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## Municipality of Anchorage Anchorage Women's Commission



### **AWC Meeting 10/08/2020 5:30 – 7:00 pm Microsoft Teams online meeting**

**Present: Andria Cross (AHD host), Jackie Cason, Margaret Duggan, Monica Elkinton (Co-chair), Joan Ryan (Chair), Valerie Chadwick, Kami Hutchins (AHD Liaison) , Representative Geran Tarr (guest)**

#### **I. Call to Order**

- Quorum established and Call to Order at 5:36pm

#### **II. Introduction**

#### **III. Approval of Agenda**

- Motion to approve agenda (Co-Chair Monica Elkinton)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve agenda (Chair Ryan)

#### **IV. Approval of Minutes**

- Motion to approve (Co-Chair Monica Elkinton)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve (Chair Ryan)

#### **V. Old Business**

- Assembly Members Invitation to Attend AWC Meeting
  - All Assembly Members were invited to upcoming AWC meetings. Many have already confirmed, and a couple have conflicting meetings, Co-Chair Elkinton will provide a schedule of when the Assembly Members will attend.
- Recruiting new members to AWC
  - Commissioner Duggan will continue to check in with Jason at the Mayor's office regarding applications.

#### **VI. Public Comments**

- No public comments at this time.

#### **VII. New Business**

- Guest: Representative Geran Tarr: Addressed questions that were sent to her ahead of time:
  - Childcare Availability in Anchorage / Alaska
    - Discussion regarding CARES ACT funding availability and the need for appropriation. For this to happen the Legislature will need to reconvene but may not occur in time.

Representative Tarr reports correspondence with Childcare Centers that need financial support or will be forced to close which further perpetuates the lack of child care options for parents. The MOA was able to appropriate some funds to support Childcare Centers and that was helpful to facilities.

- What Initiatives Can AWC Support?
  - Representative Tarr discussed the initiatives she is currently working on:
  - Multi-Year Rape Kit Reform (reduce time for testing of rape kits in Alaska)
  - Rewrite Consent Law (this law has not been updated in 30 years)
  - Educational Improvements (enhance and support Pre-K programs)
  - Trauma-Informed Education (utilizing ACEs framework)
  - Shortage of Law Enforcement in Rural AK
  - Domestic Violence and Shelter Capacities
- Upcoming events (All Commissioners)
  - Commissioner Duggan: WIC program is now offering a very easy registration program which is completed entirely remotely.
  - Liasion Hutchins: Free Flu shots available throughout the MOA, she will send list to Commissioners.
  - Commissioner Chadwick: October 12 is Indigenous People's Day Celebration, APU will host an event

**VIII. Adjournment, 6:59 pm**

**IX. Next Meeting – November 12, 2020 5:30 to 7:00 pm**