



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

**Meeting Minutes**

**August 29, 2024**

**12:00 – 1:30 P.M.**

**MePCSW Committee Members in Attendance:** Anne Gass (left early due to a conflict), Sue Mackey Andrews, Dania Bowie, Jennifer Wilkey, Eisha Khan (arrived late due to a conflict)

**MePCSW Committee Members Absent:** Darylen Cote

**Staff and Guests:** Elinor Higgins (MePCSW ED)

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**Facilitator:** Dania Bowie, Report Committee Chair

<p><b>Welcome and Introductions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Welcome 2024 Report Committee</li><li>2. Icebreaker</li></ol>
<p><b>Old Business and Public Comment</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Brief overview of July meeting discussion – unanimous vote to approve July meeting minutes</li><li>2. Public comment: N/A – no members of the public present</li></ol>
<p><b>Committee Operations</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Reviewed report workplan and selected September 26<sup>th</sup> as the next meeting date</li></ol>
<p><b>Discuss and Review Current Report Draft</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. MePCSW ED walked through current draft of report and discussed goal of having sharable draft completed by end of September/early October</li><li>2. Talked through a proposed visual looking at various economic interruptions and setbacks/opportunities across the lifespan. Opted to revisit this as an interactive graphic or tool in the future, perhaps with branching options to reflect varied lived experiences of Maine women</li><li>3. Discussed the following report assignments:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Building out a text box of recent wins in Maine related to child care investment, paid family medical leave, etc (Sue)</li><li>b. Help build out some of the visual components of the report (Jenn)</li><li>c. Do a scan of the supports Maine has in place for family caregivers (Sue)</li><li>d. Review and add to the section describing Commission work over the past two years (Anne)</li></ol></li></ol>

- e. Think of questions we might want to suggest that legislators take to their districts (Anne)
- 4. Discussion of current draft:
  - a. Participants emphasized interest in identifying actions steps and recommendations in addition to questions
  - b. Concerns about making sure data and information is following best practices for data literacy
  - c. Want to emphasize the shortcomings of workplace discrimination data (not all discrimination instances are captured in that information)
  - d. Need to think through the audience for the report – thinking about the legislative audience as well as allied organizations
  - e. Working to identify some concrete examples to populate the sections of the report – Sue will work on this with an individual she knows through her work
  - f. Talked about how to address shortcomings in data sources – where can we use proxy data sources, how to frame disclaimers about data use
  - g. Start thinking about future reports and potential topics

**Next Steps/Next Meeting Date/Wrap-up**

1. Hold the morning of December 12<sup>th</sup> for a report launch in the Hall of Flags
2. Next meeting on September 26th
3. Elinor will follow up on report assignments