



**Baltimore County Commission for Women  
Minutes of the Meeting  
Thursday, August 17, 2017**

**STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING**

**Present:** Bella Owens, Vonzella Perry, Carmen Christiana, Jennie Fernandez, Kimberly Bowen, Kelly Carter, Cheryl Brooks, Theresa Barrett, Renee McGuirk-Spence, Phyllis Hall, Ruth Howard, Jacqui Lampell, Lynda Stahl, Nancy Surosky

**Excused Absences:** Sheila Derman, Linda Forsyth, Emily Hunter, Frances Smith, Helene Waranch, Nitsa Zdziera

**Unexcused Absences:** Dorothy Foos, Sabrina Jones, Cecelia Myrick

**Call to Order:** 6:02 p.m. by President Bella Owens

The August meeting is dedicated as a planning session for the Commission with the primary role of defining the priority initiatives for 2017-2018. After discussion the following priority initiatives were identified for 2017-2018:

- Human Trafficking
- Domestic Violence
- Women's Health
- Mentoring/Empowering
- Public Policy
- Equality & Diversity

Standing Committees 2017-2018:

Human Trafficking: Frances Smith & Kimberly Bowen, Co-Chairs

Domestic Violence:

Women's Health: Phyllis Hall & Sabrina Jones, Co-Chairs

Public Policy: Sheila Derman & Linda Forsyth, Co-Chairs

Diversity & Women's Equality: Ruth Howard & Kelly Carter, Co-Chairs

Community Outreach:

Public Information: Jacqui Lampell & Nancy Surosky

Woman of the Year 2018: Emily Hunter & Lynda Stahl, Co-Chairs

2017-2018 Planning Calendar: After discussion the September 21<sup>st</sup> regular meeting was canceled due to the Jewish holiday and two scheduled events (Diversity Dimensions Forum & African American Festival) taking place that month. Nancy Surosky will look into securing Del. Shelley Hettleman as a speaker for the October meeting. October is Domestic Violence month and Del. Hettleman expressed interest in a dialogue with our group regarding our priorities and state issues. The commissioners also explored hosting mini lectures or seminars, rather than a large event, in April or May.

## **Committee Reports**

**Women's Health:** Phyllis reported that the Cancer Updates and Issues: *Cancer Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment* conference was a success and attended by 80 mostly comprised of professionals, consumers, doctors, and nurses. Phyllis also provided a "Back-To-School Immunization Clinics" handout.

**Women's Equality/Diversity:** Kelly reported the following update for the Diversity Dimensions event scheduled for Thursday, September 14, 2017: letters for panelists issued and received, panelist confirmed, sponsors confirmed, flyers have been distributed via e-mail and social media.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 7:02 p.m.