
Helen Mearns  
Mary Teddy Wray  
Catherine Ohler  
Roslyn Hannibal-Booker  
Robin Walker

**Absent:**

Nafisabanu Multani

**DCS Staff:**

Sylvia Bryant

**Guests:**

Joy Christmas  
Alisha Hamilton  
Alison Imhoff  
Robin Tomechko

**1. Call to Order:**

Mary Hastler, Chair, welcomed attendees and began the discussion at 6:46p.m.

**2. Introductions:**

Commissioners and guests introduced themselves.

**3. Guest Speakers:**

Sharon Delgado & Jeannie Blades presented their idea, Town Hall 2.0, which attempts to update the traditional Town Hall meeting. The goal of Town Hall 2.0 is to provide truthful information to citizens using a civil, interactive format involving speakers, an audience, timekeeper, etc. Ms. Delgado and Ms. Blades were seeking the support of the Commission for Women as partners in this venture. Though impressed with the presentation, the Commission decided that partnering with the venture does not fit into their mission.

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**4. Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes from the September 23, 2019 meeting will be issued out electronically for review and vote. The results of the electronic vote will be reported at the next meeting.

**5. Chairwoman's Report:**

A. Mary briefly introduced the idea of the Commission participating with Maryland Humanities' observation of the Year of the Woman, centennial of women gaining the right to vote. She has some additional information gathering to do before she offers a full report.

**6. Coordinator's Report:** Coordinator, Sylvia Bryant

A. **Applications for new commissioners** were forwarded to the County Executive's team for review. Applicants should hear from that office directly about appointment and when the matter will be reviewed by the County Council. Applicants are welcome though not required to attend the County Council meeting at which their application is considered.

B. **Secretary needed** – the commissioners were reminded that a secretary is needed from amongst their ranks to record meeting notes, issue reminders of meetings, etc. Jill Hamilton is willing to serve until someone is able to fulfill this role.

C. **Social Media Campaign** – Sylvia thanked the commissioners who submitted possible quotes, quips, etc. for use in the social media campaign designed to increase awareness of the Commission and Women's History Month. Commission members were asked to review the list Jill compiled and offer any edits.

D. **Brochure** – no update at this time.

**6. Committee Updates:**

A. **Governance Committee**, Chair, Cathy Ohler, no new information to share

B. **Membership Development Committee**, is in need of a chair from amongst the ranks to promote the Commission in the local community

C. **Women of Tomorrow**, Chair, Mary Teddy Wray, Thursday, March 19, 2020, 6pm Richlin Ballroom reserved; menu selected; contract signed; deposit paid. The Commission decided to extend the application deadline through Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Commission members discussed reaching out to Girls Scouts, Sororities, Recreation Councils, PTAs, previous nominators, the schools and other local groups that support women. Mary Hastler suggested personal phone calls to folks to promote submissions. Jill, Mary Teddy and Mary Hastler agreed to serve as nomination reviewers.

D. **Community Conversations**, Chair, Roslyn Hannibal-Booker, no new information to share

**7. Old Business:**

**8. New Business:**

A. **Mary Teddy** shared information about a session she attended, *No More Stolen Childhoods*, which described ways to recognize child abuse. She thought this might be good information for the Commission to distribute/share. Allison mentioned that Nicole Blanchard, SARC, presented this or a similar session during the Cherish the Child event.

- B. **Women's Suffrage** – Kristi Halford reported on the work being done at the state level with the Maryland Commission for Women. A free full-day event is being planned for Wednesday, August 26, 2020, State House, Annapolis. The day will include an evening reception.
- C. **Women's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Lobby Day in Annapolis** – Wednesday February 19<sup>th</sup>, from 8:30am – 1pm. Members of the Commission voted to have the Commission's name added as a sponsor/endorser of the Lobby Day. Doing show shows general support; no fees or costs associated with participation.
- D. **WOW Festival** – March 7<sup>th</sup> at the Columbus Center <https://wow-baltimore.org>. This local event is sponsored by the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Commission here in Maryland.

**9. Web Announcements:** *All events are posted to the County's website: [www.harfordcountymd.gov](http://www.harfordcountymd.gov) and click on the Living Here tab, then Community Involvement and then Community Events for a more detailed listing of events community and public meetings and more.*

- A. **Athena Leadership Awards**, Friday, March 6, 2020, 7:30am, Richlin Ball Room, Edgewood; shared the list of finalists.
- B. **Voices of American Women Survey**, posted by the National Association of Commissions for Women; deadline for completing survey is February 1, 2020; <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSch20HrXD013CQa2mvQtdeB4xHzwNVS5jkY9j6h3mnhnOLlxg/viewform>
- C. Invitation to attend **Annual Lobby Day in Annapolis**, Wednesday, February 19, 2020 (see discussion above).

**10. Next Meeting:** Monday, March 2, 2020, 6:45pm, Community Services Office  
125 N. Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21014

**11. Adjourn:**

Motion to adjourn from Cathy Ohler, second was Kristi Halford passed, meeting adjourned at 8:22pm.