

## Hampden County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls

### Minutes- DRAFT

February 11, 2021

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Online via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6895726626?pwd=aDdCTEpPSlkwa2pxd29VZDRqZStkOT09>

#### I. Call to Order and Roll Call

a. Gabrielle called the meeting to order at 6:04 and the roll call will be after our featured speaker.

b. Roll call happened at 7:01 PM

i. Gabrielle Jackson

ii. Tara Marshall

iii. Michelle Goncalves

iv. Pattie Hallberg

v. Shanique Spalding

vi. Jacqueline Velez

vii. Not present Dawn Distefano and Lizzy Ortiz, Jennifer Spalding was present from 6 pm-7 pm

c. Michelle introduced Erika to the group.

II. Discussion with our featured guest, Erika Slocumb, Doctoral Candidate focused on Black Studies and Public History at The University of Massachusetts, Amherst

III. Public Speak Out (15 min.)

a. No public came to the meeting

IV. Approval of minutes from January 14, 2020- Gabrielle made a motion to approve, Pattie seconded, all agreed.

V. Chair Report

a. Discussed zoom meetings being extended by Mass Commission and the Walk-in our Power Event

VI. Vice-Chair Report

a. Pattie congratulated Dawn for her promotion to Square One CEO



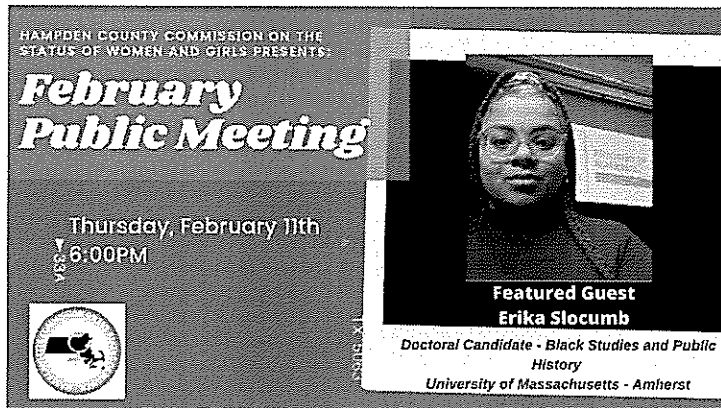
## VII. Old Business

- a. Collaboration with Hampshire-Franklin
  - i. April Event: Trivia Night - Social Event with Hampshire-Franklin. We have to let them know the date we would like to do it. Perhaps March was a suggestion.
  - ii. Pioneer Planning Commission - Domestic Violence Taskforce
    1. May Event: Invitation to co-plan and have Monica Speak. Keep the month of May in the back of our minds and Gabrielle will confirm the specific date.
- b. Coffee Chat Winter Events Updates
  - i. Collaboration with Hampshire-Franklin
  - ii. Gabrielle discussed how amazing Michelle's chat was.
    1. Michelle shared that it was a lot of fun and about 10 people there. Mass Cultural council showed up and talked about women and art during covid.
  - iii. Gabrielle explained to Jackie what coffee chats are and Jackie mentioned wanting to do one about environmental and climate justice. Jackie chose March 9th. Tara will do an April 12th coffee chat with Bonnie from Hampshire Franklin commission about housing/real estate. Once Pattie is able she would like to do a chat with some girl scouts.

## VIII. New Business

- a. MCSWG Women of Color: Walk In Our Power
  - i. Feb. 24, 2021
- b. Swearing in of recommended Commissioner, Jacqueline Velez
- c. Planning for International Women's Day- Gabrielle and Shanique started discussing this. The idea is a virtual panel discussion with 4-5 speakers, maybe a 1-hour event. Have PP make a flyer for the event and co-host. Discussed payment to the speakers and what we should do for the event. Discussed a panel to be all women of color. Discussed what the panel would be talking about, breaking glass ceiling, breaking barriers. Pre-plan questions to ask and do Q&A. Ideas of who to invite Alice Farrell, Denise Jordan, Jacqueline Velez, Danielle Williams, Josie Valentin, Janine Fondon, Samantha Hamilton, Denise Hurst, Tahira Fahoud, Jamina? McFadden (?spelling). Discussed having someone do poetry or spoken word to start. Figure out questions to ask and what audience are we targeting.. Ask them a piece of advice to give to fellow women, or a favorite quote, the one thing they wish someone told them that they know now.
  - i. Save the Date- March 18th, 6 pm 1 hour to 1-1/2
  - ii. Theme- power women breaking barriers or women and leadership in covid

- iii. Invited Guests
  - d. Policy Discussion
  - e. Internship Program
  - f. Get with Gabrielle by 2/25 with what guests agreed to come to the event and if we need to ask more. Denise Hurst already said yes. Asked the turnaround time on PP making flyers, Shanique needs to ask Tues next week. Need headshots and bios. Hampshire Franklin may want to be included, Gabrielle will check.
- IX. For the March meeting, Gabrielle wants to add policy discussions. Senator Lesser may want to have an event with the commission. Tentatively March 5th during one of his lunchtime chats.
- X. Adjournment- Gabrielle called to adjourn at 8:04 pm, Pattie seconded, so moved and all in favor.



Erika Slocumb, is a Ph.D. student of Black Studies and Public History at UMass, Amherst. Her current research focuses on the use of oral histories as a means to empower Black communities, retell the history of communities where Black voices have been obscured, and claiming space in public museums and archives.



**WOMEN OF COLOR:**

**LET'S WALK IN OUR POWER BY  
RAISING OUR VOICES FOR ACTION!**

MCSW CHAIRWOMAN DENELLA CLARK WELCOMES YOU  
TO PARTICIPATE IN A HEARING HELD TO HIGHLIGHT THE  
EXPERIENCES OF ALL WOMEN OF COLOR AND HOW  
THEY WERE EXACERBATED BY COVID-19 WITHIN THE  
COMMONWEALTH.

**SAVE THE DATE**

*Wednesday, February 24, 2021*

*6:00-8:00pm*

**DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

