

**Georgia Commission on Women  
Full Committee Meeting  
August 30, 2021**

**Minutes**

**Present: Tita Stewart, Julianna McConnell, Karla Jacobs, Sharon Baker, Jill Nielson, Martha Long, Susan Whiddon. Visitor: Cheryl Moates**

- Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Chair Stewart at 7:05 p.m. via zoom
- Pledge of allegiance quoted
- Review of Old Minutes: Posted and reviewed. Commissioner Jacobs made a motion to accept and it was seconded by Commissioner Nielson. Approved.
- Review of Pillars: Chair Stewart encouraged all commissioners to review the four pillars and join one and become actively participate. E-mail Johnessa with your interest.
  - Report from committee chairs:
  - **Human Trafficking:** Commissioner Jacobs reported four commissioners participating in statewide committees. Commissioner Jacobs and McConnell working on community education. She reported the recent and first lunch and learn had over 100 people on the call. The topic was “on line enticement of children.” They are planning another lunch and learn on the topic of familial trafficking of children.
  - Commissioner Blakey working in group 9 dealing with adult survivors and putting together a round table discussion on the topic of housing for survivors.
  - Commissioner Nielson working in group 8 on underage victims.
  - **Marketing:** Executive Director Smith reported on website progress and revisions. Website getting good reviews and has added a feature called “Commissioners on the Go.” She also reminded the group about our co-sponsorship for the United Healthcare Summit scheduled for October 22-23, 2021.
  - **Health:** Commissioner Baker reminded the group that we are again planning a Georgia Wellness Summit and encouraged everyone to be suggesting topics to address topics that are critical to women’s health. Visitor Cheryl Moates thanked for writing a recent blog. She also volunteered to join the efforts of the health committee.
  - **Legislative:** Commissioner McConnell reported that much legislative fund-raising ongoing. She will provide information on candidates for offices when confirmed. She stated in November there will be a special session to redraw the political landscape. Covid restrictions are still in place regarding entry to the capitol. Rooms can’t be reserved and any meeting with a legislator is by appointment only. There is going to be a study committee on safety for health care workers.
- **Report of the Treasurer**
  - Budget Status: Commissioner Jacobs posted the proposed budget for the upcoming year. She reported that our outstanding program administrator, Johnessa Smith, has been promoted to the role of executive director and also received a well-deserved raise. We have a \$50,000 budget for the coming year.
  - We have \$2082 in an escrow account with the 444 marketing group that coordinated the Georgia Wellness Summit. We have to pay \$21/month to maintain the wellness summit website.
  - Commissioner McConnell made a motion to accept the proposed budget, Seconded by Commissioner Baker. Motion approved. Commissioner Jacobs praised for hard work on the budget and getting all processes in place for processing invoices, etc.
- **New Year Goals**
  - Commissioners Commitments & Engagements
  - Upcoming Events

- Title Sponsor UAPRN United in Healthcare Summit October 22-23, 2021

- **GCW Advisory Board**

- Expanding the pillars: Commissioners asked to consider the structure, composition and role of the advisory committee. Since advisory sounds like recommendations would be mandatory, another name for this group should be considered. Commissioner Jacobs recommended that we run this idea by the AG's office for final approval.

- **Nomination Committee Discussion:** This is an odd year—election year and we need a nominating committee to put together a slate of officers for the executive committee. Past nominating committee members included Commissioner Tymchuck, Barker and Connell. Since Ms. Connell rolled off the GCW, another commissioner needs to be involved. Commissioner Jacobs will contact Commissioner Tymchuck and Barker to see if they will serve again and check with Commissioner Nelson who has expressed some interest in being involved with this process.

- **Blog Schedule (Sep/Oct/Nov):** Everyone encouraged to write a blog or recruit others to submit articles.

- **Unfinished Business: Commissioner Bios Request:** All commissioners need to submit their information to keep website updated.

- **Adjournment:** Chair Stewart made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 p.m.