

**VERMONT COMMISSION ON WOMEN
HOUSING & CAREGIVING COMMITTEE MEETING**

Thursday, March 14, 2024

7:30 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.

Online only

MINUTES

Present: Esther Charlestin, Sophia Rabe, Susan Sussman

Staff: Cary Brown

1. Review focus charges for all committees:
 - a. Advocacy
 - b. Public engagement
 - c. Amplification of voices
2. Discuss possible areas of focus for the committee
3. Legislative updates
4. Set future meeting times

Basing our work on supporting what the commission is working on as a whole already

Where can we jump in? After brainstorming meeting today we can have a better idea of how to support with advocacy, public engagement, amplifying voices

Amplifying voices? What other groups need support in this way?

Eg Let's Grow Kids – are there ways we could get involved helping them?

Paid leave

- We may be able to do more with public engagement on paid leave during this next stage coming
- How can commissioners participate? Public events?
- Public education event for paid leave could give some structure to this committee

Housing

- Is there a link between housing and caregiving we could look at?
- Housing for care providers and single women
- Aging population – caregiving from both perspectives
- Transitional housing? Lots being built in Chittenden County and some of it is called affordable but not necessarily actually affordable
- What is actually being built? What actual affordable housing or workforce housing or elderly housing is going up?
- What groups can we get involved with and how?
- Field trips? Habitat for Humanity? Esther will look into finding some service dates with Habitat for those who can
- Seven Days doing long project of focusing on aging population in Vermont – maybe there's something we can offer to that reporting
- Susan and Sophia will look at that article from last week
- in the article Lamoille County has a community support for people aging in place – newish program - can we amplify that program?

- Can we do something at the intersection of housing and aging women? Link to Age Strong Vermont or whatever it's called?
- Caregivers needing caregiving
- Can we bring in someone from advisory council or outside to talk more about housing and see if there are ways we can engage?
- could we amplify needs of housing and caregiving in NEK? We already have connections from our visit – visit nursing homes e.g. – Esther will reach out and see if we can get a few dates for that

Next meeting –
Wednesday, April 3, 1:00