



**Board of Commissioners**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, January 9, 2014**

**Present in person:** Christine Altman, Marta Pincheira, Kori McOmber, Patzetta Trice, Rep. Sheila Klinker

**Present via phone:** Rep. Cindy Kirchhofer, Kayevonne Dailey, Kelly Perri, Cindy Felsten, Stephanie Moore

**Staff:** Kristin Svyantek Garvey

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 12:09 PM by Christine Altman, Chair of the Indiana Commission for Women.

**Chair's Report:** Chair Christine Altman announced that she would like to move some items up on the agenda. Given people's schedules, she would like to provide an update on Torchbearers and get consensus on this year's Women's Day. Since the last board meeting, she had investigated nonprofits that might be able to partner with the Commission to assist with fiscal responsibilities around Torchbearers. She asked the board to consider other options and provide information to either her or Kristin Garvey. Chair Altman has been speaking with Garvey about identifying an intern to help with projects.

**Women's Day at the Statehouse:** Kristin Garvey indicated that she submitted an outline of the format to the board for their consideration. She reminded them that they had decided to change the format of the event. Last year's *Women's Day* was structured as a seminar with updates on each of the five priority areas identified in *Hoosier Women Speak*. The Statehouse has been reserved on January 29, 2014, from 3:30 to 5:30 PM with the format to be more of a reception. Chair Altman also indicated that these plans would help us be more proactive with regards to legislation. Garvey will investigate purchasing display boards designed for the event. Chair Altman asked that each board member work to push event information out to her network and to local media outlets. In addition, she asked that board members personally invite their legislators to the event. Garvey indicated her recommendation for the board to consider doing something in late summer/early fall that would be positioned prior to the legislative study committees. These events can focus on one or more of the priority areas and provide opportunity for more in-depth review of the issues. She said that the Commission could balance the calendar year as well as each event building upon the last event. Then, the January event becomes more of a promotional opportunity for a gathering with purpose. It was recommended that Garvey investigate purchasing name badges for all board members. There was also a suggestion to return to listening session locations or highlight information through social media outlets in order to discuss the findings and/or obtain additional information. Chair Altman also emphasized that the results from listening sessions should be re-validated on a regular basis.

**Torchbearer Awards:** Patzetta Trice indicated that everyone has been working hard. Garvey then reported that nominations are due tomorrow (January 10). There are current seventeen completed nominations and two incomplete nominations. She also provided a brief report on nomination statistics and on media exposure. She indicated that this year was the first year ICW was able to have an article in *Around the Circle*, the weekly newsletter that goes to all Central Indiana state government employees, which ran for several weeks. She hopes that ICW will also have an article in *The Torch*, which is the

monthly newsletter that goes out to all state employees. She also indicated that she will be identifying ten people to serve on the Council of Judges. There was discussion about whether to hold the Council of Judges as a virtual conference call. Trice then reminded the board members that this year would be the tenth anniversary of the Torchbearer Awards. The event planning committee had decided on the theme of "Ten for Ten (or 10 for 10)" There was discussion on possible various fundraising methods. Garvey mentioned that ICW does have a special fund, with some funds in it that could be used and should have some movement in it. Kelly Perri reported that they have decided on a soloist who will be performing during the program and are considering additional background music for the reception. Stephanie Moore then reported that they will also be working on a video around the "10 for 10" theme.

**Approval of January Minutes:** With quorum being established at 12:49 PM, Rep. Sheila Klinker moved to accept the minutes as submitted and Kori McOmber seconded. The motion carried unanimously by roll call.

**Legislative Session:** There was a request for clarification on who handles ICW legislation. Garvey stated that Danny Lopez with the Indiana Civil Rights Commission had left the agency. He was also the legislative liaison for agencies housed with the Civil Rights Commission. She explained that she typically monitors legislative bills related to the five priority areas identified in the *Hoosier Women Speak* initiative. She also has been collecting the platforms from each Party and other organizations that may follow similar bills. She pointed out that the newsletter she received from Senator Skinner and other Senate Democrats included a section entitled "Women and the Economy." Chair Altman also indicated that at a later date, the board should have a discussion about how politically active it can or should be.

**Financial Report:** A November financial report was submitted to the board for review prior to the meeting. Garvey reported that she received the December figures earlier that morning and provided an updated report for those in attendance. She announced that the Governor has requested that all agencies plan for a 4.5% reversion of funds at the end of the fiscal year.

**Strategic Plan:** Garvey indicated that she had done a side-by-side comparison of the current and previous plan. She asked that board members review the documents and come to the next board meeting with questions.

**Executive Director's Report:** Garvey announced that the Department of Veteran Affairs has hired a women veteran coordinator, with whom she met recently. They will have a women's conference in June 2014. She announced that she had a conference call with the Statehouse Tour office regarding their plans to have a writing contest, highlighting the women who hold current executive branch state level offices. She also announced that the Martin Luther King Day celebration will be held next week. At that event, the Civil Rights Commission will unveil a new statue of Congresswoman Julia Carson, as the first African-American woman serving in the Indiana General Assembly.

**Announcement:** Garvey indicated there was a list of meetings in the board packet. The next board meeting will be Thursday, February 13, 2014.

**Adjournment:** As there was no other business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:40 PM