



WASHINGTON STATE WOMEN'S COMMISSION

Plenary Meeting Minutes | Day 1 – October 5, 2023

1:00pm – 5:00pm | Yakima, WA & Hybrid

Attendees:

Grace Yoo, Executive Director
Representative Mary Dye, Legislative Advisor
Leah White, WSWC Staff
Erin Beck, WSWC Staff
Commissioner Indapure, Chair
Commissioner Dalan, Vice Chair
Commissioner Simons, Commissioner
Commissioner Mukhopadhyay (Virtual), Commissioner
Commissioner Perreira (Virtual), Commissioner
Commissioner Kobdich (Virtual), Commissioner
Commissioner Franklin (Virtual), Commissioner

Opening

The regular meeting of the Washington State Women's Commission was called to order on Day 1 at 2:45pm on October 5th, 2023, in Baker Boyer Bank, Yakima, WA by Commissioner Indapure.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

Election of 2024 Executive Committee

Commissioner Indapure invites Commissioners for candidate slates.

Commissioner Franklin proposes a slate:

- Commissioner Dalan as Chair
- Commissioner Lowe as Vice Chair
- Commissioner Kobdish to be Secretary,

Commissioner Perreira seconds the nomination of the slate.

Vote:

- | Ayes | Nays |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| ○ Commissioner Dalan | None |
| ○ Commissioner Indapure | |
| ○ Commissioner Franklin | |
| ○ Commissioner Perreira | |
| ○ Commissioner Kobdish | |
| ○ Commissioner Mukhopadhyay | |
| ○ Commissioner Simons | |

New Executive Committee established as Commissioner Dalan as Chair, Commissioner Lowe as Vice Chair, and Commissioner Kobdish as Secretary

This Executive Committee will take effect at the end of the plenary meeting on Friday, October 6, 2023.

Public Comment

- **Tana Yasu**
 - Former Seattle Women's Commissioner - King County Women's Advisory Board having an event discussing domestic violence and inviting WSWC to the event and possibly participate.
 - Will share information about the hybrid event for October 28th and 29th in Seattle.
 - Career event on October 29th for trades, Unions, and apprenticeships
 - Link to social media to share with our networks.
- **Val Swengel**
 - Saw the plenary on the website and joined out of personal interest, no comment at this time.

Overview of Q3 Activities – Executive Director Yoo

- Back to school fair in Quincy, invited by Mary Jo - directly interact with community members, mainly mothers and daughters.
- VP Kamala Harris's speech in Seattle, staff got to meet her as well.
- APEC 2023 Seattle - participated in a conversation with Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Laura Lochman on how more women are benefitting from Green Energy transition.
- Hosted Facebook Live Event with State Department on AI in technology
- Hosting Women Entrepreneurs from Tamba in Hyogo Prefecture

- Executive Director Yoo presented at the ICSEW conference earlier in the week

Overview of Strategic Plan Deliverables – Executive Director Yoo

- Robust Communications Plan
- CRM – in progress
- Staffing
- Committee Charters & Objectives
- Legislative Sponsor for Amendments to Authorizing Legislation
- Expanding the number of Commissioners from 9 to 12?
 - Nine is a number that is manageable. More would create more work for staff.
- More time to engage with each other during Plenary Meetings
- Commissioner Recruitment
- January Plenary
 - Considering a virtual format for plenary meetings during Legislative session and condensing it to part of one day
 - Staff suggested a plenary meeting BEFORE the legislative session begins in January. (The first week in January - possibly January 5th)
 - Additional suggest offered: scheduling plenary two weeks into session on January 12th or 18th
 - Consideration on whether these dates will mean less availability from Legislative Advisors.
- **Looking Ahead:**
 - Fall will be about stakeholder engagement.
 - ARL & DP
 - Highlights:
 - Receiving the President’s award from Washington Women's Lawyers, recognizing work in supporting reproductive rights access in WA
 - Commissioners Indapure and Mukhopadhyay along with Leah White will be attending to receive the award.
 - Executive Director Yoo invited to join the Australia Study & Trade Mission to discuss Clean Energy
 - WSWC invited to the White House for a Biden Administrative event to help represent WA & OR, communicate and learn about the Biden Administration's community programs – Program Manager Leah White to attend.

Budget Review

Leah White, WSWC Program Manager, gave a budget review for Q4 budget from 2023.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Include Strategic Plan deliverables for upcoming quarter in “Look Ahead”.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05pm by Rituja Indapure. The Day 2 of general meeting will be at 10:30 am on October 6, 2023, in Baker Boyer Bank, Yakima, WA.

Minutes submitted by: Erin Beck



WASHINGTON STATE WOMEN'S COMMISSION

Plenary Meeting Minutes | Day 2 – October 6, 2023

10:30am – 3:00pm | Yakima, WA & Hybrid

Attendees:

Grace Yoo, Executive Director
Representative Mary Dye, Legislative Advisor
Leah White, WSWC Staff
Erin Beck, WSWC Staff
Commissioner Indapure, Chair
Commissioner Dalan, Vice Chair
Commissioner Lowe, Secretary
Commissioner Simons, Commissioner
Commissioner Mukhopadhyay, Commissioner
Commissioner Perreira (Virtual), Commissioner
Commissioner Kobdich (Virtual), Commissioner
Commissioner Franklin (Virtual), Commissioner
Dontae Payne, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor
Senator Lisa Wellman
Representative Jamila Taylor
Senator Ann Rivers
Dierdre Bissonette, ISCEW Chair

Opening

The regular meeting of the Washington State Women's Commission was called to order on Day 2 at 10:30am on October 6th, 2023, in Baker Boyer Bank, Yakima, WA by Commissioner Indapure

Update from the Office of the Governor – Dontae Payne

- Agency Request Legislation
 - Support from the Governor's Office - better descriptor of scope for WSWC

- Office of Equity Coordination meetings, participating agencies are drafting a charter to work across intersectionality (No official name just yet)
- Possible Budget priorities:
 - Use of fentanyl and opioids (number one killer in Thurston county, exposure to children)
 - Difficulty finding data - work with Dept to Health to get access to the database or at least a dashboard.
 - Heighten level of awareness and be proactive in an impactful way in communities of need
 - Migrants from Southern Border (women & children involved)
 - Inter-governmental task force to provide housing and shelter.

WSWC Legislative Priorities & Strategy Overview – Executive Director Yoo

- Continuing to stakeholder Commissioners on our ARL
- Updated all Commissioners on change to previously proposed Office of Women's Empowerment to the Office of Women's Policy & Initiatives (OWPI)
- Decision Package - add 3 additional staff to expand staff capacity to connect women to government services.
 - Expand access to government services.
 - Increase women's opportunities to wage equity.
- Relying on Committees and committee Chairs to be the voices of the subject matter committees
- **ACTION ITEM**: Schedule an Ad Hoc meeting (virtual) for conversation for a formal vote after all commissioners have been briefed.
 - Request for digital vote after all briefings

Health Committee

- Overview of Health Committee focus areas
- Point out behavioral health in terms maternal health outcomes
- In 2024 document a simple vetting process of data sources before we promote data sources on the website.

Safety Committee

- The charter is almost complete.
- Focus Areas
 - DV/SA/Gender based violence.
 - Focusing in on vulnerable populations
 - Data tracking and legislative follow through to determine impact.
 - Recreate the listening sessions on Civil protection orders in 2022
 - Gun safety
 - Technology safety
 - Stalking
 - Education on safe use of technology and digital imprint

- How tech is used to blackmail and isolate women from their communities
- Safe educational spaces and workplaces
- Mental/ Behavioral Health
 - Substance abuse
 - Men's mental health has a direct impact on women's safety.

Economic Security & Opportunity Committee

- Overview of ES&O focus areas
- Intersectionality of all committees
- Women on Corporate Boards overview

Break for Lunch

Action Items for Legislative Outreach – Commissioner Indapure

- Now until December
 - Setting up meetings with Legislators
 - The packet for "how to" of legislative outreach created last year can be updated to reflect a shorter session.
 - Create template for email response.
 - Update District Finder
 - Enable Commissioners and members of sub-committees to reach out to their legislators from their district.
 - Keep as an agenda item on sub-committee meetings, share template and talking points.
 - Put together in an easily understood format. Use "Focus" instead of "Priorities."
 - Civic Engagement and Education as part of the WSWC

Legislative Session Look Ahead

Senator Lisa Wellman

- Reaching out to Secretary of State about Women on Corporate Boards
 - Letter to people on the list from the Treasurer
- AI's impact on jobs, more searchable information
- Breast Implant surgery bill blocked by the Medical Association
 - Education to women before the surgery on what is used and complications.
 - One-pager to post on her website, asking other legislators to do so as well.
- Sub limits for Insurance
- Women's Economic
 - Continuing education opportunities for higher-pay and advancement.
- PNWER - regional solutions (Canada, Calgary, BC, WA, OR, MT, ID)
- Rise-WA = rural investment for small business empowerment for women, financial help, and technical advice towards women in entrepreneurship

Senator Ann Rivers

- Landmark Equity in Clinical Trials passed - need to tweak to make more effective
 - Medical devices are not fully vetted across demographics, specifically women.
- Breast Reconstruction/Implant Bill did not go through in 2023.
- Fertility, Insurance to pay for fertility as a benefit (currently only tech companies)
- Maintain affordability for private insurance and premium payers.
- Reduce inflation of everyday items - gas, food, etc.
- Plans to Narrow legislative scope to items she has already worked on that need to be perfected and legislation from organizations that don't have lobbyists.
- Capital Budget - advancements in supplemental budget

Representative Jamila Taylor

- Recap from 2023 session
 - Response to the Blake Decision (possession of drugs)
 - Billion-dollar investment for Behavioral Health sector
 - Women impacted who don't have direct advocacy.
 - Women who are experiencing DV and/or are unhoused.
 - Gaps with recovery services and other things
 - Housing vouchers, survivors having access to housing away from abusers.
 - Protections for people in the trans community
 - Developmental Disability advocacy
 - Finding models in other states that might be able to exist here.
 - Women being pulled out of the workforce to care for their dependents.
 - Resources across the continuum
 - Assessments for disabilities younger to get services implemented earlier.
 - Reimbursement rates, language resources access, bridging organizations' access to experts.
- Practicing Family Law Attorney - interest in addressing parenting plans
 - Making sure the survivor of DV is protected, avoiding cycle of cross-allegations.
 - Access to attorneys on-record
 - Guardianship issues, guardian et litem issues
 - Child support pathway, custodial parents most likely are women (TANF Bill)
 - Training options available for CRNAs and Anesthesiology assistants
- Significant Housing Bill - Covenant Homeownership Account Act
 - Down-payment assistance for first-time home buyers who were affected by Homeowners Association Covenants AND their descendants.
 - Research, Implementation, Legal Implications

Representative Mary Dye

- WA State Urology Convention - implants for prostates with complications

- Supports Senator Wellman's continued efforts in promoting education around implants of any kind.
- Men's Commission Bill
 - Event in October in Seattle for Men's Health and another in November to discuss suicide prevention.
 - Issues on mental health and well-being among boys and men

ICSEW Update - Deirdre Bissonette

- 60th Anniversary this year
- Professional Development opportunities
- Annual conference just wrapped up with presentation by Grace Yoo, WSWC Director
- Executive Order 2301, changes requested:
 - Easier for people to become members.
 - Digging into policy and procedure
- Book club starting with, "So You Want to Talk About Race?" Book, event with author
 - School to prison pipeline for BIPOC children and boys
 - Disparity in discipline in school districts
 - Educating members on engagement with school boards
- Workshops around career development - job application and resume building (Spring 2024)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00pm by Commissioner Indapure. The next plenary meeting will be held virtually in January.

Minutes submitted by: Erin Beck