



MEETING MINUTES
MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
February 28, 2023
Lawton City Hall - 1st Floor Banquet Room
212 SW 9th Street

- I CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL: Woodson called the meeting to order at 12:01pm**
Present: Melody Scott, Charise Walker, Dana Parrish, Danielle Brewer, Ginny Sahler, Maria Meredith, Bernita Taylot, Rebekah Pullicar, Patricia Williams, Cheryl Tate, Yvonne Landmark, Teresa Abram, Dani Blackburn, Sarah Woods, Christina Woodson
Absent: Dobanney Scott, Una. L Williams
14 present, quorum established
- II INVOCATION:** Christina Woodson gave the invocation
- III WELCOME:**
RETURNING COMMISSIONER - Woodson welcomed returning commissioner Yvonne Landmark
GUESTS: Woodson welcomed guests and introduced incoming commissioner Leslie Watts, who will be Appointed to the commission as the Fort Sill representative at the next City Council meeting.
BLACK HISTORY MONTH - Woodson reminded everyone that February is Black history months and provided everyone with handouts about Black History Month from the Lawton Public Library.
- IV BUSINESS:**
- A) **MINUTES:** Consider approval of the January 24, 2023 Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women minutes. (Copy of minutes filed with the Office of the City Clerk)
- a) Motion to approve the minutes as presented: M. Scott
 - b) Second: D. Brewer
 - c) Discussion: None
 - d) Woods called the roll: 11 Y, 0 N, 1 Abstain (Blackburn) Motion Carries.
- *D. Scott enters the meeting. 15 Commissioners now present.
- B) **FINANCIALS:** Consider approval of the financial statement prepared for February 1, 2023. (Copy of financial statements filed with the Office of the City Clerk)
- a) Motion to approve the financials as presented: D. Blackburn
 - b) Second: C. Tate
 - c) Discussion: None
 - d) Woods called the roll: 13 Y, 0 N, Motion Carries.
- C) **NOMINATIONS and ELECTION OF TREASURER:** Consider nominations from the floor to fill the remaining term of Treasurer left by outgoing Commissioner Brandi Thomas.
- a) D. Blackburn nominates Melody Scott to fill the vacancy of Treasurer. She accepts and signs the nomination consent form (see attached).
 - b) Woodson calls for nominations from the floor. None. Per bylaws, someone running unopposed may be voted in by acclamation.
 - c) Woods called the roll: 13 Y, 0 N. M. Scott is elected as Treasurer
- D) **OFFICER NOMINATIONS:** Parliamentarian will open floor to nominations for 2023/23 Slate of Officers
- a) S. Woods as parliamentarian took the floor and handed our nomination forms. She discussed that the nominations committee will meet on March 3rd to prepare the slate of

officers to be presented for election. Commissioners filled out the nomination forms and handed them in to Woods.

E) OUTSTANDING CITIZEN OF COMANCHE COUNTY: Consider approving the recommendation of the following individuals for Outstanding Citizen of Comanche County. Nominees: Kat Funaki, Hungry Hearts - Adriene Davis, Desirae Schneider, and Markaila McCorkle.

- a) D. Parrish presented the proposed recommendations and highlighted the citizens' contributions to our community.
- b) Motion to approve the Outstanding Citizens of Comanche County: T. Abram
- c) Second: D. Scott
- d) Discussion: None
- e) Woods called the roll: 13 Y 0 N, Motion Carries,

F) SUITS FOR SUCCESS PROPOSAL: Discuss and take necessary action on Suits for Success rebrand and restructure proposal.

- a) Christina Woodson presented a proposal to rebrand Suits For Success to Set For Success as a collaboration with Might CDRC to meet the needs of the workforce in Lawton. The new program will serve not only women, but also men and children. R. Pullicar inquired if the restructure still fit within our mission and if we looked at any other organizations to house the program. Blackburn stated she met with Lauren Ellis with United Way and none of the partner agencies were a good fit at the time. Woods stated that she had talked with Goodwill and that they were not willing to absorb the program in the same manner as we had been operated in the past. B. Taylor stated that the committee did discuss if the restructure fit within our mission and they determined that supporting the family as a whole supports women. Y Landmark discussed the challenges Suits faced in the past.
- b) Motion to approve the Suits For Success Rebrand and restructure proposal: D. Scott
- c) Second: Y .Landmark
- d) Further discussion: None
- e) Woods called the roll: 13 Y 0 N, Motion Carries

V REPORTS:

OFFICERS:

- **CHAIRPERSON:** Woodson reported in the meeting She and M. Scott had with Councilwoman Hankins discussing the Miracle League Field. She encouraged commissioners to sign up for these sessions with their Councilperson.
- **FIRST VICE CHAIR:** Charise Walker - Nothing new to report
- **SECOND VICE CHAIR:** M. Meredith presented the proposed bylaws revisions to the Commission and thanked the committee for their hard work. The Bylaws have been ran by the City Attorney's office and will be voted on at either the March or April meeting (30 days from the presentation of the revisions).
- **TREASURER:** OPEN - Nothing new aside from financials presented above.
- **RECORDING/CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:** Dani Blackburn- Nothing new to report
- **PARLIAMENTARIAN:** Sarah Woods- Nothing new to report

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

- **MEMBERSHIP:** Patricia Williams - Membership Team SOP has undergone several revisions. SOP has been sent to all Commissioners for review. For any suggested edits - send by email to patricia.williams.ynrj@statefarm.com. If no suggestions come in prior to the March 28th meeting we will consider the edit submissions closed on March 27, 2023 (EOD) and we will vote to approve on 3-28-23.
 - **BOARD BUDDIES:** Be sure to touch base with your Board Buddy! Have coffee and make a new friend!
- **PUBLICITY/SOCIAL MEDIA:** Cheryl Tate -I have been posting about Notable Local Legends this month. It is a very interesting piece of Lawton history. Please read, like and share. Also please join us for a photo with the new upcoming Citizen of the Month. We would love to have you join us for a picture.

***This Notice of Meeting and Updated Agenda was sent via email on 2-27-23 at 11:30am to the City Clerk's Office at Lawton City Hall.**

- **EDUCATION:** OPEN - As mentioned last month, we have a project in the works to honor women in the military called Living Women in History that Mayor Booker has given approval for. This project is being headed up by Commissioner U. Lisa Williams. If you are interested in participating with this project please email U. Lisa Williams at womenvetslawtonftsill16@gmail.com. Commissioner Williams has begun gathering bios and pictures from potential honorees to be used in the display.
- **OUTSTANDING CITIZEN OF COMANCHE COUNTY:** Dana Parrish- Today at 2:00pm we will be honoring All About Understanding which is a program designed to bridge the gap between the traditional classroom and real life situations. They aim to equip the world's future leaders with a variety of life skills necessary to become productive citizens and take pride in striving for a better future. Come support our recipients!
- **SUITS FOR SUCCESS:** Bernita Taylor - On February 3rd six commissioners and three members of the community moved the Suits for Success clothing that has been housed at Cosmetic Specialty Labs to The Might Community Development and Resource Center facility. These items will be given out as needs come in by the staff at Might.
- **5-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN:** OPEN- Nothing new to report.
- **STEERING COMMITTEE:** Danielle Brewer- The Steering Committee met on Monday 2-2-23. Brewer presented the minutes of the committee meeting and reminded Commissioners to be actively supporting the values of the MCSW in their individual lives.
- **BYLAWS:** Sarah Woods, Maria Meredith, Dani Blackburn- (Report from Dani Blackburn) Bylaws revisions have been sent to all Commissioners. Please read and send any questions or suggested edits to dblackburn@hcacpas.com. The Bylaws will be reviewed by our City Attorney prior to our vote to approve all revisions. (See Second Vice Chair Report Above)
- **NOMINATING:** Sarah Woods - Sarah Woods and Bernita Taylor will secure written consent of all 23/24 Officer nominees prior to the March 28th presentation of the slate of officers

VI Announcements:

- For all communications concerning MCSW (name tags, supplies, OCCC, or MCSW nominations) send requests to Donalynn.Blazek-Scherler@lawtonok.gov. She will now oversee everything concerning MCSW with the exception of posting the agenda. The agendas will still go to the City Clerk's office.
- **MARCH 9, 2023 @ NOON** - Lunch will be provided (please RSVP) Meeting will be held at Might Community Development and Resource Center - [714 SW 45th Street, Lawton, OK 73506](https://www.google.com/maps/place/714+SW+45th+Street,+Lawton,+OK+73506/@35.75587,-97.46318,17z/data=!3m1!1e3!3m2!1s714+SW+45th+Street,+Lawton,+OK+73506!1s714+SW+45th+Street,+Lawton,+OK+73506)
- **MARCH 20, 2023 @ 5:30pm** - MCSW Steering Committee meeting at Atlanta Bread Company
- **MARCH 23, 2023 @ 1:00pm-3:00pm** - Housing Task Force meeting at City Hall Ballroom
- **MARCH 28, 2023 @ 12:00pm-1:00pm** - MCSW Monthly Board Meeting in the City Hall Ballroom.
- **MARCH 28, 2023 @ 2:00pm**- Outstanding Citizen of Comanche County Presentation to Jerry Nottingham.
- **MAY 10, 2023 @ 12:00-1:00**- MCSW and LBW join together to host ReMerge of Oklahoma. ReMerge of Oklahoma County is a program that serves high-risk, high-needs mothers facing non-violent felony offenses in Oklahoma County. ReMerge is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit dedicated to restoring women to their families and our community. Make plans to attend! To register for the Lawton Business Women's meeting on May 10th go to www.lawtonbusinesswomen.com to preregister. For more information on the ReMerge program, visit their website at www.REMERGEOK.org.

VII Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn: M. Meredith

Second: D. Parrish

Woods called the roll: 13 Y, 0 N.

Meeting adjourned 1:07 pm

Minutes submitted March 22, 2023:

Dani Blackburn

Dani Blackburn, Secretary

Christina Woodson

Christina Woodson, Chair