



# WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

## SECOND PUBLIC MEETING: FEBRUARY 27, 2019

### SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

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#### I. INTRODUCTION

The Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission (Commission or WSCC), with Ms. Kay Coles James presiding as the Commission Chairman, convened their second public meeting on Wednesday, February 27, 2019, at National Archives Building (Room 105) located at 700 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington DC 20408. The meeting was called to order promptly at 9:03am EST.

The purpose of the meeting was to nominate and approve a new Vice-Chair, approve Commission bylaws, and redistribute subcommittee membership. Additional discussion topics included granting and fundraising. Subcommittees met and reported out on the discussions that took place during their breakout sessions. During the lunch break, Commissioners had the opportunity to tour the National Archives Public Vaults and encounter original suffrage documents.

#### II. SUMMARY OF KEY DECISIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

##### A. Key Decisions

- The Commission nominated and approved Senator Barbara Mikulski as the Vice-Chair
- The meeting summary from the Commission's meeting on December 7, 2019, was approved by the Commission.
- Subcommittees were re-distributed and membership was agreed upon as follows:

##### **Capitol City Commemorative Subcommittee**

**Mission:** To develop ideas for execution in the Washington DC area to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment. To cultivate concepts for events, Congressional and or Presidential involvement. To assist and facilitate relationship building and opportunities to produce deliverables.

Chair: Colleen Shogan  
Sen. Barbara Mikulski (Ret.)  
Julissa Marengo  
Jovita Carranza  
Debra Wall

##### **50 States Commemorative Subcommittee**

**Mission:** To develop ideas for execution in individual states to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment and individual state ratifications of the Amendment. To cultivate concepts for events, legislative and or gubernatorial involvement. To originate templates for a model state celebration and suggest opportunities for WSCC partnership and guidance to states.

Chair: Marjorie Dannenfelser  
Penny Nance  
Cleta Mitchell

### **Multi-media, Education, and Engagement Subcommittee**

**Mission:** To cultivate concepts and ideas for education about the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment. To identify target audiences and corresponding opportunities to engage them in education and commemorative activities. To originate ideas for web content and social platforms.

Chair: Nicola Miner  
Jennifer Siebel Newsom  
Heather Higgins

### **Partnership Subcommittee**

**Mission:** To identify potential partners for the WSCC in its efforts to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment including private sector companies, personalities, government entities, NGOs and individuals. To suggest relationship constructs with partners to benefit the WSCC mission.

Chair: Karen Hill  
Susan Combs

- The Commission voted on and approved to hold a telephonic meeting on Wednesday, March 27, 2019, at 1:00pm EDT to discuss and approve Subcommittee recommendations.
- The Commission voted on and approved to hold full day in-person meeting on Monday, June 3, 2019, in Washington DC. The location is to be determined.

### **B. Action Items**

- The Executive Director will continue efforts to set up a website for the Commission.
- The Executive Director and the Chairman will conduct 14 staff interviews on Thursday, February 28, 2019, at the Heritage Foundation, and all Commissioners were invited to participate in the interviews.
- On or before March 6, 2019, each Subcommittee Chair will email the Chairman a one-page list of commemoration event ideas and recommendations. The Chairman will compile the recommendations and possibly consolidate them in to what is do-able in the next 18 months, and the lists will be presented for discussion and approval at the next WSCC public meeting on March 27, 2019.
- The Executive Director will put together a list of upcoming suffrage events, so the Commission can decide as a group which two Commissioners can serve as guest speakers at the events.
- The designated Federal Officers will prepare a federal register notice announcing the upcoming WSCC public meetings scheduled for March 27, 2019, and June 3, 2019.

### **III. PRESENTATIONS, KEY DISCUSSIONS AND COMMISSION VOTES**

#### **A. Opening Remarks – David Ferriero, United States Archivist, National Archives and Records Administration delivered the following opening remarks:**

*Thank you very much. I'm David Ferriero, the Archivist for the United States, and we're honored to have you with us this morning, and I can't think of a better place for you to be having a meeting like this than the home of the Amendment right here in this building. A special welcome, you're all very important, but a very special welcome to my colleagues from the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian. The three of us are in the same business of collecting, protecting, and celebrating our*

*history through our collections. So very nice to have another opportunity for us to be working together, and very proud to have my Deputy representing us on this Commission, Deb Wall, so thank you. So the archives was created and the legislation was signed by Franklin Roosevelt, and when he was - when Franklin Roosevelt was dedicating his Presidential Library in Hyde Park he kind of summed his vision which is very much the vision that we have been fulfilling through our history. He said, "It seems to me that the dedication of a library is in itself an act of faith to bring together the records of the past, and to house them in buildings where they will be preserved for the use of men and women." And he did say "men and women. "In the future, a nation must believe in three things. It must believe in the past, it must believe in the future, and it must above all, believe in the capacity of its own people to learn from the past so that they can gain in judgment in creating their own future". And that's what we're all about collecting, protecting, and encouraging the use of the records of the government, so that the American people can hold the government accountable and learn from our past. We're now in 44 facilities across the country, 14 presidential libraries, all of our military and civilian personnel records in a facility in St. Louis. It's a huge empire, a collection of about 15 billion pieces of paper, 43 million photographs, miles and miles of film and video, and about 6 billion electronic records so far. That's the biggest challenge and that is the agenda for the National Archives for the near future is shifting the government away from paper onto full electronic record keeping, and we are very much working on the President's agenda on digital government. Electronic record keeping is an integral part of the digital government initiative. Most of the agencies - every agency is now creating their records electronically. They will soon be delivering to us only electronic records. So that is the wave of the future, and our goal is to ensure that those records, just like the paper records, are being created in such a way that one hundred years from now, people are going to have the same or even better access to the history of our country through our records. You're going to have an extraordinary tour at lunch time to get up close and personal with some of the records that we've pulled from the vault to share with you some of our history, and keep in mind the thing that impresses me every day on the job is that these records have survived. The "Charters of Freedom" sit in the Rotunda. They were signed in Philadelphia, they were dragged to New York when the capitol changed, and then came to Washington. The British burned the town during the War of 1812, the night before that a clerk in the State Department, Stephen Pleasanton, realized that the records were at risk, rolled them up, stuffed them into linen sacks, commandeered a wagon on the street, and took them into the hills of Virginia. The only reason that they're sitting in the Rotunda today. So, there are stories like that for all of our records. So enjoy your time with us, and a personal invitation from me to come back for the opening of "Rightfully Hers." Our exhibit celebrating the 19th Amendment, which opens on the 10th of May. Thanks for being with us.*

**B. Discussion – Approval of Minutes and Vice-Chairman Nomination**

Following opening remarks, the Chairman thanked all the civil servants who kept things running for the Commission during the Federal government shutdown. She also thanked Debra Wall and her staff at the National Archives for providing the meeting space for today's meeting and for supporting the meeting logistics.

The Chairman shared that in the summer of 1919 the United States Senate passed the 19th Amendment, a year later in August of 1920 it was ratified, and it's almost been 100 years since this victory for women and America. However, even after 100 hundred years, much remains to be done. The Chairman then thanked Senator Barbara Mikulski (Ret.) for sharing an online article titled "When the Suffrage Movement Sold Out to White Supremacy", written by Brent Staples and

published in the New York Times on February 2, 2019<sup>1</sup>. The Chairman further commented that the article reinforces how much work we must do even as we are claiming victory, and we must tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth about what happened in history. She shared that this year the WSCC will be gathering a body of research, data, and evidence, and articles such as this will be included in that body.

The Chairman commented that she loves doing things on time and that the Commission gets extra points for staying focused on this mission and avoiding bunny trails. She then transitioned the discussion to Committee business and moved to approve the December 7, 2018, meeting minutes. The Commission approved the meeting minutes as written. The Chairman then announced that Rebecca Kleefisch transitioned to the Commission's Executive Director position, and that she herself transitioned to the Chair position, which left a vacancy for the Vice-Chair position. The Chairman nominated Senator Barbara Mikulski (Ret.) to serve as the Commission's Vice-Chair. The Commission unanimously approved the nomination.

After thanking the Commission for her approval as Vice-Chair, Senator Mikulski (Ret.) commented that she shared the aforementioned article with the Commission only to show there is a complicated history on suffrage, and in talking with scholars we must own the whole narrative, and embrace the idea that suffrage was an incredible movement but had a lot of bumps and bruises. She went on to quote George Bush's speech at the dedication of the African American Museum, "That it is not that great nations do not make mistakes. A great nation does not hide its history. It faces its flaws and corrects them." Senator Mikulski added that she hopes to have a public meeting in other areas of the country, so that groups unable to come to Washington D.C. have an opportunity to give input. The Chairman responded that it was her hope as well that the Commission would hold future meetings outside of Washington D.C., so women all over the country get to have their voices heard by the Commission.

### **C. Discussion – Subcommittee Membership and Roles**

The Chairman began the discussion outlining the following guidelines for how Subcommittees will operate:

1. Every Commissioner will be assigned to one subcommittee and serve a primary member.
2. Commissioners should serve on the subcommittee where they best want to serve.
3. Any Commissioner can attend and participate in any Subcommittee meeting even if they are not a voting member.
4. One of the Designated Federal Officers, Kim Oliver or Kelsey Brantley, must be present at every subcommittee meeting.
5. Commissioners have the opportunity to trade off during this meeting to make changes to their subcommittee. Commissioners were instructed to give their subcommittee request to the Executive Director, and the Commission would vote at the end of the day on subcommittee membership.

Senator Mikulski (Ret.) requested to transition to the Capitol City Commemorative Subcommittee as her primary subcommittee. She also volunteered to be the liaison for the House and the Senate.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/02/02/opinion/sunday/women-voting-19th-amendment-white-supremacy.html?module=inline>

A Commissioner asked if the group could revisit the roles of the subcommittees. In response, The Executive Director read aloud the roles of each subcommittee and shared the current subcommittee membership.

A Commissioner raised a question about whether or not subcommittees would be provided an operating budget, especially as it pertains to the Multi-Media subcommittee. The Chairman replied that at this time the Commission is only looking for ideas and suggestions from the Subcommittees.

A Commissioner asked which subcommittee would be responsible for recognizing the leaders of the suffrage movement? The Chairman's response was that the Leaders Subcommittee did not actually need to be a standalone subcommittee because everyone should be thinking of suffrage leaders and including them in celebration and commemoration recommendations throughout this process.

Another Commissioner requested the Executive Director to join the 50 States Commemorative Subcommittee discussion during the breakout session. It was decided the Executive Director would float around to all subcommittees during the breakout session.

The subcommittee discussion concluded with the Chairman reminding each Commissioner to submit their subcommittee requests to the Executive Director, and the Commission will vote on proposed subcommittee membership before the end of the meeting.

#### **D. Discussion – Committee Bylaws**

Margaret Triebisch, the Committee Management Officer (CMO), delivered a high-level overview on the purpose of the Commission bylaws. The bylaws were adapted to reflect what has worked well for other micro-agencies. All Commissioners were asked to read through them thoroughly.

Margaret shared that the bylaws were pulled from the General Services Administration website. They are not required, but they are standard operating procedures for a committee. They are ground rules for what you should or should not do during a federal advisory committee meeting. They can be revised and amended, but they serve as ground rules for the Commission meetings.

A question was asked about executing a budget as written in the bylaws, and the clarification was given that this Commission would only be executing anything they decided to do as a Commission.

The Commission voted on the draft bylaws and they were approved as written.

#### **E. Discussion – Granting and Fundraising**

The Chairman led the discussion and reminded the Commissioners that the WSCC has the authority to give grants to states. She requested the Commissioners to decide on whether or not they wanted to use the granting power they had been afforded in the Charter, and called to their attention that if they choose to give grants to states a fundraising mechanism and guidelines would need to be established. She also offered the option for the WSCC staff to flesh out the idea and provide granular details to present back to the Commission so an informed decision could be made at a later date.

A Commissioner inquired that since the Commission had received funding at the \$3 million level, if after administrative expenses are paid, would there be enough money left over to prioritize and allocate grants to states? For instance, the draft budget provided by the Executive Director shows only \$1 million in administrative expenses. Can the remaining \$2 million be used to issue grants to states?

The Chairman responded that as the Commission is working to determine staffing needs and other special needs that might come up, it would not be best for them to count on those funds being available for grants. At this time, the budget was simply a “best guess” of what the actual expenses might be.

Senator Mikulski added that there is actually a lot of responsibility in raising money, and that money should follow the purpose. She shared that she was not clear on which staff are already on board and which staff still need to be hired, and she questioned among the staff, who would serve as the “grant expert?” Her recommendation was to go slow on the decision to issue grants until the Executive Director has the proper staff in place. She reminded the Commission that they would need to put processes and guidelines in place to solicit and vet proposals.

A Commissioner commented that if or when the Commission does decide to consider grants, they should also consider Native American and African American groups within the states.

Another Commissioner reminded everyone the WSCC would not be issuing grants to non-government organizations.

The Chairman concluded this discussion by re-emphasizing that the Commission recognizes and reserves the right to issue grants to states in an effort to highlight and celebrate what states are doing to celebrate the suffrage centennial. This topic will be revisited by the Commission at a later date.

**F. Discussion – Executive Director Update, Rebecca Kleefisch**

Mrs. Kleefisch shared that she was officially onboarded as the Commission’s Executive Director on January 22, 2019. She is currently working with GSA to finalize the positions descriptions for the Commission staff she is working to hire. Ms. Kleefisch reviewed the current positions descriptions and salaries for the proposed staffing mix as follows:

1. Staff Director –Chief of Staff
2. Communications Director
3. National Events Director
4. States Events Director

Although Ms. Kleefisch is based out of Wisconsin, she confirmed her staff would all be based out of Washington D.C. where they were offered office space at the Library of Congress.

A question was asked which of the staff proposed would serve as the content expert on suffrage? To which a recommendation was offered, the Executive Director might consider hiring consultants as subject matter experts, which might bring a broader depth of knowledge. This approach would afford maximum flexibility.

Concerns were shared about the salaries for the proposed staff, especially the Communications Director. The Commissioners agreed the market would drive the salary levels. Another recommendation was made for the Executive Director to make certain the Communications Director has a good track record for seeking and pitching to media. This person would need to be aggressive in seeking out media and getting interviews with media.

Another recommendation was offered, if the Executive Director is unable to find the right fit and a diverse representation for the incoming staff, that she extend the search past the interviews scheduled for tomorrow.

The Executive Director shared that following the December 7, 2019, meeting she met with the Speaker of the House who was receptive to the reaffirmation of the ratification votes. She is currently working on a draft joint resolution. There could possibly be a reaffirmation on the same day or the reaffirmations could also take place in the House on May 21<sup>st</sup> and in the Senate on June 4<sup>th</sup>. She also proposed that Senator Mikulski (ret.) make those same touch points with the leader of the Senate, and she responded that she would be happy to do that. Senator Mikulski (ret.) further advised it might be best to first figure out exactly what we are asking them to do on June 4<sup>th</sup>, for instance the idea of the yellow boutonnieres. She also recommended the Commission to solicit the media to report on the event(s) that will take place. She asked the question if the WSCC is asking for joint or separate resolutions?

The Chairman instructed Subcommittees to think about the powerful things the Commission can do on that day, and asked all the Commissioners to clear their calendars for that day (June 4, 2019). The Executive Director requested that all Commissioners reach back out to the person who appointed them to the Commission to make sure they are onboard and vested in the June 4<sup>th</sup> event.

An idea was raised about deciding on branding ideas, such as the suffrage colors as white, purple, and gold, and wearing yellow roses to commemorate. Kate Howard shared that in the 1860's Kansas chose the sunflower which is where the yellow comes from, and the white purple and green comes from England.

The Chairman asked that the subcommittees discuss this further during their breakout sessions and possibly make recommendations on what the official colors should be.

The Executive Director updated that the WSCC website is still in the works and she is currently soliciting bids to contract this work out.

The discussion shifted to website content and the importance of having an "all inclusive" calendar or list of suffrage events. A list of suffrage events was shared with all the Commissioners as a meeting material. A suggestion was made to only track the Federal and states cultural events and exhibits. Perhaps there could be a separate calendar for private events? The concern being that if too much is tracked on the website calendar the WSCC and the members of the public might miss the "real commemorations." The Executive Director's response to the concern was that she plans to only track the events that meet the WSCC mission.

The conversation shifted and the Commission began discussing the idea to request that both the Democrat and Republican parties could possibly do something at their conventions in 2020 to

commemorate the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment centennial. A suggestion was made that subcommittees might come up with some on this topic during their breakout sessions.

**G. Discussion – Guidelines for Public Comment**

The Chairman acknowledged the importance of public comment, and shared the following guidelines the Commission will follow going forward to ensure the Commission hears from the public:

1. There will be a designated amount of time for each person to address the Commission.
2. The Commission refrain from responding to comments and answering. We can ask clarifying questions but nothing beyond that. There won't be a debate or dialogues. Just listen, hear and process.
3. An amount of time will be established in advance for public comment. The time might be extended.
4. Any comment a member of the public submits in writing will be distributed to every Commissioner and become an official record.
5. Speakers will be put on the list for public comment in the order the requests come in.
6. At any time, the public can submit information for consideration and the staff must distribute to full Commission.
7. Public comment will take place at the time that is announced in the Federal Register Notice.

**H. Discussion – Role of the Designated Federal Officers, Kim Oliver and Kelsey Brantley**

The Designated Federal Officers (DFO), Kim Oliver and Kelsey Brantley, were asked to provide a high-level overview of their role in supporting the Commission. The two shared that essentially the DFO serves as the government's agent for all matters related to the Commission's activities. The DFO: (1) approves or calls the meeting of the Commission; (2) approve agendas; and (3) attends all meetings.

In addition, the DFO is responsible for providing adequate staff support to the Commission, including the performance of the following functions: (1) Notifying members of the public of the time and place for each meeting; (2) Maintaining records of all meetings, including subcommittee activities, as required by Law; (3) Preparing the minutes of all meetings of the Commission's deliberations, including subcommittee activities; (5) responding to official correspondence; (6) maintaining official records and filing all papers and submissions prepared for or by the Commission, including those items generated by subgroups and working groups; (7) preparing and handling the annual report as required by FACA.

**I. Discussion – Subcommittee Updates and Ideas**

Capitol City Subcommittee:

- Consult the Speaker of the House and senators, ask for their ideas about commemoration, and share with the WSCC ideas for commemoration.
- Plan A would be that they follow the historical record with House going on May 21<sup>st</sup> and Senate going later on June 4<sup>th</sup>. Both of those dates they will be in session. We could offer them a list of things they could do on those days.
- Plan B –Do it on the same day, which is June 4<sup>th</sup>.

- This would first happen at the staff level and Senator Mikulski offered to handle speaking with Speaker Nancy Pelosi and contact Senators Capito and Baldwin (authors of the legislation) and Senators Schumer and McConnell later. The Chairman requested that all communications occur at the bipartisan level, and Senator Mikulski agreed that it would, and she also agreed to include Kay on all correspondence.
- Commissioner Dannenfelser offered to speak with Senator McConnell since he appointed her to the Commission.
- Commissioner Carranza reached out to a few national organizations to find out what is on their dockets. Her recommendation is to begin outreach to the prominent organizations such as “League of Women Voters and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People,” to determine what their plans are for commemorating the suffrage centennial at their annual conferences, and maybe the WSCC can participate.
- Commissioner Carranza offered to reach out to the White House Liaison to find out what the White House is planning for commemoration. On Memorial Day weekend there is a Berkshire event at Johns Hopkins University. It’s a weeklong American women historians focus on suffrage. It’s open to the public and they are encouraging that anybody who is a teacher K-12 could come for free. This will be a very important historical conference.
- The Chairman acknowledged that as the Commission becomes well known, members will be asked to speak at events like this. She requested the Executive Director put together a list of similar events so the Commission can decide as a group which two Commissioners can serve as guest speakers at the events.
- Conventions will be taking place in 2020, and the Commission should draft the same bi-partisan letter to each party chair requesting they incorporate a suffrage commemoration. The letters would be signed by the Commission’s Chairman and Vice-Chair.
- Offer a briefing for the White House, and send a reminder to Ivanka that this event is approaching.
- Request the President issue a proclamation on June 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Create an App for the commission or an App challenge.
- Instead of one huge event on August 26<sup>th</sup>, consideration of a number of smaller celebrations throughout the entire week.

#### Partnership Subcommittee:

- Consult with companies about message placement, i.e. WSCC logo on Starbucks cups.
- Figure out what to do in the public space with states and counties and local governments.
- Add a “near me” button/field on the WSCC website to drive traffic for members of the public to partner with local entities.
- Using a list of national companies that would like to partner with the WSCC, the WSCC should consider events that are free that everyone can participate in.
- Documenting the work of the Commission, and consider paying someone for that process.
- Create a template that shows which companies are co-branded with the WSCC.
- Hold a contest for the design/art of a new suffragist rose.
- Consider a partnership with Girls Scouts.

#### 50 States and Education Subcommittee

- Request Governors to appoint two elected officials (Democrat and Republican) to chair their own suffrage centennial committees and assist with the lighting of the mansions and Capitols.
- Events on Capitol lawns and lighting other significant buildings such as D.C. buildings and the Empire State Building, which would draw additional national press.
- Encourage states to get in touch with historical societies to highlight state heroines and gather relevant documents.
- Making sure everyone has access to state commemorations across the country.
- Encourage states to draft resolution for their own legislature, offer them a list of five things we would like for them to do, and ask them to tell us what they are doing.
- Recommend film screenings of “One Woman One Voice” and project beautiful graphics and words on buildings.
- Conduct an oratory contest.
- The WSCC logo, sashes, rose should be shared online so people can download. Need universal and ambiguous branding.
- Enlist a famous designer to design a sash.
- Hold a competition for designing a Federal coin which can be sold for one year.
- Check with the post office for a commemorative stamp.

#### Multi-media Subcommittee

- Ensure the content on the WSCC website is certified, so it serves as the suffrage hub with a calendar, literature, and other education resources.
- The website should direct the public towards what will be published in the media. There are magazines we can create with a content expert.
- Museums exhibits or state capitol exhibits and sharing the national history and state history should be well documented on the website.
- Hold contests online such as quizzes, the app challenge, and oratory contests.
- Amplify theater and incredible traveling exhibits.
- Use social media to advertise contests.
- Hold mock conventions.
- Partner with one or two major national magazine outlets like time magazine, airline, Glamour, Marie Claire, and Teen Vogue.
- What the big players are doing in the media, California history museum will have an exhibit, encourage and celebrate that.
- All state ratifications were recently scanned and will be made available online. The WSCC website should link to this resource.
- Research publications that existed 100 years ago.
- Park related units have history. The data is already there and it’s been vetted already. Encapsulate the information in a rolled up version that could be uploaded to the WSCC website.
- “Share Your Own Story” - Solicit the public to share historical documents.
- Establish a WSCC hashtag on Instagram.
- Solicit the media/producers about covering the upcoming suffrage celebrations at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July events and possibly lighting up the monument and memorials on that day.

- Commissioner Combs offered to issue a data call to find out what suffrage celebrations are in the works at Seneca Falls and throughout the rest of the Department of the Interior.

#### **IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Nancy Tate:

Ms. Tate shared that she is currently wearing several hats as the co-chair for the 2020 Women's Vote Centennial Initiative and the head of League of Women Voters for the U.S. She has already shared with the Executive Director a toolkit for what local groups can do to celebrate the centennial and spread the word. She also shared that the National Women's History Alliance, based out of California, will host their annual awards ceremony in Washington D.C. on March 30, 2019. Another group she mentioned is "Votes for Women's Trails", and this group is working on collaborating with individual communities to identify suffrage trails to document on a website. She recommended this information should be shared with states along with information about the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial.

Sonja Michael:

Ms. Michael shared that she serves as a Professor of Women's History at the University of Maryland College Park. She recommended that commemorations should consist of representations of bipartisanship, and that the WSCC establish a subcommittee on women's history that would consult with Martha Jones at Hopkins who serves as the Co-President of the Berkshire Conference. She asked the Commission to consider suffrage bumper stickers, tote bags, and possibly an essay contest.

#### **V. WRAP UP/CLOSING**

During the wrap up and final closing of the meeting, the Chairman requested the CMO to distinguish between recommendations to the Congress and the workplan for the Commission. The CMO responded that the deliberations and recommendations that took place during the public meeting, must be approved at the next meeting which can be a teleconference. After subcommittees report out on recommendations, the recommendations will need to be discussed and voted on.

The Chairman recommended that on or before March 6, 2019, each subcommittee chair submit to her a list of recommendations for commemorating the suffrage centennial. She and her staff will consolidate the lists, and the Commission would meet telephonically to discuss and approve the subcommittee ideas and recommendations. The Commission agreed to this approach and the telephonic meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, March 27, 2019, at 1:00pm EDT.

The Chairman noted that since the Commissioners would be in town for the June 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional reaffirmation, she proposed the next WSCC full-day meeting be held in Washington D.C. on Monday, June 3, 2019, location TBD. The Commission approved this recommendation.

The meeting adjourned at 3:17 pm EST.

Interested States and organizations who would like to collaborate with the Commission in planning suffrage commemorative events may contact the Commission's Executive Director, Rebecca Kleefisch, at [Rebecca@womensvote100.org](mailto:Rebecca@womensvote100.org)

Interested parties with any questions, comments, or concerns regarding the content of this meeting summary may contact the Designated Federal Officer's, Kim Oliver or Kelsey Brantley at [kmoliver@blm.gov](mailto:kmoliver@blm.gov) or (202) 912-7510 and [Kelsey\\_brantley@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Kelsey_brantley@ios.doi.gov) or (202) 208-4122.

## **VI. MEETING PARTICIPANTS**

### **A. COMMISSION MEMBERS**

Kay Coles James (Chairman), President, The Heritage Foundation  
Barbara Mikulski (Vice Chair), Former U.S. Senator, State of Maryland  
Cleta Mitchell, Partner and Political Law Attorney, Foley & Lardner, LLP  
Colleen J. Shogan, Deputy Director, National and International Outreach, Library of Congress  
Debra Wall, Deputy Archivist of the U.S. Wall, National Archives  
Heather Higgins, CEO, Independent Women's Voice  
Jennifer Siebel Newsom, Filmmaker, Actress and Public Speaker  
Jovita Carranza, Treasurer, Department of Treasury  
Julissa Marengo, Assistant Secretary for Communications and External Affairs, Smithsonian Institute  
Karen Hill, President and CEO, Harriet Tubman Home – a National Historic Park  
Marjorie Dannenfelser, President, Susan B. Anthony List  
Penny Nance, President and CEO, Concerned Women for America  
Susan Combs, Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, Department of Interior

Attended by phone:

Nicola Miner, Assistant Professor of English, College of San Mateo in California

### **B. PRESENTERS & SPECIAL GUESTS**

David Ferriero, United States Archivist, National Archives and Records Administration

### **C. STAFF SUPPORT**

Caitlin Connors, Support Staff, Susan B. Anthony List  
James Imoehl, Support Staff, The Heritage Foundation  
Kelsey Brantley, Designated Federal Officer, Department of Interior  
Kelsey Kats, Support Staff, Department of Treasury  
Kim Oliver, Designated Federal Officer, Department of Interior  
Louise Flavahan, Senior Advisor to Barbara Mikulski  
Margaret Triebsch, Committee Management Officer, Department of Interior  
Rebecca Kleefisch, Executive Director, Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission  
Rebecca Beland McNaught, Support Staff

### **D. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Amy Battaglia, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Carl Hulse, The New York Times  
Elizabeth Yang, Phoenix Rising Strategies  
Jennifer Krafchik, National Woman's Party  
Kate Howard  
Katie Crawford-Lackey  
Loraine Dawkins, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement  
Lori McCullough, The Great Outdoors Fund  
Lucy Beard, Alice Paul Institute

Mary Baumann, U.S. Senate Historical Office  
Megan Springate, PhD, National Park Service  
Nancy Tate, 2020 Women's Vote Centennial Initiative  
Pat Wirth, Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association  
Patti Klein, Bureau of Land Management  
Sonya Michel, University of Maryland College Park  
Susan Levine

**APPENDIX A: MEETING MATERIALS**

APPENDIX B: WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENT



ROBIN J. VOS

SPEAKER OF THE WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY

February 25, 2019

Kay Coles James, President  
Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission  
P.O. Box 2020  
Washington, DC 20013

Dear President James,

One hundred years ago, on June 10, 1919, the state of Wisconsin made history as the first state to ratify the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment which gave women in our country the right to vote. As speaker of the Wisconsin State Assembly, I am proud of this fact and how Wisconsin took the lead on instituting this milestone in our nation's past.

To commemorate this important occasion, I would like to propose a kick-off celebration in early June close to the date of the ratification. The event would be held in our state capital of Madison, Wisconsin. Ideally, it would be planned in conjunction with a meeting of the National Conference of State Legislatures Executive Board who will be holding a quarterly board meeting in Madison in early June. This would allow state legislators from around the country to partake in this celebration.

In order to make this event a success and a reality, I would greatly appreciate the commission's financial assistance in sponsoring this event. Thus, I am seeking any matching grant dollars or funding the commission may be able to provide. I would be happy to give more details and information about this event if needed. Since time is of essence, please have someone from your organization contact Janine Hale in my office to explain your process. She can be reached at [janine.hale@legis.wi.gov](mailto:janine.hale@legis.wi.gov) or by calling 608-266-3387.

Wisconsin's state motto of "Forward" is truly a clear depiction of its state history and the path it has paved in many areas including women's suffrage. Please join us in commemorating our heritage and making this event the first of many to celebrate a woman's right to vote.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robin J. Vos".

Robin J Vos  
Assembly Speaker  
Wisconsin State Assembly