

Maryland Commission for Women

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 18, 2025

5:00 p.m.

45 Calvert Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Commissioners Attending:

LaShaune Stitt, Chair
Patricia Lambert, First Vice Chair
Christine Lee, Second Vice Chair
Tazeen Ahmad
Brenda Brown Rever
Gloria Dent
Tekisha Everette
Maggi Gaines
Linda Han
Joyce King
Sarach Klein
Gabriela Lemus
Michelle Siri
Monica Watkins

Commissioners Absent:

Pier Blake
Judy Carbone
Jodi Kelber
Fiona Oliphant
Shanna Pearson-Merkowitz
Stacey Rebbert
Nyki Robinson
Lenita Walker

Staff Attending:

Ariana Kelly, Executive Director
Brett Jordan, Program Manager
Camille Fabiy, Program & Policy Assistant
Hannah Breslau, Research Intern
Genesis Franco, Management Associate

Additional Attendees:

Sharon Blugis, Founder/Deputy Director of RJM

I. Call to OrderLaShaune Stitt, Chair The meeting was called to order at 4:19 p.m. Chair Stitt welcomed all Commissioners and guests.

- A. Land Acknowledgement
- B. Attendance for September Meeting
- C. Approval of Agenda and June Minutes - Chair LaShaune Stitt called for approval of the agenda and May Minutes. Commissioner Pat Lambert moved approval of the agenda. Commissioner Christine Lee seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

II. Introductions.....LaShaune Stitt Chair
 LaShaune Stitt opened with an ice breaker, followed by introductions of new Commissioners, staff, and current members.

III. Discuss Updates to Annual Plan and Calendar.....Ariana Kelly

- The Strategic Plan packet was reviewed and finalized, covering key meeting, event, and publication dates, and budget along with MCW’s goals for the year.
- Foundation Event Update - A one-sheet with logistics for the October 5 Foundation event was shared and explained

IV. Subcommittee Formation ProcessLaShaune Stitt

A. According to the FY26 Strategic Plan the Research, Policy & Legislation and Outreach & Awards Committees will establish subcommittees to help ensure committee goals are successfully met.

B. Discussion of Strategic Plan by Standing CommitteesMonica and Ariana

C. Research, Policy and Legislation will have three subcommittees. Legislation, chaired by Maggi Gaines, Policy chaired by Shanna Pearson-Merkowitz, and OTC Contraception chaired by Christine Lee.

D. Outreach and Awards will have three subcommittees. Local Commissions chaired by Tekisha Everette, Women’s History, chaired by Gloria Dent, and State and National Partnerships, chaired by Pat Lambert.

E. Both committees reviewed their strategic goals and deadlines to ensure progress toward accomplishing their goals.

VI. Announcements.....No announcements were made.

VII. Adjournment.....LaShaune Stitt,Chair
 Chair Stitt thanked everyone for attending the meeting today. There being no further business, she adjourned the meeting at 6:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
 Ariana Kelly, Executive Director
 Maryland Commission for Women
9/20/25