



Women's Council
· Wisconsin ·

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**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Wisconsin Women's Council – June 5, 2019**

**Wisconsin State Capitol, Room 328 NW
Madison, Wisconsin**

Mary Jo Baas, Chair

Board Members Present: Mary Jo Baas, Patty Cadorin, Lisa Armaganian, Cindy Block, Karen Katz, Carrie Richard, Senator Janis Ringhand, and Shelby Schmuldach. A quorum was present.

Also present: Christine Lidbury, Executive Director; and Daniel Fitch, WWC Intern.

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** The meeting was called to order at 11:30 am.
2. **Approval of the Minutes of March 5, 2019.** Approved unanimously.
3. **Board Recognition.** Mary Jo Baas was recognized for her service as outgoing chair and for your long history of service and dedication to the Women's Council – spanning over 25 years and including two appointments as Chair. She received a crystal award in the style of the Trailblazer Awards, with the text “Presented to Mary Jo K. Baas, Chairperson of the Board, 2001-2004 * 2011-2019. In grateful recognition for exemplary dedication, leadership and support.” Ms. Baas received applause from the members present and comments in appreciation of her work and leadership as the current Chairperson. Christine noted that the Council had intended to present this gift to Ms. Baas at the March meeting, during the recognition portion of the meeting, but it did not arrive in time, and that the board was pleased to have a second opportunity to celebrate the Council and its leadership. Cindy Block and Katie Mnuk were recognized for their 5th anniversary of Board service.
4. **Executive Director's Report**
 - a. **Board & Budget update.** No change in the Women's Council budget from the March meeting. Christine had not yet received any information on new appointments by the Governor or when those might be made.
 - b. **Statewide Survey of Caregivers.** Christine noted that the survey currently had about 500 responses and would be open for two more weeks, and partners were making a last push to advertise the survey around the state. Dr. Armaganian suggested the possibility of posting the survey on the Ascension employee website to boost responses. Christine and Dr. Armaganian agreed to pursue this idea.

- 5. 19th Amendment Centennial Committee and Events.** Governor Evers signed an Executive Order creating the Wisconsin 19th Amendment Centennial Planning Committee. First Lady Kathy Evers was appointed chair. The 42-member committee includes all women elected officials in State Government, the Wisconsin Historical Society, Womens Council and several organizations, including the League of Women Voters. Christine will represent the Women's Council on the committee and the executive (working) committee. The first meeting was held in April for the purpose of planning an event for the June 10, 2019 centennial anniversary of Wisconsin being the first of 32 states to ratify the 19th Amendment on its way to passage in August 1920.

Christine suggested and is creating a state central website "portal" for information on Wisconsin history around the 19th Amendment's passage and a calendar and information on events across Wisconsin. Christine arranged a free website template from WIN (the same group that created the Women's Council's new website) and a unique website address (<http://womenvotewi.wi.gov>) to run for the period the commission is in operation. The website will launch June 6, 2019.

A major event is being held in the Capitol on June 10th. Council members have received event information created by the Wisconsin Historical Society. This includes a formal ceremony, a program and photos specifically for committee members and the unveiling of the original 19th Amendment ratification papers from Wisconsin, which will only be available for that one day in the Capitol rotunda.

Christine raised the question whether the Council would like to create its own program or event during the centennial year. Discussion ensued. Members agreed on exploring two initiatives: create a speaker's bureau with Council members and others as 2020 centennial event speakers - linked from other organization websites, such as Historical Society and League of Women Voters - that could be advertised on the Centennial web portal with a pre-prepared set of remarks, to offer to communities around the state; and explore the trend in women's voting rates since 1920.

- 6. Building Brave Partnership.** Patty Cadorin, Mary Jo Baas and Christine met with Mary Burke about her non-profit organization which hosts the Building Brave app online mentoring community for women. Patty Cadorin serves on the Building Brave board. At the meeting, we discussed exploring a partnership to promote the app on the Council's website to offer a leadership component not current available through Council programming. There is no cost or advertising, no requests to purchase additional products or services. Mary discussed a separate program where corporations contract with Building Brave for a closed mentoring community for women in their company, but this is not related to the publicly available site. It was agreed this opportunity will continued to be explored and confirm that there are no requests for subscriptions or other purchases through the program that would appear on the Women's Council site. See, <https://buildingbrave.org>
- 7. Board Engagement.** Christine distributed a survey asking Board members ways, other than attending meetings, they wanted to engage with the work of the organization. Options included serving on a committee, identifying experts, assisting with publications (drafting,

reviewing, etc.) and outreach such as speaking, press, social media and attending events on behalf of the Council.

8. There were no public comments or announcements.
9. Motion to Adjourn - Moved: Mary Jo Baas; Second: Karen Katz – Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Lidbury