



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Women's Rights History Trail Task Force
State House, Boston 02133

Representative Carole Fiola
House Chair

Senator Edward J. Kennedy
Senate Chair

Minutes
1st Task Force Meeting
October 19th, 2022 – 3pm

Members Present: Fiola, Kennedy, Gregoire, Kane, Tarr, Haddad, Orrall, Spruell, Jenkins, Clutterbuck-Cook

Opening roll call

- Representative Fiola welcomed members of the Task Force and introduced her Co-Chair, Senator Kennedy, and thanked members for offering to serve.
- She stated that these meetings fall under open meeting law, and called the opening roll

Overview of legislation establishing the trail

- Representative Fiola gave an overview of the legislation establishing both the Women's Rights History Trail and the Task Force.
- The goal of the Task Force is to research, solicit public input and make recommendations for sites, properties and attractions to be included in the women's rights history trail program Chapter 76 of the Acts of 2022, with legislation originally sponsored by the Massachusetts Caucus of Women Legislators.
- Representative Kane, Representative Gregoire, Senator Lovely, and former Rep Dykema were all original sponsors.

- Representative Kane spoke on the bill, and offered it in memory of Representative Cariddi who died in 2017
- Executive Director Keiko Orrall also spoke on the bill and offered the services of the Mass Office of Travel and Tourism.
- Senator Kennedy gave some brief opening comments commending the start of the Task Force.
- Representative Gregoire spoke on the bill and said it was an opportunity to ensure women are properly represented in the halls of the statehouse.
- Representative Fiola spoke on the legislation establishing the Task Force. Section 1 denotes the responsibilities of MOTT and the Secretary of Transportation. Section 2 gives goals and direction to the task force, including what sites they should consider. This includes sites that are:
 - historically and thematically associated with the fight for women’s rights and women’s suffrage, including the contributions of women veterans; geographically diverse; and commemorate individuals who reflect racial, ethnic, cultural and economic diversity.
 - Also are asked to research, solicit public input and make recommendations to increase the representation of women in the State House
 - Representative Fiola told Task Force members that they would be receiving a poll regarding the preferred method of members to collect public input on the Trail, and for recommendations of historical groups that could be invited to any public forums.

Task Force member introductions

- Task Force members introduced themselves.
- 14 of the 16 Task Force members have been appointed, with two appointees being awaited from the Senate President and Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Representative Carole Fiola of Fall River	Senator Ed Kennedy of Lowell
Representative Danielle Gregoire of Marlborough	Representative Hannah Kane of Shrewsbury

Senator Bruce Tarr of Gloucester	Representative Patricia Haddad of Somerset
Senator Joan Lovely of Salem (Not Present)	Keiko Orrall, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism
Andrea D’Amato, Assistant Secretary of Transportation (Not Present)	Shaitia Spruell, Executive Director of the MA Commission on the Status of Women
Amanda Molina Dumas, Worcester County Regional Commissioner - Commission on the Status of Women (Not Present)	L’Merchie Frazier, Member of State House Art Commission, Director of Education – Museum of African-American History (Not present)
Shannon Jenkins, Associate Dean and Professor of History, UMass Dartmouth	Anna Clutterbuck-Cook, Senior Reference Librarian at the MA Historical Society

- Anna Clutterbuck-Cook asked if there was a specific time-period that the Task Force will be looking at to represent on the trail – Representative Fiola responded that the legislation sets no such date and thus is another element for the Task Force to look at.

Future meeting dates

- Senator Kennedy asked for a motion to set that next meeting to December 6th, seconded by Senator Tarr, and the motion passed.

Closing roll call

- Senator Kennedy asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Senator Tarr, and the meeting was closed after Chair Fiola called the closing roll.
- Closing roll: Present: Fiola, Kennedy, Gregoire, Kane, Tarr, Haddad, Orrall, Spruell, Jenkins, Clutterbuck-Cook

Next Scheduled Task Force Meeting: December 6th 2022