

**Commission on the Status of Women
SKYPE Conference Call
1600 E. Century Avenue, Bismarck, ND
February 25, 2020**

MEMBERS PRESENT via – SKYPE CALL

Emily Brown
Deb Eslinger
Melissa Feist-Erickson
Linda Bata

MEMBERS ABSENT

Erika Kenner

GUEST

Ellen Chaffee

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Emily called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m., welcoming members on the call. A welcomed guest in the room, Ellen Chaffee, former president of two state universities; Valley City State and Mayville State, and former chair for the Commission on the Status of Women Commission in 1972; gave a history timeline to her commission presence.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Missy and seconded by Deb to approve the November 6th, 2019 minutes, with a deletion to text stating that Deb Eslinger was not present at the meeting. Motion carried.

Elect Commission Chair

With Emily Brown leaving Commerce, the position and role of a new chair was discussed and voted on.

Motion: It was moved by Emily Brown and seconded by Linda Bata to elect Deb Eslinger as chair for the Commission on the Status of Women. Motion carried.

It was discussed to pursue bylaws with the new chair, and the need for continued member attendance to sufficiently run quarterly meetings.

Survey

Emily sent the redrafted survey via email during the meeting, changes were discussed and applied:

First paragraph:

- **Eliminate words:** the state related to.
- **Eliminate sentence:** we don't want to duplicate existing efforts or resources.

Question #1

- **Eliminate sentence:** don't worry we won't share.

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Sherrri reminded the commission that it is a public document and it can be shared. Emily will make the contact information an optional field, and the organization information, a required field.

Question #2

- **Insert:** the word between men and women.

Question #3

- **Insert:** the word could between that and impact.

Next Steps:

- Emily will update the survey, update the business resource inventory, meet with Tricia Miler to set up a webpage for SOW on the Commerce website.
- Sherrri will set up a SKYPE meeting for March 10th at 2:00 pm discussing the updated survey and business resources for the survey to be sent out to.

Future meeting

- March 10th at 2:00 p.m.
- May 5th at 2:00 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned unanimously at 2:30 p.m.