

**LOUISIANA WOMEN’S POLICY AND RESEARCH COMMISSION**

March 28th, 2023

State Capitol, Governor’s Press Room, 4th Floor

Charmaine Caccioppi, Chair Presiding

**MINUTES**

**Members in Attendance:**

Charmaine Caccioppi

Renee Antoine

Tonya Bolden – Ball

Emily Dipalma ( Proxy for Ava Dejoie Cates)

Sophia Dixon Brown

Berkley Durbin

Hyacinth Mckee

Melissa Horton

Nancee Sorenson

Dr. Anna Mahoney

Makesha Judson

Sen. Beth Mizell

Ashely Townsend

Lynda Woolard

Savitri Scott

Terri Ricks

**Public in Attendance:**

Martha Boyzo

Cherrise Picrard

Carol Anne Massey

Jayme Johnson

JaVon Ophelia Butler

Victoria Armstrong

Wanda Anderson Davis

Arleen Garrett Mckay

Gail R. Jackson

Ingrid G. Adams

Gene Turner

Bella Robinson

Anne Picrad

Mike Picard

Mitzi Smith

Christy Enriquez

Layla Massey

Blanche Fanlk

Rose Armstrong

Vanessa Petit

Myra Richardson

Kaity Smothers

Alma Allen

Ciara Hart

Kimberly Adams

Hanna Dawleey

Sara Miller

Katrina Itchkow

Lila Brown

Rain Marlar

Marjorrie Kern

Samara Ettenberg

Kelly Jackson

Zoe Burnett

Shawnda Henderson

Tiffany Freeman

Whitney Colman

Nierra Polotzola

Joshua Johnson

Jennifer Huere

Leilam Armstrong

Christy Speas

Trin Johnson

Lorond Doakes

Vanessa Lafleuv

Ava Buras

Abby Wilhelm

Jen Gomez

Sonja Christophez

Elizabeth Chatelam

Pamela Allison

Tanya Thomas

Becca Robinson

Lance Cantrelle

Kimberly Thomas

Taylor Robinson

Mariah Wineski

Terrel Kent

Adina Weitman

Gail Gowland

Julie Schwam Harris

Nacy Rawls

Shayla Pool

**Staff in Attendance**:

Renee Antoine, *Office of Women’s Policy, Director*

Jy’Asia Sams, *Assistant to Director, Governor’s Office on Women’s Policy*

1. **Call to Order** 
   * Renee Antoine called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm and provided a welcome.
   * Renee Antoine took roll and a quorum was established.
2. **Old Business**

**Approval of Minutes**

Renee moved to approve the minutes from the December meeting.

1. **Shared Learning**

**Michelle Miller, CBS News Correspondent**

**Presenter**: Michelle

Michelle is a television journalist who currently works as a correspondent for CBS News in New York City. Miller has received numerous awards for her reporting and Emmy awards for her coverage of Hurricane Katrina and a 60-minute report on child slavery in Haiti. Michelle also is a NY Times best-selling author. She has been recognized for her work by the National Association of Black Journalists.

1. **Shared Learning : Unsung Hero Panelist**

**Cherrise Picard**, Chez Hope Executive Director of Women and Children Domestic Violence Shelter.

* working to provide the most effective and comprehensive program of services for those who are victims of domestic abuse and is dedicated to bringing about social, structural, and cultural shifts in our communities that will bring an end to violence.

**Jayme Johnson,** Department of Children and Family Services – **Foster Family**

* She ultimately strives to provide children with a safe, loving home and an environment to develop healthy emotional intimacy, trust, and self-esteem with the opportunity to learn valuable life skills.

**JaVon Ophelia Butler**, Music, Art and Movement Instructor for High Risk Youth

* She works diligently to assist children and ensure that they gain life skills through her Performing Arts training in Acting, Singing, and Dancing.

**Shirell Parfait-Dardar**, Elder Chief of the Grand Caillou/Dulac Band of Biloxi-Chitimacha-Choctaw Tribe

* Her heroic efforts are focused on advocating for coastal restoration and preservation, development and utilization of alternative energy sources, community resiliency, education, and human rights

**Martha Boyzo**, Capca Migrant Head Start Center

* She works at the, Capca Migrant Head Start Center and is committed to breaking the cycle of poverty by providing preschool children from low-income families with a comprehensive curriculum that addresses their emotional, social, health, nutritional, and educational needs.

1. **Subcommittee Reports**
2. **New Business**
   * Introduction of 2022 Annual Report
   * Provided a one-page highlighter introducing the top priorities the commission has chosen to research in the most recent edition of the Status of Women in Louisiana.
   * The mission of the Louisiana Women's Policy and Research Commission is to **identify** issues affecting **economic** security, **educational** opportunity, **social** welfare, and overall **well-being** of women and girls in the state.
   * **ECONOMIC SECURITY** 
     + Equal Pay
     + Minimum Wage
     + Paid Family and Medical Leave and Paid Sick Leave

* **EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION**
* **VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN** 
  + Human Trafficking Prevention
  + Criminal Justice Reform
* **HEALTH** 
  + Reproductive Wellness
  + Birth Outcomes
  + Maternal Mortality
  + Perinatal Mental Health
  + Substance Use and Abuse
* **DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RECOVERY** 
  + Department of Children and Family Services Preparedness
  + Department of Children and Family Services Recovery

1. **Public Comments/Events**

There were no public comments.

1. **Adjournment**

There being no other business or public comment, the meeting adjourned at 1:05 PM.