**COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**MEETING**

**ARLINGTON COUNTY COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (CSW)**

The **Arlington CSW** convened its meeting on Thursday, March 9, 2023.

**PRESENT (In-person)** Chair Julia Tanner

Vice Chair Marguerete Luter

 Commissioner Caroline Gary Romano

 Commissioner Jeanine Finch

 Commissioner Arbora Johnson

 Commissioner Rachel Johnston

 Commissioner Jordan Stevenson

 Commissioner Susan Strauss

**VIRTUAL**  Commissioner Xenia Ruiz

**ABSENT** Commissioner Kayli Nichols

Commissioner Sasha Whitney

**STAFF** Courtney Palmer Sales, Staff Coordinator

**Public Presence:**

Also attending was member of the public Jax Garnett.

**Budget:** The Commission had provided input on the budget March 9 during the County Board work session. Commissioners Rachel Johnston and Arbora Johnson took the lead on the testimony. They discussed support for expanded parental leave, adoption assistance, and an increased family planning grant.

Board Chair Katie Cristol noted in discussion that a strong county-based healthcare model to increase – may not mean providing abortion.

The Commissioners asked the County to consider improved county data about gender equity, better data on sexual assault and better data on compensation numbers for gender equity. Commissioner Arbora Johnson stated that APS is not providing menstrual products.

**Women of Vision:**

**Nominations Committee**: Arbora Johnson, Marguerete Luter, Jordan Stevenson, Susan Strauss, Julia Tanner

Twenty-two women were nominated for Women of Vision awards, more than ever before.

**Logistics of WOV**:

* Maximum capacity is 100 people for the room.
* Commission would like the ‘meal policy’ to permit beer and wine at the awards event.
* Tables for registration and other places
* Commissioner Romano will provide high top tables
* Set up at 5pm

**Program:**  Commissioner Jordan Stevenson is finalizing and is waiting for the last sponsorships, sponsorships closing March 10.

**Press Release:** is in final stages. Chair Tanner is reviewing it and asked Board liaison Courtney Palmer Sales to review.

**Rack Cards**: Commissioner Romano will bring in “rack cards” and someone will get more printed for June and Fair.

**Revenge Porn**: Commissioner Jordan Stevenson created a rack card for revenge porn – and is hoping to get it in the victim witness program’s office. Project PEACE could be a partner. Autumn Jones Evans works for the Commonwealth Attorney, Parisa Dehghani-Tafti. Commissioner Romano will speak at the Sexual Assault Prevention Month planning meeting with Project PEACE and will talk with Commonwealth’s Attorney Parisa Dehghani-Tafti about the revenge porn rack card.

**Financial Security Panel:** Marymount University is assisting and the event may be held in its auditorium from 7-9p. Commissioner Susan Strauss is speaking to them April 13.

**Commission on the Status of Women for Norwalk, CT**– is a new Commission. Commissioner Marguerete Luter has responded to questions when asked, on a volunteer basis.