



## Thursday, September 12, 2024 - FINAL Minutes

**Call to Order – Carolyn Keaton Culp, Chair**

**Secretary's Report – Samantha Nagy, Secretary**

- Attendance
  - Present were: Carolyn Culp, Gina Worthey, Sam Nagy, Brianna Sampson, Monet Procter Amy Barley, Stacie Spragins, Aisha Hilliard, Karen Butler, Amanda Horne
  - Excused Absence: Meghan Honesto, Sari Wisch
  - Absence: Christina Cornwell
- Approval of August Minutes
  - Gina motioned, Stacie seconded, minutes approved
- Visitors
  - Mary Ann Bleeke: AACo Women Giving Together
  - Donna Williams: AACo citizen and veteran
  - Tiwana Parker

### **New Business:**

**Former AACCW commissioner Benedicta Oyiana will be missed:** A Whatsapp group was shared via email for updates on her memorial service. Amy will be collecting donations so that we send something to Benedicta's family on behalf of the entire commission. There is also a tribute [website](#) with more information. We'll also be honoring her at the upcoming Women Who Vote Event.

- Action Item: Send a donation to Amy

**New County Board and Commissions Liaisons:** Tom Ni & Kelecia Jackson are new liaisons. Tom is focused on membership and appointments and Kelecia handles the administrative activities. Carolyn met with them and will continue to meet with them regarding changing our commissioner count to 19 and recruiting new commissioners. We're also looking into whether we can get funding from the county.

**Establish Membership Contact/Committee:** Tom is working on getting Executive Order updated with member increase and recruiting to fill vacancies. Identify person(s)



who will review applications and coordinate with applicants and commissioners to setup interview dates and times.

- **Item for consideration:** Think about whether you would like to be on the membership committee. We'll be calling for volunteers next month.

**Establish 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Committee:** Initial conversations with County Engagement Office to celebrate as banquet after Michelle Obama Awards in March 2025. Another alternative is event on International Women's Equality Day in Aug 2025 and partnering with nonprofits to conduct fundraising. Establish committee.

Motion to establish committee

- Carolyn motioned, Gina seconded
- Unanimous

Amanda is Chair. Members are Brianna, Monet and Sari (pending her approval since she isn't here). First step: Come up with a plan for what the anniversary event will be and what the budget might look like. Please include Carolyn on the planning committee communications. We'd also like to involve Tiyana Parker on the initial planning meetings.

**Update Commission Bylaws:** In preparation of updated Executive Order (EO) which will increase membership to 19, establish a Bylaws Committee to update bylaws consistent with the new EO and current operating environment (i.e. post COVID).

Bylaws were sent out for review on August 5th.

Motion to establish committee

- Stacie motioned, Gina seconded
- Unanimous

Sam will Chair the committee. Aisha and Sari (pending her approval since she isn't here) will be on the committee. The committee will propose amendments to the bylaws for the committee to vote on.

- **Action Item:** Review the existing bylaws in the next 2 weeks and send your proposed amendments and thoughts to Sam

**Review Committee Memberships:** The Financial Literacy, Domestic Violence, and Advocacy and Policy Committees are without leadership. Activities within the scope of the committee are being worked and reported under different committees. Ensure that efforts are worked and reported under the correct committee (even if worked by



members not belonging to that committee). Review if current committees and membership reflect the intentions of My Passion, My Purpose, My Place strategy.

Stacie volunteered as Advocacy & Policy Chair.

We decided to postpone discussion about chairs for other committees in the interest of time.

**Anne Arundel County Restaurant week:** Women's Business Week is October (3rd week) and partners we have worked with before are looking to try bringing this to life. We attempted this in the Spring, but a competing event led us to cancel. In the past, our commission was focused on getting the word out and our partners were focused on getting the restaurant participants and a website set up. Our commissioners were also going to be in charge of selecting the winners (selfie contest via social media)

Partners: AACo Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development forum

- Action Item: If this interests you, reachout to Carolyn via email NLT one week from today

**Plan In Person Meetings:** Commission has only met in person twice this year. Plan for upcoming October meeting to be in person and Holiday Party in lieu of December meeting.

Stacie volunteered to find a venue for our 10/10 meeting.

Amanda and Amy both called out for the 10.10 meeting.

### Committee Reports

- Executive
- Advocacy & Policy:
  - This Saturday is the Women Who Vote event! 11 non-commissioners have RSVPd,
- Action Item: Please RSVP and donate for refreshments
- Women's Health: November 9th is a tentative Youth Mental Health First Aid Training date. This is a virtual event. More to come on that.
- Financial Literacy: No report out.
- Domestic Violence: No Report out.



### **Upcoming Items/Events**

- Saturday, 14 Sep: Women Who Vote Panel  
Location: Riviera Beach Library  
1130 Duvall Hwy, Pasadena, MD  
12:00 noon – 2:00 pm
- Wednesday, 9 Oct: Meade Middle School Career Day  
Location: 1103 26<sup>th</sup> Street, Fort Meade, MD  
Time: TBD  
\*may require additional access to military installation; requesting Hispanic/Latinx for Hispanic Heritage Month

### **Open Discussion:**

#### Updates from Tiyana Parker

- Hispanic Heritage Festival, Sept 28th, 9am - 3:30 pm at Annapolis HS
- Ft. Smallwood Park River Day, 11am - 3pm, this Saturday
- Crownsville Hospital Memorial Park unveiling of the County's master plan, Oct 19th, 6-8pm at Rolling Knolls ES
- New outreach program:  
<https://www.aacounty.org/county-executive/cecs/engagearundel>

#### Mary Anne Bleeke, Anne Arundel Women Giving Together (AAWGT)

- Collective giving group of women who pool their money for a greater impact on community organizations, particularly organizations for women and families in Anne Arundel County
- Last year they awarded 1.9 million! They're given to over 52 nonprofits that service various populations in the county.
- 5:30 pm Tuesday they'll be holding a grant showcase that presents the grant awardees from last year and the progress they made due to the grant funding.
- More info and membership: [givingtogether.org](http://givingtogether.org)

#### Donna Williams, community member

- From the chat: "Thank you all for the opportunity to observe your commendable work. If possible offline, I would like to discuss what opportunities exist for community members to support your work and future events."

**Motion to Adjourn (Stacie, Brianna seconded 8:22pm)**

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, October 10, 2024, 7pm**