



September 7, 2021
City Hall, 1st Floor Banquet Room
212 SW 9th Street

- I. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order at 12:04pm E. Ellis called roll. (See attached sheet for those present)
- II. **MINUTES:** Discuss and take action on past meeting minutes.
MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES MADE BY: D. Blackburn
SECOND: T Abrams
MOTION CARRIES - MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS PRESENTED
- III. **TREASURER:** C. Walker - No new financials to report.
- IV. **REPORTS:**
 - A. **MEMBERSHIP:** Chair Emily Ellis - reported that we do not currently have anyone filling that role. We have a new member coming onto the commission that is currently being considered to fill this role.
 - B. **PUBLICITY/PARLIAMENTARIAN:** T. Abrams - We have had a good month on Facebook. Our current reach is 5,643. Our post about Louise McMahon was very popular. T. Abrams said that it was our best month ever! D. Blackburn said that LBW is researching women in history from Lawton and will share her findings so that MCSW can use the information on their Facebook page.
 - C. **EDUCATION:** Charise Walker - C. Walker stated that she had nothing new to report.
 - D. **OUTSTANDING CITIZEN:** Sara Paape (ABSENT) - nothing new to report. The Mayor recommended an organization to be recognized. We will check with S. Paape to gather more information about that.
 - E. **WOMAN OF THE YEAR:** Vera Oldham (ABSENT) - nothing new to report. The last award ceremony was in 2019 prior to the pandemic.
 - F. **SUITS FOR SUCCESS:** Luanne Gallagher - E. Ellis reported that the closet has been reduced by approximately 50% because CSL needed the space. No one is being turned away if they call. The closet does need to be organized. L. Gallagher asked if we could move to a more central location. T. Abrams said that we are grateful for the free space provided by CSL and we should consider staying there. E. Ellis said she doesn't mind taking calls or appointments for people to come get clothing. She also stated that organizing the closet needs to be a group effort. The closet needs to be organized and purged. September 28th at 5:00pm was decided upon as a 'work day'. Since this is not technically a



meeting so we do not need to worry about the open meeting act. E. Ellis will make a post to Facebook. Non-commission members are welcome.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. 5 Year Plan - S. Lankford reported that the survey has been given to Jennifer Ellis for review. Once we get that back we will launch the survey. T. Capra said that she has some solid leads for people that will be able to take the survey.
- B. MCSW Annual Budget - E. Ellis contacted the City of Lawton about a financial report for MCSW. According to her contact, we do not have any funding for the 2021/22 year, therefore we were told that we have no money. Members of the Commission disagreed with that report stating that Mayor Booker informed us at our May meeting that we were funded for this year. E. Ellis will touch back with the Mayor to confirm.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. STEERING COMMITTEE: E. Ellis informed the group that the primary function of this committee is to bring awareness to the community of the function and purpose of MCSW. Recurring press releases would be a great way to get the word out to the community. S. Paape has been appointed to chair this steering committee. D. Blackburn stated that she will contact S. Paape to get the ball rolling.
- B. BYLAWS COMMITTEE: Parliamentarian and 2nd Vice Chair have oversight of the Bylaws Committee. This committee will edit and condense job descriptions in several sections of the bylaws.
- C. PARLIAMENTARIAN: D Blackburn was appointed as Parliamentarian as T. Abrams will term off soon.
- D. HISTORIAN: C. Tate has been appointed as MCSW Historian.
- E. A. FLEMING asked about scholarships. D. Blackburn stated that the current process for scholarships is not allowable by tax code. T. Capra stated that if we want to continue awarding scholarships we need to set up a 501C3. This will however result in a great deal of work for volunteers and would involve a great deal of liability for the organization. MCSW used to have 501C3 status but it was dissolved. Much discussion occurred about ways to legally continue the program. There are many things to be considered and researched. No decision was made.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. Next Meeting - October 5, 2021
- B. K. Banks - stated that MCSW is being recognized by the State organization.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn made by:T. Capra
Second by:S. Woods



MOTION CARRIES: Meeting adjourned at 12:50pm

Minutes submitted by
Christina Woodson