

ARLINGTON COUNTY  
 COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN  
 August 13, 2020 Meeting Minutes

**Meeting date/time:** August 13, 2020 at 7 pm      **Meeting location:** Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting  
**Minutes by:** Margaret Turlington      **Minutes approved:** January 14, 2021

<u>Commissioners</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
1. Stephanie Dix Clifford (Chair)	X	
2. Marguerete Luter (Vice Chair)	X	
3. Caroline Romano		X
4. Sasha Whitney		X
5. Margaret Turlington	X	
6. Azadeh Meshkaty	X	
7. Xenia Ruiz	X	
8. Ingrid Vaicius	X	
9. Emily Zimmerman	X	
10. Julia Tanner	X	
11. Michelle Woolley	X	
12. Arbora Johnson	X	
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>
<u>County Liaison/Advisor</u>		
Aruna Minhas	X	
<u>Student Commissioner</u>		
Nehal Abouelnor		X

**Meeting called to order by/at:** Stephanie Clifford at 7:05 pm

**Previous minutes were:** Not considered.

**Guest(s):** None

**Chair/Vice Chair**

*Stephanie Clifford, Chair and Marguerete Luter, Vice Chair.*

1. Commissioner Caiazzo has resigned because of other obligations. If you have anyone that you would like to encourage to apply, please do so.
2. County has hired a new director of race and equality that we will be inviting to attend our meeting.
  - a. The first goal is addressing the police force.
3. County is asking everyone to participate in the census.
  - a. Commissioner Johnson asked for an update as to how the county is doing in census participation.
4. Commissioner Johnson raised concerns about the disproportionate effect the pandemic is having on women's work load and the closure of schools.
  - a. Commissioner Ruiz asked if the county's childcare plan had adjusted in light of the pandemic.
  - b. Commissioner Johnson noted that Arlington Public Schools has announced that they plan to find child care for teachers, but that leaves a gap for many parents. She expressed desire for the county to take action.
  - c. Commissioner Tanner noted that many local parents were forming pods to ensure supervision of children, but that this was a position of privilege.
  - d. The Commission will request an update from the county regarding the child care plan.

- e. The Commission discussed concerns about disparity in electronic resources (computers, internet, etc.) and expressed pleasure that the county was working to address that issue.

### **Forums and Special Events Department**

*Jill Caiazzo, Caroline Romano, and Sasha Whitney, Event Coordinators*

### **Research and Investigation Department**

*Azadeh Meshkaty and Sasha Whitney, Co-Directors*

1. Commissioner Clifford did give our budget testimony, asking for funds for Take Back the Night and encouraging family leave.
2. The Commission should begin working on legislative priorities as well.

### **Public Relations Department**

*Emily Zimmerman, Director and Ingrid Vaicius, Deputy Director*

### **Women of Vision Committee**

*Julia Tanner, Chair*

*Committee: Caroline Romano, Jill Caiazzo, Marguerete Luter, Emily Zimmerman, Ingrid Vaicius, Azadeh Meshkaty, Meg Turlington*

3. The Commission discussed whether to proceed with a virtual award program.
4. Commissioners Turlington and Meshkaty expressed concerns about the turn out in terms of attention and fundraising potential from a virtual event in relation to the work output. Commissioner Wooley agreed.
5. Commissioner Zimmerman asked whether it would be worth awarding honorees without an event.
6. Commissioner Clifford asked whether we might consider focusing on people addressing the pandemic across all areas, rather than dividing by category.
7. Commissioner Turlington expressed concern about the timetable. Commissioners Tanner and Zimmerman expressed belief that the timetable could be abbreviated.
8. Commissioner Zimmerman expressed the ability to use a digital and video campaign to highlight winners. Commissioner Meshkaty expressed agreement that this could be done.
9. Commissioners generally expressed a desire to move forward.
10. Commissioner Johnson asked whether the Commission could use social media to promote.
11. The Commission discussed additional meetings to facilitate.
12. The Commission discussed whether to eliminate the categories for this year. Commissioners Tanner and Vaicius will draft proposed language for Commission approval.

### **Other New Business and Announcements**

**Meeting Adjourned at: 8:12 pm**