



MePCSW Meeting Minutes

February 15, 2024, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Online Meeting

In Attendance: Jennifer Wilkey, Anne Gass, Jill Randall, Fatuma Hussein, Maulian Bryant, Samantha Lott Hale, Sue Mackey Andrews, Keita Whitten Foster, Dania Bowie

Absent: Kate Elmes, Ruth Kermish-Allen, Darylen Cote, Meredith Strang Burgess, Rebecca Austin, Jill Barkley Roy

Welcome, Anne

Hiring Update, Anne

- Elinor Higgins accepted ED position. Start date 3/25/24.

Membership Update, Anne

- Seats 3 & 4 still vacant - Governor
- Ruth has resigned.
- Legislation likely for 2 additional seats (LBGTQ+, Youth) removed from last session's bill.
- Several commissioners up for reappointment
- Sue willing to assist with tracking seat appointments. Looking for one more person to help.
- To view the latest [commission member report](#), search by name and select the green button at the bottom of the page.

Legislative Update, Dania

- Governor released Supplemental Budget which includes VOCA funding.
- Constitutional amendment would need to pass both chambers
- DOL is assisting with implementation policies for Paid Leave law.
- ERA -MWL building for next session.

Hot Topic

- Wellbeing of women
- False narratives around homelessness, gravity of issue in ME, interconnectedness
- Interconnectedness of DEI

PCSW Members Share

- Governor released Gun Safety legislative proposal. House & Senate will release their version.
- Maulian on Maine Calling Today <https://www.mainepublic.org/show/maine-calling/2024-02-15/cultural-appropriation>

- Maine New Leadership Institute now available:
https://mailchi.mp/079eec17741d/maine-new-leadership-2024-please-share?fbclid=IwAR3O1aJn22XxP9NBhL_DHPECYtdDi3aeFRp8hJercaWrnijacfuQNNn2xNc

Approve Minutes - Motion to approve December 2023 minutes-Sue, second-Dania, all in favor.

Next Meeting Date - Thursday, April 11, 2024, 9:30-11:00 am via zoom