I. Call to order
Chair Spencer called the meeting to order at 12:05pm. A quorum was not established. The meeting will continue as an informational discussion only, with no actions taken or decisions made. Notes will become part of the public record for this meeting.

II. Approval of the agenda
The agenda was followed by common consent to guide the discussion.

III. Approval of the March 2017 Minutes
Approval of the previous meeting’s minutes was postponed until the July meeting.

IV. Public Comment
Members of the public introduced themselves.

V. Commissioner introductions
The Commissioners introduced themselves.

VI. Presentation on the Bus Project and its priority areas – Nikki Fisher, Executive Director
Nikki Fisher described the work of the Bus Project, which shares a number of OCFW priorities. It is a non-partisan, nonprofit organization and works with youth to engage them politically. They conduct voter registration for youth year round and also focus on local races. They also provide fellowships. Their focus includes making the policy and law making process be accessible and equitable. The Bus Project had a lobby day with over 100 students attending at the capitol during 2017 session, and they met with Governor Brown. A number of Bus Project participants are alternative high school students. They have often been to the Capitol and especially appreciate the opportunity to engage. The Oregon Bus
Project’s Democracy Project is a national model and former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder noted their excellent work. The Bus Project has been included in redistricting conversations in the past and expects to be actively engaged in the future.

The young and the young at heart volunteer for the Bus Project. People as young as 15 participate with parental approval. About 60% of the total participants are female, and 70% of the leadership program are women. The Bus Project has been working steadily to increase the opportunity for Oregonians to register to vote. In 2007 they passed preregistration for youth. They progressed with legislation to allow voter registration online and 90k individuals registered this way. In 2013 automatic registration was their focus and the Motor Voter bill passed in 2015. Over 300k people were automatically registered and over 250k had their addresses updated. This is important so that voter registration follows individuals as they change addresses. Of those who were newly added, 100,000 new registrants voted in the 2016 election. Motor Voter is cost effective as well, costing only 4 cents to transfer the voter data compared to $2 for paper registration. Data on the new voters show that their political affiliation is the proportionally the same as the region in which they live.

The Bus Project would also like to have automatic Voter registration at DHS and the Dept of Revenue. Studies have shown that one of the obstacles new voters face include 42% of new registrants do not have a postage stamp to mail their ballot. When ballots are prepaid, voting goes up by 7 – 10%. This is an economic issue and few legislators understand how 49 cents means having a banana with breakfast or not. Not having a postage stamp can be an issue for homebound or folk in battle zones as well, where access to post offices or stores to purchase stamps is difficult. County Clerks can decide whether to return or pay the postage for ballots returned with no postage, so willing County Clerks can make a big difference. 74% of military ballots go unreturned, often for lack of a stamp.

In the 2017 session, the Bus Project is actively supporting SB 862 which will allow pre-registration to vote for 16 year olds. The bill will be in the house next week. The Bus Project is also interested in a student debt bill and National Popular Vote bill which would allow states to bypass the Electoral College. There is currently a 21 day voter registration deadline in the Oregon constitution due to the influx of the Rajneeshee’s into Oregon in the 1970’s. The Bus Project is part of the Racial Equity Report Card Coalition. They have a full time lobbyist and Nikki is often at the Capitol.

The Commissioners asked, how can we help? Nikki noted that the Bus Project priorities affect women and would welcome collaborating on mutual support for bills. The Bus Project also welcomes individuals for mentoring with Bus Project Fellows.

The OCFW thanked Ms. Fisher for her thoughtful presentation and looks forward to working together.

VII. Commissioners’ Reports

Dr. Ochs drafted two testimonies on alternative sentencing, and the Family Preservation Project (FPP). She attended the hearing for alternative sentencing and presented OCFW’s testimony in person. She attended the OCFW’s lobby day with YWCA in support of the FPP.

Rep. Sheri Malstrom reported that three of her bills have passed. She is coordinating the Drug Take-Back Project for special disposal. Sheri has gotten the support of every county
to have drug take-back paid for by the manufacturers. This may be considered a priority bill and she will discuss it with the Speaker of the House. Chair Spencer is looking at rural health. AARP and OHSU has a program focused on this and Barbara will ask them to present.

VIII. OCFW Old Business

A. Nominations for OCFW Chair and Vice Chair
   Barbara shared a description of the duties of the OCFW Chair. Chair Spencer opened nominations from the floor for OCFW Chair. Commissioner Fisher nominated Barbara Spencer as Chair. Nominations will be held open until the July meeting when they will be closed.

   Chair Spencer opened nominations for OCFW Vice Chair. Barbara Spencer nominated Kim Olson. Kim has accepted this nomination. Nominations will be held open until the July meeting when they will be closed.

   Barbara Spencer accepted her nomination. Voting for Chair and Vice Chair will occur at the July OCFW meeting.

B. Legislative Discussion – Ty/All
   Ty reported that today is the deadline for legislative committee chairs to schedule hearings for bills. Some of the OAC’s have written the chairs of the committees requesting that certain key bills receive hearings. Bills already in Joint Ways and Means and Rules committees, which currently include eight bills supported by the OAC’s, are exempt from this deadline.

   So far this session, each of the Commissions have testified on a total of 28 bills, Commissioners have met with 27 legislators, and the OAC’s have welcomed the 5 new legislators who are now appointed to serve on the Advocacy Commissions. Bills of interest to the OCFW that appear not to be moving forward are workplace bullying, reproductive health, and the U Visa bill, SB 1006. The U Visa issue will be the subject of a legislative workgroup from the Senate Judiciary Committee during the interim. Vacate convictions of trafficking (SB 249A) and affirmative defense for prostitution (SB 250), are moving forward. The OCFW will also support the Veteran’s Health Care Navigator bill, the need for which was discussed in Liz Estabrook’s presentation to OCFW last fall.

   Ty has bi-weekly calls for interested Commissioners on these bills and is also following proposals to increase revenue under consideration by the Tax Reform committee. Ty will do his best to help the OAC’s keep up to date on revenue packages being considered.

   1. YWCA Legislative Day
      Chair Spencer reported that the YWCA legislative day was excellent, well done and professional with great handouts. The kickoff speaker for the lobby day was Piper Kerman, who met with attendees and the legislators. The YWCA scheduled appointments for the attendees with legislators that included Family Preservation Project graduates.

   2. Ratify OCFW’s e-votes –
      The ratification was postponed until the July meeting.
      i. SCR 27 – Recognition of Women of Achievement 2016, testimony and floor letter
ii. HB 3087 – Paid Family Leave
iii. SB 242 – Family Preservation Project
iv. SB 241 – Bill of Rights for Children of Incarcerated Parents
v. HB 2004A – Renters’ rights
vi. HB 2005A – Pay Equity
vii. HB 3060A – Contract anti-discrimination language
viii. HB 3078 – Safety and Savings Act
ix. SB 249 – Vacate prostitution convictions for victims of trafficking
x. SB 250 – Affirmative defense for prostitution

3. Tax and Revenue Reform: Ty will provide reports to the OAC’s as information on revenue packages become available.

4. Bi-weekly Legislative Update: The next update is next week.

C. Women of Achievement Criteria and Marketing Review
Chair Spencer reviewed the Women of Achievement criteria for selection. Commissioners agreed that they want to attract women in fields of importance, and considered focusing the event on women’s leadership. The conversation will continue.

D. Review of OCFW’s 2015-17 Executive Summary
This action item is postponed until the July meeting.

IX. New Business
A. Policy Research Priorities Discussion
Barbara and Kim have discussed this issue and July would be a good time to consider how the OCFW’s policy research work can inform or initiate upcoming legislation. They reviewed areas of importance to the OCFW: the 8 that can’t wait identified by the Women’s Foundation of Oregon, violence against women, mental health, and economic fragility. Gender, race and intersectional approaches are the focus. There are commissioners across each of the OAC’s that share special priorities of importance to prosperity and women. Barbara was able to bring forward other States’ work in policy around best practice that became the foundation of two bills sponsored by Sen. Monnes Anderson in the 2015 session. Rep. Malstrom noted that bills may take several sessions to pass, and that concepts from failed bills, or the focus of legislative task forces, might be areas to support with research and help inform or drive upcoming bills.

B. Partners Discussion
Currently the OCFW partners with AAUW, the Women’s Foundation, and YWCA, but the partnership has not been formalized. Lucy drafted a model for formalizing partnerships between OCFW and community organizations that can serve as a framework for approaching potential partners. It will be included in the packet for the July OCFW meeting. Commissioners considered who and what groups the OCFW should meet and partner with, keeping in mind it would be ideal to be involved at the beginning on certain projects, rather than being called in at the end. Nikki would like to learn more about women veterans groups who might be interested in partnering.

C. OACO Budget work session with full Joint Ways & Means 5/5/17 recap – Lucy reported that the Joint Ways and Means legislators were very supportive of the OACO budget and the beneficial work of the Advocacy Commissions.

D. Women of Achievement 2015/16 recognition by the Senate
Barbara recapped the recognition by the Senate on 4/27: The WOA honorees attended their recognition by the Senate. Five attended with their families. They sat with their Senators on the floor of the Senate chamber. Sen. Monnes Anderson gave the invocation which was a stirring speech. Each honoree was thrilled to be recognized.

X. Administrator’s Report
A. Weapons in the workplace state policy: Lucy reviewed the new policy, which was included in the e-packets for this meeting. It is now in effect.
B. Staffing of legislative committee meetings: Lucy and the OCFW reviewed the OACO’s ability to provide staffing for Legislative task forces or workgroups. All were agreed that the two full time staff of the OACO are not sufficient to provide staffing for legislative task forces and maintain full support for the Advocacy Commissions. Lucy asked that any Commissioner who is working with a legislator to propose a task force that would be staffed by the OACO discuss this arrangement with their full Commission and the Administrator before proposing it in a draft bill.

XI. Good of the Order
A. Next OCFW meeting July 21st, 2017, same location.
B. Elections for OCFW Chair and Vice Chair at July meeting.
C. Announcements: Commissioners agreed that they would like a break midway through their Commission meetings. This will be incorporated into the agenda.

XII. Adjourn
Chair Spencer adjourned the meeting at 3:00pm.