

Women in the Economy Commission Meeting - Minutes

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

House Room 25

- Commission:** Rep. Rebecca Chavez-Houck, Rep. Becky Edwards, Sen. Luz Escamilla, Sen. Deidre Henderson, Judy Barnett, Kathy Bounous, Melissa Freigang and Anne Burkholder
- Excused:** Ann Marie Wallace and Jennifer Robinson
- Staff Support:** Gail Tilson with additional support from Jen Jankowski
- Attendees:** Erin Jemison (YWCA), Maria Berg and Sara Watts (Utah Interactive)

AGENDA	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTION
Welcome	<p>Welcome (Rep. Rebecca Chavez-Houck)</p> <p>Commissioner Kathy Bounous announced that the commission now has a new support staff member: Shelle Allinson. Shelle is Kathy’s new administrative assistant and her contact information is: sallinson@utah.gov; (801) 526-9621. Welcome, Shelle!!</p> <p>The minutes from our last meeting were approved.</p>	<p>A motion was made to approve the minutes from our Mar. 29, 2016 meeting. Motion carried.</p>
Report of Learning Center Tours on May 9, 2016	<p>Commissioner Judy Barnett thanked those commission members and others who attended the tour and remarked what a great learning opportunity this was. Tours are given 2 or 3 times per month and Commissioner Barnett noted that many legislators have attended and the hope is to get the rest of them to see the centers so they will better understand what the centers have to offer.</p>	<p>It would be a huge benefit if we can find a way to get some of these women who have attended the learning centers to speak to our young women in high school and make them aware of this opportunity.</p>

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Utah Women's Well-Being Initiative Update	<p>Commissioner Burkholder introduced the initiative, stating that well-being in Utah women's lives is achieved through research, advocacy, collaboration and education. The link to the entire presentation is: (you may need to copy and paste to your browser) file:///C:/Users/gtilson/Downloads/WIEC%20YWCA%20Utah%20Women's%20Well-Being%20Initiative%20presentation%205.25.16.pdf</p>	<p>These stories are of interest for our website and the media.</p> <p>The work of the initiative will be to analyze the initial impact of proposed legislation and regulations in state agencies as they may affect women and girls in Utah.</p>
Update on WIEC Website	<p>Maria Berg and Sara Watts from Utah Interactive spoke to the commission and noted that all of the content that has been given to them so far is included in the website. More dynamic photos are needed and content should be pared down on the homepage. Content can be added behind the tabs.</p>	<p>Maria and Sara are waiting for additional pictures and content and will finish the website as soon as they receive these. The anticipated launch date is July 1, 2016.</p>
Baby Boxes	<p>Senators Luz Escamilla and Deidre Henderson are working together to raise awareness for babies' sleeping safety. The Baby Box Company has a product, literally a box big enough for a baby to sleep in, that has a mattress and a sheet which will keep a baby safe. Co-sleeping, where parents have the baby in their bed, presents a danger to the baby.</p>	<p>When bought in bulk, these boxes are available at a huge savings (\$12 each, which is far below retail). We need to get the word out and find women, groups, businesses, etc., who want to help. Call of action on the website, too, along with information in the box about post-partem depression.</p>

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Sub-Committee Updates	<p>Communications Sub-Committee: The presentation on the website is the update for Communications.</p> <p>Research Sub-Committee: (Erin Jemison) Most of the last meeting was centered around focus group questions. We also talked about the need for finding additional funding and the importance of the commission owning the research.</p> <p>Public Policy Sub-Committee: (Co-chair Edwards) We have two new members in the Public Policy Sub-Committee – Erin Jemison from the YWCA and Paul Maro, formerly of the Southerland Institute. We discussed legislation from the 2016 session and study items going into the interim. The four areas we focused on were: 1) Workforce, 2) Education, 3) Economic Stability and 4) Poverty.</p>	<p>We need to hire (under contract) a time-limited employee. Commissioner Bounous will put together a memorandum to be sent to the commission that explains the hiring process.</p> <p>We are looking at the possibility of partnering with the IGP efforts on health and human services.</p>
Next Meeting	Shelle will send out a Doodle Poll.	