



Maine Permanent Commission on the Status of Women (MePCSW) 2024 Report Committee

Meeting Minutes

July 22, 2024

12:00 – 1:30 P.M.

MePCSW Committee Members in Attendance: Anne Gass, Sue Mackey Andrews, Dania Bowie, Jennifer Wilkey

MePCSW Committee Members Absent: Darylen Cote

Staff and Guests: Elinor Higgins (MePCSW ED)

--

Facilitator: Anne Gass, MePCSW Chair

Welcome and Introductions

1. Welcome 2024 Report Committee
2. Icebreaker

Old Business and Public Comment

1. Brief overview of report discussion from June meeting and review of report workplan, including timing and outreach for launching the report, and a launch event in the State House
2. Public comment: N/A – no members of the public present

Committee Operations

1. Dania Bowie selected to be Report Committee Chair by unanimous vote

Discussion and Review of Current Report Draft

1. MePCSW ED provided overview of annotated outline and research
2. Discussion:
 - a. Discussed how to frame data about and action in support of marginalized groups, including trans women and racial/ethnic identifies with small numbers in Maine data sets
 - b. Talked about ideas for short handouts or executive summary to make report contents more digestible. Additional ideas included:
 - i. Accompanying slide deck
 - ii. Social-media friendly posts

- iii. Visual representation of woman's life-span looking at different economic interruptions
- iv. List of questions for legislators to take back to women in their districts
- c. Discussed opportunities to break out information by rural/urban, different counties or towns
- 3. Talked about strategies to connect with legislators at the beginning of the session, perhaps through save the dates, welcome packets, or hand-outs. May need to distribute by hand or limit due to budget constraints and paperless rules

Next Meeting Date and Wrap-Up

- 1. Selected August 29th for next meeting date