I. Call to Order, and welcome to new Commissioners Maura Kelly and Helen Richardson.
   Chair Spencer called the meeting to order at 12:04 pm.

II. Approval of January Agenda
   The Commission approved the agenda by consensus.

III. Approval of December 2018 Minutes
   The Commission approved the December minutes by consensus.

IV. Public Comment
   There was no public comment, but the Commission welcomed a member of Parents across America visiting the OCFW meeting.

V. Old Business
   A. Women of Achievement Awards and Women’s History Month Event
      Nancy has requested Governor Brown’s presence at the Women’s History Month proclamation and Women of Achievement Award event, for Wednesday, March 13. Barbara has prepared the proclamation, the talking points, the invitation to the event and the press release. All Commissioners are hoping to attend but some have schedule conflicts. The Commission thanked Chair Spencer and Nancy for their support and making this such a great event.

   B. Evaluation of OAC’s Joint Meeting in December
      The Commission discussed the morning and afternoon sessions of the Annual Joint Meeting of the OACs in December. They felt the pace of the day and the topics in the afternoon were excellent, though suggested that research-related group discussion come in the morning of joint meetings. As the day progressed, there were fewer who could
attend the important research partner breakout session, but those who attended felt it was very good.

- **Legislative partner presentations** were also very informative and it was great to hear from so many community advocates. Moving that to the afternoon would be better and having the Chairs provide an introductory framework about the OACs’ and their legislative partnerships would have been helpful. Some were unsure how the legislative partner reports connected with the OACs’ work. Opening with the Governor’s remarks and questions & answer session was a wonderful highlight of the day. It was very helpful to hear the Governor’s full set of priorities using an equity lens. Adding the presentation by the State Treasurer was also very helpful. Many commissioners were unaware of the number of equity-related opportunities for school and retirement savings accounts and other efforts are championed by the Treasurer’s Office.

- **Legislative partner reports:** Not sure how it felt with our overall agenda. The treasurer himself was pleasantly surprised with the engagement of the commissions. He would like to be further engaged. It would be helpful to have a central gathering place for the e-information on our websites. Other commissioners were not sure how the partner reports connected and would need the chair to make those connections for us in a frame?.

- **Chairs presentation and research breakouts in the afternoon.** Good, the Chairs presentation highlighted the cross-commission work: very important. Also, the breakouts provided a great opportunity to talk in small cross-commission groups. The Stable Families breakout was rich but didn’t identify the key issue(s) they wanted to pursue with research. Kasey, Maura, and Kim all attended the Stable Families discussion. The OCFW itself could host a conversation on this important subject and engage the other OAC’s. Adrienne was in the rural conversation and Gustavo was a great facilitator. They were all pumped afterward to progress policy research and advocacy around rural issues. Helen really enjoyed meeting the other commissioners and found it insightful. Robin appreciated the strong start to the morning with a substantive talk from the Governor. Robin thought it was great to see the partners and is looking forward to growing them. Wants to have the policy research of the OAC’s also presented. It was wonderful to have each of the Chairs talk about the Policy Arc and we should do it regularly. Robin attended the health and public health discussion with CORE and loved it. Can this become a larger scale discussion? If so would like to collaborate with interested commissioners and staff to make that happen. What are the outcomes and what are the next steps? Robin thought it was the best start of a year, ever.

- **Lunch and breaks:** Need better vegetarian options for lunch.

- **What was most helpful?** The morning and joint advocacy. Small group discussion was great. Hearing how much overlap there is among commissioners. Impressed. Good omen for the OAC’s in the future.

C. **Update on Sexual Harassment at Capitol:** Link to BOLI’s **“Notice of Substantial Evidence Determination”** Chair Spencer and the Commission discussed the recent events with BOLI, and growing interest among the news media. Senator Sara
Gelser, along with women’s groups, is watching. The legislator’s EEOC training on workplace harassment was postponed due to the Federal shutdown. When it is rescheduled all capitol staff, lobbyists, and legislators are required to attend.

Chair Spencer noted that the OCFW sent a letter to the new BOLI Commissioner, Val Hoyle on her first day. The Commission offered its support of her work on capitol harassment and the safety of interns. Labor Commissioner Hoyle has now recused herself from the BOLI investigation and appointed Duke Shepard, her Deputy BOLI Commissioner, as the lead for that BOLI suit. There are very significant findings in the BOLI action around the Capitol harassment case.

On his last day in office, Commissioner Avakian contacted Chair Spencer to thank the OCFW for their leadership around remedies for harassment. He shared that the interns involved in the capitol harassment lawsuit have now passed the bar and wish to be in touch with the OCFW. Commissioner Morris Collin volunteered herself and the OCFW in support to the interns. She has been thinking about the role of women in the Capitol harassment and other complex situations. In reading the BOLI report, she was struck with the role of well-meaning women who became complicit. There is apparently an undercurrent of disbelief around those who have reported harassment, and now must face the hurtful politics around that.

D. OCFW and ODE Policy Research Project
Robin, Barbara, and Lucy reported on the progress of the OCFW’s joint research project with ODE on gender and racial equity among school administrators. Six potential research interns have applied and the top choices will be scheduled for interviews with ODE and OCFW leaders. It is very exciting to see this work move forward.

VI. New Business
A. Women in Prison Conference Review
Commissioner Yoshimoto reported on the women in prison conference and a new bill on criminal justice and women, for which she is the organizer. Last year, the conference (which sells out quickly) focused on domestic violence-related criminal justice involvement and incarceration for women. This year the conference focused on Measure 11 (required sentences for certain types of crimes) and the types of and role of trauma in the lives of justice involved women. Each year Mike Schmidt, Director of the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission, presents the data and tailors his conference presentation to the focus of the event. Also, three women from Coffee Creek Correctional Facility who are currently incarcerated presented and, this year, were allowed to stay for lunch with the participants. One of the supervisors from Coffee Creek stayed the whole day and was very impressed with what she learned. Isis Harris presented at the conference about the circumstances surrounding her plea deal, the five years of prison she ultimately served, and the effect on her and her children who are now in prison under M11. She is a very powerful speaker on plea deals.

A less understood issue for justice-involved women is accomplice liability. This is due to being convicted as an accomplice which has a very low threshold. For women in abusive relationships and girls involved in the justice system, it is a key issue around which there is very little data. Dr. Alicia Moreland-Capuia from the Avel Gordly Center spoke at the conference about trauma and its effect on brain development. It is a
complex issue and also one that the criminal system does not fully take into account when working with youth around M11. The Superintendent of Oak Creek Youth Correctional Facility (girls) spoke about what he sees as their issues for M11 crimes. There was also a judges’ panel with Judge Ortega, an appellate judge, to discuss M11. The next conference will be in October on a Saturday or Sunday. They sell out in three weeks for 170 seats.

In the 2019 session, Rep. Schouten has a bill for better services at Coffee Creek.

OCFW can help by considering the recommendations coming from the CCCF survey conducted by the OJRC and PSU Criminology Dept on the issues of justice involved women, and including domestic violence organizations engaged with women in the criminal justice system in their policy work. Women in prison are often overlooked in this work. Bringing together the different stakeholders for a roundtable regarding DV and incarcerated women may be a helpful step for OCFW in raising awareness into policy circles and building broad based information on the subject. Research interns could also be helpful in gathering data on unequal confinement conditions within the corrections system.

Another area affecting women is access to diversion programs which are offered county by county, in varying ways and capacities. The Family Sentencing Alternative was expanded so that parent meeting certain criteria may be eligible for diversion. Most of the individuals who are part of the Family Sentencing Alternative program are women, but it is not clear how many people are being diverted from prison under its auspices. The OCFW will think further about how to engage in this important issue.

Julia spoke at OCAPIA and they share OCFW’s interest in health care for incarcerated women.

Discussion followed. The Commission thanked Commissioner Yoshimoto for her excellent report and dedication to the work.

B. 2019 Legislative Session – The Commission discussed an upcoming bill that would establish a pilot project at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility that would provide legal services for those who are currently incarcerated but are preparing for reintegration into community. There are many complexities in the lives for those transitioning that affect the success of their reintegration into their families or in support of their children. OCAPIA is also aware of the bill concept and has voted at their last meeting to support it. OCFW asked that the bill also be added to their legislative priority list.

C. 2019 OAC Legislative Process

Commissioners discussed bills of interest that may drop in the 2019 legislative session. The Oregon Treasury is working to make the current tax deduction for deferred college savings account into a refundable tax credit: a more progressive approach. The Treasury would appreciate the OACs support and testimony. Paid family leave has had a workgroup meeting over the past year, led by Rep. Williamson which expects to drop a
bill. The work is complicated by the need for a fiscal impact statement on that bill, which is hard to calculate. Rep. Schouten is in support but it will need a champion in the Senate, where it will have its first hearing. There is a coalition working on it. Other bills addressing support for the Oregon Health Plan, Climate Change, MH in schools, and others are dependent on the next revenue forecast due in March.

Lucy spoke about the bill process, refined version, 2.0. Each OAC prepares their list of search words. Lucy uses them to conduct a bill search of all pre-session filed bills. Individual commissions will then work to prioritize the bills that are generated from OACO’s search (using their search words) of the 3 – 5K bills entering into the Oregon Legislative Information System (OLIS.) After that, OACO (Lucy, Nancy, Connie) will generate weekly legislative reports for each of the Commissions and of joint interest, coordinating approvals to testify and the testimony drafting by individual commissioners on behalf of their commission. Staff then submits approved Commission testimony to the appropriate legislative hearing committee in advance of bill hearings and coordinates with commissioners who may be presenting the testimony in person.

The 2019 Legislative Session ends (Sine Die) on June 30, but the legislature is hoping to complete the session by June 21st.

Chair Spencer shared a template for writing testimony. The OACs generally focus on one-page of testimony. The OACs slate is then shared with the OAC’s community partners, the OACs Policy advisor in the Governor’s Office, and the Governor’s legislative director during a meeting. The OAC’s collaborate with the Governor’s legislative director around bills of shared interest.

HB 5001 is the bill number for the OACO budget in the 2019 session. The OAC’s are requesting that the .5 FTE Policy Analyst position at the OACO (Connie) will be expanded to full time for the 2019-21 biennium. It has been approved in the Governor’s Request Budget that has now been submitted to the legislature for their consideration. The Chairs and Lucy will present the budget to Joint Ways and Means General Government Committee early in session. Probably in February.

D. Request to co-sponsor The Future is Fluid event:
Chair Spencer discussed The Future Fluid event. It is organized in part by the OCFW, AAUW, with the Transactive Center, and focuses on developing fluency in a non-binary world. The OCFW agreed to support this event. It is being held on 4/16 at 7pm in the Old Church near PSU. Commissioner Kelly will help spread the word on the PSU campus.

VII. A. Items from Commissioners
  o Dr. Kelly is considering how apprenticeship in the Trades can reduce recidivism, working with Constructing Hope.
  o Commissioner Morris Collin has been named as co-convener of the electric vehicle collaborative solutions project sponsored by Oregon solutions at PSU.
  o Dr. Ochs delivered a keynote for women in community colleges and has been named the Oregon Chapter of the American Association for Women in Community Colleges. She noted that change is required in order to meet the needs
of the newest populations entering higher education. Bringing prison education opportunities to all state institutions is essential. She and Julia will connect offline to explore possible collaborations.

VIII. Administrator’s Report
A. Review of draft materials for OCFW Biennial Report 2017-19
Lucy and the Commissioners reviewed the draft biennial report of the OCFW and provided additions and edits. It will be finalized in March and printed in April to share with the legislature and the Governor.

IX. For the Good of the Order
A. The next OCFW meeting is March 15, 2019, Room 612.
B. Announcements: there were no announcements

X. Adjourn – Chair Spencer adjourned the meeting at 2:29pm.