

**North Carolina Council for Women
Quarterly Meeting
Public School Forum
September 30, 2011**

Location: 3739 National Drive, Suite 100
Raleigh, NC 27612

Time: CFW Board Meeting 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Attendees: *Beth Briggs, Robin Coates, Kate Deiter-Maradei, Anne Gerhardt, Phil Kline, Amber Koonce, Diane Kuehn, Dr. Julie Lapham, Jane Martin, Carolyn Morrison, Muriel Offerman (via telephone), Lisa Pizziero, Jenny Ward (Chair)*

Absent Members: *Meena Ahuja, Dr. Valerie Johnson, Karen LeVert, Melissa Reed, Judge Robin Robinson, Laura Wallace*

NC CFW Staff: *Executive Director Jill Dinwiddie, Assistant Director Mary Williams- Stover, Tara Minter and Tanya McGuire*

Guests: *Supreme Court Justice Robin Hudson, Deputy Secretary June Michaux, Virginia Niehaus, Fred Morrison and Tara Hanneman*

I. Welcome/Introductions – Jill Dinwiddie, Executive Director

- Executive Director Jill Dinwiddie welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone in the room to introduce themselves. The new members each gave some background on themselves.

II. Swearing In of New Board Members- Supreme Court Justice Robin Hudson

- The four new members; Alexander Gomes, Phil Kline, Diane Kuehn and Carolyn Morrison were sworn in by Supreme Court Justice Robin Hudson.

III. Approval of Minutes- Jenny Ward, Chair

- Minutes were approved as presented.

IV. Executive Director's Report Highlights – Jill Dinwiddie, Executive Director

- Ms. Dinwiddie introduced the new Board Chair; Ms. Jenny Ward.
- Ms. Dinwiddie thanked everyone for their service and welcomed the new members. Expressing appreciation for all that each member contributes. The new members were asked to submit a short paragraph about themselves to Ms. Dinwiddie to be posted on the Council's website.

- Ms. Dinwiddie gave a brief overview of the NC Council for Women for the new members.
- The Council for Women received a Z Smith Reynolds Foundation grant that will provide Osnium Software to the stand alone Displaced Homemaker programs. This client based software will allow the programs to electronically collect and track data on clients served and services offered. The Osnium project was already set in motion for the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault programs through a Governors Crime Commission grant to NCCADV. This Z Smith Reynolds grant will allow Displaced Homemaker programs to be included as well.

Ms. Dinwiddie introduced Deputy Secretary June Michaux who greeted the Board, welcomed the new members and thanked everyone for their service.

- The Governor's Conference for Women will take place on 11/2/11. Members were given cards advertising the conference and asked to assist in marketing it to their networks. If eight board members wish to attend the conference, a table can be reserved for NC CFW.
 - Interested members raised their hands: Kate Deiter-Maradei, Jane Martin, Carolyn Morrison, Beth Briggs, Diane Kuehn and Muriel Offerman.
- After the last meeting and the Board's desire to move forward with the Status of Women in NC report, the Institute for Women's Policy Research was contacted regarding the possibility of updating the 1996 report. IFWPR doesn't have the funds to do the analysis or even to gather further research on a state by state basis. The Council is now left with making the decision of going forward and raising private resources. The amount of analysis we would want them to do would determine the price, approximate range 10K – 35K. That is a topic for further discussion for the subcommittee working on this.
 - Ms. Ward Ms. Ward spoke very highly of IFWPR and added that she feels very strongly that we should work with this organization. She encouraged everyone to visit the website.
- Planning for the Women's History Month Celebration is underway. Plans are to jazz up the event a little this year and to partner again with the NC History Museum and other women's organizations in the area. The committee met with Anita Brown- Graham, Executive Director of the Emerging Issues Institute who expressed interest in

participating on the program. Ms. Dinwiddie spoke very highly of Ms. Brown- Graham indicating that she offered to help identify a panel of women that would follow her speech. The committee met with the sponsors from last year and the group of sponsors for the upcoming year is even larger.

V. Legislative Workforce Development Subcommittee- *Mary Williams-Stover, Assistant Director*

- The subcommittee was asked to prepare a report providing details on the outcomes accomplished; the kind of services being provided and the kind of individuals being served by Displaced Homemaker programs. The report will include the names of the programs that receive DH funds, their location, and the extent of their outreach. The report on DH programs will be given to the sub-committee on October 12, 2011; CFW members were invited to attend as members of the audience.

VI. Legislative Report- *Representative Susie Hamilton*

- Ms. Ward read Representative Hamilton's bio and a comment from Judge Robin Robinson.
- Representative Hamilton suggested that the board invite Denise Wiggs to speak at one of the meetings.
- Advice to the Council: "FIGHT! Fight like you're fighting for your life, your children, your gender."
 - Question: How do we fight?
 - Answer: By raising money and distributing data.
- Everyone thanked Representative Hamilton for coming.

VII. Women's Fund of Forsyth County- *Tari Hanneman w/ Women's Fund of Forsyth County*

- Ms. Hanneman discussed the Women's Fund, a philanthropic organization that makes a difference for women and girls in Winston Salem.
- Ms. Hanneman presented *Through A Gender Lens: The Economic Security of Women and Girls in Forsyth County.*
- Ms. Hanneman recommended that the Council look at a comprehensive report done in Minnesota. That might be helpful in crafting our proposal.
- Ms. Hanneman's presentation was emailed to the board members and extra copies are available for the absent members.

VIII. General Meeting (in place of committee work)

- Continued the discussion on the Status of Women in NC report that the Council wants to complete. The goal was to come up with a plan.
- The discussion included the following points:
 - Report needs to be very focused and strategic
 - Narrowing the scope of the report
 - Timeline for completion
 - Ultimate goal of the report
 - Target audience
 - How will we roll out this report, need a media plan
 - Multiple impact from the media by doing versions/ series of the report
 - Should we use a NC based research firm versus a national firm
 - Is there any small chunk of data we can focus on and do a small report now and spread it statewide
 - A suggestion was made to look at the report authorized by James Johnson and John Kasarda at the Keenan Institute which is available online.
 - Possible areas of focus for the report:
 - Economic Security for women
 - Women's involvement in the political arena
 - Women and children living in poverty and homeless in our state
 - Goal summed up by Diane Kuehn: "To educate elected officials, the business community and citizens of NC on the current status of women and issues facing them in order to positively affect public policy and support."

IX. Special Acknowledgement- Jill Dinwiddie, Executive Director

- Board member, Amber Koonce was featured in *Glamour* Magazine as one of the ten most outstanding college women in the US . She was presented with her article in a frame. Amber is also being nominated by UNC-CH for a Rhodes scholarship which is the highest of honors for a college student.

X. DH Grants Award Process- Anne Gerhardt

- Ms. Dinwiddie gave background on how the DH grants were awarded in the past--- ranked in tiers, according to their application score given by the grant review teams. There were quite a few unhappy grantees this time around as many traditionally high

ranking programs ended up with low scores in the most recent review, which affected the amount of their grant. Ms. Gerhardt was asked to come up with some possible solutions to this issue.

- Ms. Gerhardt handed out 2 proposals.
 - Proposal 1 includes grant review teams of at least 6 persons reviewing 17 or all 35 grants, as opposed to 5 or 6 grants. The review teams receive a more detailed training and resources including a rating scale for scoring.
 - Proposal 2 includes a more non-competitive process, the competition being not the amount of the grant but which ones will be given grants at all (up to 35) and splitting all funds equally among the qualifying applicants (up to 35).
 - Suggestions posed:
 - Look at giving more to rural county programs
 - Look at giving more to stand alone DH programs (set up like the SA funds)
 - Decision was tabled for further study and input from programs.

XI. Announcements

- The Governor's Conference for Women 11/2/11
- Next meeting 11/4/11

XII. The meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.