



**WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE CENTENNIAL COMMISSION
PUBLIC MEETING | SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS | OCTOBER 8, 2020**

I. INTRODUCTION

The Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission (Commission or WSCC), with Dr. Colleen Shogan presiding as the Commission Vice Chairwoman, convened its final public meeting on Thursday, October 8, 2020 by video conference. The meeting was called to order at approximately at 1:00p.m. EST.

The purpose of the meeting was to provide final updates on the comprehensive list of programs, projects, and activities to commemorate the centennial of the passage and ratification of the 19th Amendment.

II. SUMMARY OF KEY DECISIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

A. Key Decisions

- The June 3, 2020 meeting minutes were approved.

B. Action Items

- The WSCC staff will submit the final report to Congress and the President.
- The WSCC staff will send commissioners the final report and budget.
- The WSCC staff will continue execution of remaining approved commemorative projects.

III. PRESENTATIONS, KEY DISCUSSIONS AND COMMISSION VOTES

A. Opening remarks were provided by Senator Tammy Baldwin of Wisconsin

"Thank you so much, I am so delighted to join you. I want to thank the entire Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission for inviting me to join you today. And I particularly want to thank the leaders of the Commission: Chairwoman Combs, Vice Chairwoman Shogan, former Chair James, and former Vice Chair Mikulski for your incredible work. I am honored to have the opportunity to speak with you at the Commission's final meeting. More than two years ago, I had the honor of joining for your first meeting at the Belmont Paul Women's Equality National Monument, the historic home that in many ways was the epicenter of the women's suffrage movement. While I wish we were all there together, in that inspiring place where your work began, I am no less inspired by your efforts and the myriad ways that our nation has commemorated the centennial of the 19th Amendment. I am so grateful for your efforts and those of governments, civic organizations, museums, and individuals all over the country. This was an extraordinary undertaking and it was made all the more challenging by the unprecedented public health crisis facing our nation this year. But it should be no surprise that women, and the men supporting them, rose to this challenge just as they rose to challenge of securing the vote for women one hundred years ago. As I've often said about my work with my fellow female senators, women get things done. And thanks to the leadership of remarkable women on this Commission as well as the tireless efforts of the Commission's executive director Rebecca Kleefisch and currently Anna Laymon and their staff, our country has honored and celebrated a critical moment in our ongoing

quest to be that more perfect union that our founders envisioned. More than 4 years ago at one of our monthly bipartisan dinners, the Senate women decided that we had to do something to ensure a proper commemoration of the centennial. At the suggestion of my colleagues, including my friend and former colleague and now commissioner, Senator Barbara Mikulski, I introduced the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission Act in April of 2017, which became law as part of the fiscal year 2018 funding package. It was the support and leadership of the Senate women, particularly Senator Mikulski, former Vice Chair of the Appropriation Committee, and Senator Lisa Murkowski who remains the chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior and the Environment, that made this Commission a reality and ensured that it had the resources it needed to fulfill its mission. I want to also thank my colleagues in the House of Representatives, particularly Speaker Nancy Pelosi and the chairs of the Bipartisan Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, Representatives Brenda Lawrence and Debbie Lesko for their support of the Commission and their work to organize a beautiful commemoration of the centennial of the House passage of the 19th Amendment in May of last year. As you all know, it took the efforts of so many to mark the centennial, and I am grateful for everyone who contributed. Along with paying homage to those who fought so hard for women's suffrage. You have helped inspire the next generation of women and men to participate in our democracy and fight for the things they believe in. And I am honored to have had a small role in this historic effort, and to be with you again today. Congratulations and thank you."

B. Chair Update – Dr. Colleen Shogan

Chairwoman Combs was unable to lead the meeting due to technical difficulties. Vice Chairwoman Shogan chaired the meeting on her behalf. The Vice Chair extended her gratitude towards the commissioners, WSCC staff, and members of the public for joining the meeting. Vice Chairwoman Shogan stated this meeting was originally intended to be held at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History. Due to the pandemic, the Commission held its final meeting virtually on Zoom.

The Vice Chair called for a motion to pass the June 3, 2020 meeting minutes. Commissioner James moved to the pass the June 3, 2020 meeting minutes. Commissioner Mitchell seconded. None opposed. Motion carried.

On behalf of Chairwoman Combs and herself, the Vice Chairwoman announced that she would be sharing a personal thanks to each commissioner. The Vice Chair applauded the WSCC staff: Anna Laymon as the Executive Director who led the WSCC team successfully across many projects, along with Kelsey Millay, Stephanie Marsellos, Candace Samuels, Gabriela Hernandez, and Kimberly Wallner.

Vice Chairwoman Shogan thanked Commissioner Jovita Carranza for attending events, ensuring the creation of the suffrage centennial medal, and announcing the sale of both the medal and coin on behalf of the WSCC through a video published on August 18, 2020.

The Vice Chair thanked Commissioner Marjorie Dannenfelser for serving as the chair of the 50 States Subcommittee, attending events, and connecting the Commission with contacts across the country. Commissioner Dannenfelser was also thanked for introducing National Women's Suffrage Month programming and representing the WSCC at a speaking engagement for a Daughters of the American Revolution meeting in Durham, NC in 2019.

The Vice Chairwoman thanked Commissioner Heather Higgins for using her large social media following to support the WSCC, attending every event, and for her deep interest in the suffrage movement.

Vice Chairwoman Shogan thanked Commissioner Karen Hill for working to ensure the Seneca Falls story stayed central in the WSCC's mission, culminating in the donation of a suffrage history statue to the town of Seneca Falls. Commissioner Hill was also thanked for speaking at the President Woodrow Wilson House Speaker Series in February 2020 as a WSCC representative.

The Vice Chair thanked Commissioner Kay Coles James, the Commission's immediate Past Chair, for being a 'doer.' Commissioner James sent a letter to the Department of Defense on behalf of the WSCC requesting an all-woman flyer on August 26, 2020, which did come to fruition. Commissioner James was also thanked for co-publishing an op-ed with Senator Mikulski, Chairwoman Combs, and Vice Chair Shogan in the *Tennessean* about the August 18 ratification date. The Vice Chair shared that it has been a privilege to follow Commissioner James' footsteps.

Vice Chairwoman Shogan thanked Commissioner Julissa Marengo for leading the Capital City Subcommittee, securing the participation of ten Smithsonian Museums in Forward Into Light, facilitating a marketing partnership with the WSCC and Smithsonian, and helping in achieving extra news and media coverage for the Commission.

The Vice Chair thanked Senator Barbara Mikulski, the Commission's immediate Vice Chair, for her tirelessly and routinely facilitated work with the Senate on behalf of the WSCC and her authored introductory letter in the Commission's custom edition of the children's book, *Around America to Win the Vote*. The Senator was also thanked for co-authoring the August 18 *Tennessean* op-ed, facilitating the Berkshire Conference of Women Historians partnership, and introducing WSCC online programs.

Vice Chairwoman Shogan thanked Commissioner Nicola Miner for serving as the Chair of the Multi-Media, Education and Engagement Subcommittee and her involvement in the development of the WSCC's podcasts.

The Vice Chair thanked Commissioner Cleta Mitchell for attending events, announcing the sale of the 19th Amendment USPS stamp on behalf of the WSCC, and helping draft the Constitution Day op-ed alongside Ms. Kelsey Millay.

Vice Chairwoman Shogan thanked Commissioner Penny Nance for representing the WSCC in an interview with WHO News Radio – the Simon Conway Show during the summer of 2019 and attending events.

The Vice Chair thanked Commissioner and First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom's unwavering help despite enormous responsibilities in California. The First Partner was thanked for securing the participation of the California State Capitol and various municipalities around the state in Forward Into Light, presenting to the National Governors Association annual conference on behalf of the WSCC, and for encouraging participation in suffrage events amongst first spouses. The Vice Chair also noted that Commissioner Newsom celebrated California's ratification date in November 2019 at the California Women's History Museum.

Vice Chairwoman Shogan thanked Commissioner Debra Wall for securing the participation of the National Archives and five presidential libraries in Forward Into Light and facilitating the Rightfully Hers popup exhibit partnership with the WSCC and the National Archives, providing an additional 2,000 Rightfully Hers popup exhibits free of charge to public sites nationwide.

The Vice Chair concluded by stating how much she and Chairwoman Susan Combs appreciated the hard work, energy, and enthusiasm of each of the commissioners. Vice Chairwoman Shogan reminded commissioners that Ms. Anna Laymon stepped up last fall to be the Commission's Executive Director, had a baby, and kept on going with her Commission work, while the WSCC had a great Interim Executive Director from the Department of the Interior. Vice Chair Shogan shared that it was Ms. Laymon's energy and incredible focus that led the Commission to the spectacular outcomes it had over summer of 2020. The Vice Chair also shared that Gabriela Hernandez, Stephanie Marsellos, Kelsey Millay, Candace Samuels, and Kimberly Wallner were an amazing team of talented and dedicated women who each fulfilled so many tasks that were undoubtedly made more difficult by the pandemic. Vice Chairwoman Shogan asked commissioners and members of the public to give them a big virtual round of applause.

C. Vice Chair Remarks – Dr. Colleen Shogan

The Vice Chair thanked Chairwoman Susan Combs for her Commission leadership and shared that she learned a great deal while working with Chairwoman Combs. Vice Chairwoman Shogan appreciated the scrutiny and the questions that Chairwoman Combs brought to the table, which improved the execution of projects and ensured that the Commission kept faithful to its mission. The Vice Chair shared that the Chairwoman was a true team player who involved the Vice Chairwoman in all Commission decision making. Vice Chairwoman Shogan is grateful for Chairwoman Combs' friendship and comradery and asked all listeners to take a moment to thank Chairwoman Susan Combs for her service as the Chair for the WSCC.

Vice Chairwoman Shogan added appreciation to the former Chairwoman, Kay Coles James, and to the former Vice Chair, Senator Barbara Mikulski. Vice Chair Shogan stated that both herself and Chairwoman Combs benefited from the high standard that Commissioner James and Senator Mikulski established during their leadership of the WSCC.

Vice Chairwoman Shogan thanked the WSCC staff, Anna Laymon, Kelsey Millay, Candace Samuels, Kimberly Wallner, Gabriela Hernandez, and Stephanie Marsellos, for amazing work in each of their respective positions. The Vice Chairwoman wished the staff the best in their future career endeavors.

The Vice Chair added that she is extraordinarily grateful in having the opportunity to engage with the history of women's suffrage in the United States. The Vice Chairwoman shared that the stories were inspiring and taught her a great deal, as a political scientist, about social movements in the United States. Vice Chairwoman Shogan stated that she loved learning about the lesser known women who advocated for the right to vote. The Vice Chairwoman stated that the Commission did a very good job at telling the full historical story of the women's suffrage movement, the victories and the defeats, the moments of triumph and the moments of regret, all while maintaining the bipartisan mission. Vice Chairwoman Shogan hopes that that is how historians will remember the Commission's centennial celebration.

D. Executive Director Remarks – Anna Laymon

Executive Director Anna Laymon stated the WSCC would be closing as planned on December 18, 2020. Ms. Laymon explained that over the following 10 weeks the WSCC staff will be completing several projects, submitting the Commission's final report to Congress and the White House, closing down the office, and archiving the Commission's records with the National Archives.

Ms. Laymon thanked Chairwoman Susan Combs and Vice Chairwoman Colleen Shogan for their unwavering leadership, for their commitment to the history, and for their trust. Ms. Laymon hoped that all WSCC commissioners were proud of the impact the Commission has made and thanked them for their passion and leadership. Ms. Laymon extended her gratitude to the staff of the respective commissioners for their essential support in the success of the Commission. Ms. Laymon thanked the commissioners' staff for working alongside the WSCC staff to ensure the execution of Commission projects and programs. Ms. Laymon shared how privileged she was in telling the story of women's suffrage alongside the Commission's partners nationwide, whose support was vital in making all Commission projects a reality.

Ms. Laymon shared that the WSCC staff are some of the most thoughtful, capable, and committed women who she has ever had the privilege to call colleagues. Ms. Laymon stated that Gabriela Hernandez, Stephanie Marsellos, Kelsey Millay, Candace Samuels, and Kimberly Wallner navigated an almost impossible year with grace and humor. Ms. Laymon stated that it has been a true joy to conduct the Commission's work together.

Ms. Laymon reminded commissioners about the contents of their meeting documents. The Agency Report is a draft of what the Commission would submit to Congress and the White House in early November as its final report. Ms. Laymon invited commissioners to email her with any thoughts or edits about the report. Ms. Laymon added that the WSCC staff will be sending each commissioner several hard copies of the final report for their records before the agency close in December.

E. WSCC Final Report Presentation – Anna Laymon, Gabriela Hernandez, Stephanie Marsellos, Kelsey Millay, Kimberly Wallner

Director of Programs and Partnerships, Ms. Kimberly Wallner, reminded attendees the Commission's centennial commemorations kicked-off on May 21, 2019 in the House and June 4, 2019 in the Senate as both chambers celebrated 100 years since the passage of the 19th Amendment through Congress. Ms. Wallner added that on both anniversaries, Members wore yellow roses provided by the Commission, passed commemorative resolutions, and gave floor speeches acknowledging the unique roles their states played in the suffrage movement.

Ms. Wallner explained that in the summer of 2019, the Commission joined its federal partners--the Library of Congress, National Archives, and Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery--as they each opened their suffrage exhibits.

Ms. Wallner stated that the Commission's federal partners were essential in the WSCC's efforts to share the stories of the fight for the vote with Americans nationwide, adding that the White House was no exception. Ms. Wallner informed that in November of 2019, President Donald Trump invited the Commission to the Oval Office for the signing of the legislation that created the Women's Suffrage Centennial Silver Dollar. Ms. Wallner added that in August 2020, the Commission attended the signing of President Trump's suffrage centennial commemorative proclamation, during which the president also announced that he would pardon Susan B. Anthony for her 1872 conviction of illegally voting.

Ms. Wallner stated that to recognize the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, the Commission worked with both the House and the Senate to officially designate August 2020 as National Women's Suffrage Month.

Program Coordinator, Ms. Gabriela Hernandez, explained that from August 24-29 of 2020, the Commission sponsored a 1,000-square-foot mosaic of the iconic suffragist and civil rights leader, Ida B. Wells, in the main hall of Washington, D.C.'s Union Station. Ms. Hernandez explained that the mosaic, titled *Our Story: Portraits of Change*, was assembled from prints of thousands of historical photographs of suffragists, with each image telling its own story about the fight for women's right to vote.

Ms. Hernandez added that on August 24, 2020, the White House unveiled *Building the Movement: America's Youth Celebrate 100 Years of Women's Suffrage*, a student art exhibit featuring suffrage inspired submissions from kids in all 50 states and Washington, D.C. Ms. Hernandez explained that the Commission hosted the official *Building the Movement* digital exhibit on the WSCC website.

Ms. Hernandez shared that on August 26, 2020, the official centennial date, the Commission partnered with the U.S. Air Force and the Washington Nationals to honor the anniversary with a women-led helicopter flyover in Washington, D.C. Four female pilots from the 1st Helicopter Squadron from Andrews Air Force Base flew two UH-1N Huey helicopters over Nationals Park at the start of that evening's baseball game between the Washington Nationals and the Philadelphia Phillies. The theme of the August 26 Nationals game was "Women's Suffrage Centennial: 100 Years of the 19th Amendment." Ms. Hernandez added that the country music star and member of the Song Suffragettes, Lindsey Ell, sang the National Anthem. Retta, co-host of the Commission's suffrage history podcast *And Nothing Less: The Untold Stories of Women's Fight for the Vote*, threw out the virtual first pitch, and Ms. Anna Laymon and her son kicked off the game with a virtual play ball.

Ms. Wallner added that on the centennial night, after the Nationals game and the flyover, the Commission's *Forward Into Light* campaign illuminated the U.S. in the historic suffrage colors of purple and gold. More than 500 institutions, organizations, and individuals in all 50 states and 2 U.S. territories participated in the campaign, including the White House, the Kennedy Center, Library of Congress, National Archives, Smithsonian museums, Empire State Building, Niagara Falls, the Gateway Arch in St. Louis, MO, state capitol buildings, dozens of national park sites nationwide, and many more. Ms. Wallner added that a lighting campaign of such scale was unprecedented, and that the Commission is grateful to its local, state, and national partners who came together for this moment of celebration.

Ms. Wallner continued stating that in August 2020 and in celebration of National Women's Suffrage Month, the Commission partnered with the Nashville-based all-female singer-songwriter collective, Song Suffragettes, to host livestreamed weekly performances from the Listening Room Cafe every Monday in August. Ms. Wallner added that the Commission also joined with Twitter and the Smithsonian Institution to design an official National Women's Suffrage Month emoji. Ms. Wallner informed that the U.S. Mint released the 2020 Women's Suffrage Centennial Silver Medal and Coin on August 18, and that the U.S. Postal Service released the "19th Amendment: Women Vote" forever stamp on August 22. Ms. Wallner shared that the Commission also joined with Snapchat to create a custom lens available exclusively on August 26, 2020.

Ms. Wallner directed attendees to view a highlight video created by the WSCC partner, Song Suffragettes. The video recapped the August concerts.

Ms. Wallner stated that dozens of additional educational projects helped the Commission to amplify the centennial. Through podcasts, blogs, books, exhibits, and panel discussions, the Commission found creative ways to share suffrage history in all its complexity in the year of 2020 with millions of Americans across the country.

Ms. Wallner informed that the Commission reached more than 450,000 Americans of all ages with its podcasts, which were produced in partnership with podcast leader PRX. Ms. Wallner shared that *And Nothing Less: The Untold Stories of Women's Fight for the Vote*, was the Commission's narrative-style suffrage history podcast for adult listeners cohosted by actresses Rosario Dawson and Retta. Ms. Wallner added that *The Magic Sash* is the Commission's historical fiction children's podcast, hosted by gold medal gymnast and advocate Aly Raisman.

The Commission's blog, "The Suff Buffs: Your Not So Average Herstory Series," brought together leading suffrage historians for a series of 25 articles that provided an unparalleled anthology of suffrage literature available free-of-charge on the Commission's website to more than 340,000 readers. Ms. Wallner added that the Commission also published the series as an e-book titled *On Their Shoulders*, made available for download on the WSCC's website.

In the summer of 2020, the Commission partnered with the American Library Association to provide children's suffrage history books to underserved libraries across the U.S. for signature program, Chapters of Change. The Commission provided 17,964 books to 2,842 libraries nationwide, reaching all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the Northern Mariana Islands. Ms. Wallner added that in 2020 the National Archives, with the WSCC's support, provided 2,500 free suffrage history popup displays, titled *Rightfully Hers*, to schools and cultural institutions nationwide.

Ms. Wallner stated that the Library of Congress held its annual National Book Festival through virtual stages from September 25-27, 2020. The Commission sponsored the "Fearless Women" thread, which featured 23 authors during 19 programs, including discussions with U.S. Poet Laureate Joy Harjo, historian Erica Armstrong Dunbar, and philanthropist Melinda Gates. Several members of the Commission joined featured authors on the "Fearless Women" virtual stage for author interviews, introductions, and moderated discussions.

The WSCC partnered with the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, covering the full cost of the special edition suffrage centennial Girl Scouts patch for the first 7,000 girls who earned the patch. Ms. Wallner added that for each girl scout who earned the patch, the Commission also provided a free suffrage history book in recognition and celebration of their engagement with the history of the 19th Amendment.

Ms. Hernandez announced that the Commission joined forces with the National Votes for Women Trail, led by the National Collaborative for Women's History Sites, to support their initiative to place at least 250 historic roadside markers at significant suffrage history sites in all 50 states. The Commission also permanently loaned statues of suffragists Lucy Burns and Dora Lewis to the Lucy Burns Museum at the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton, Virginia. Ms. Hernandez explained that the current Workhouse Arts Center is a dynamic, multi-use artistic space, but in 1917, it was the site of the

Ocoquan Workhouse, where dozens of suffragists were imprisoned for picketing the White House in support of women's right to vote.

The Turning Point Suffragist Memorial will be unveiled in 2021, and with the Commission's support, this project by the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association will be the national memorial dedicated to the generations of women who fought for the vote. Ms. Hernandez explained the Commission contributed statues of suffragists Alice Paul, Mary Church Terrell, and Carrie Chapman Catt to the memorial and worked with the U.S. Department of the Interior and the National Park Service to secure a loan to the memorial of a section of the historic White House fence, which the suffragists picketed in front of in the early 1900s.

Ms. Wallner announced the Commission, in partnership with PRX, would be coming out with a third podcast in November of 2020 titled *The Agitators*, based on the play of the same name written by playwright Mat Smart. *The Agitators* tells the story of the 45-year friendship of Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass. The entire original creative team, including the playwright, director, composer, and actors, have joined the production.

Ms. Wallner announced the partnership with the Town of Seneca Falls, NY for a one-of-a-kind commemorative centennial statue to be unveiled in 2021. The statue will bring to life the earliest chapters in women's fight for the vote. The statue will depict four suffragists, Laura Cornelius Kellogg, Harriet Tubman, Martha Coffin Wright, and Sojourner Truth.

Ms. Wallner announced the Commission hired South Carolina-based artist, Sunny Mullarkey, to create a suffrage centennial mural, titled *Equality for All*. Ms. Mullarkey was doing a live painting of the mural that same week in Centennial Park in Nashville, TN. Once completed, the Hermitage Hotel, the historic site where suffragists and anti-suffragists set up their headquarters during the summer of 1920 amidst Tennessee's 19th Amendment ratification battle, would display the artwork through November 9, after which the piece would travel to its permanent home at the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton, Virginia. Ms. Mullarkey prepared a video message for the Commission meeting and directed attendees to view the video.

Ms. Laymon stated the Commission would be providing updates on the painting all week through the WSCC's social media, and asked commissioners to keep an eye out for the progress.

Ms. Laymon introduced Director of Communications, Kelsey Millay, and Communications and Program Specialist, Stephanie Marsellos, to share more about the reach of Commission projects and campaigns throughout 2020.

Ms. Kelsey Millay explained the Commission amplified its message across the country and around the world through press coverage, advertising, social media, email campaigns, and its website.

Ms. Millay stated that from 2019-2020, the Commission had over 2,000 media hits in print, digital, and broadcast outlets on the national, state, and local level, including in major outlets such as: *The New York Times*, *TIME*, *Washington Post*, *Washingtonian*, *USA Today*, *Smithsonian Magazine*, and local affiliates of all major networks throughout the country.

Throughout 2020, the Commission also placed op-eds by commissioners in the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*, *Houston Chronicle*, *Tennessean*, and *FoxNews.com* with a total reach in online and print of over 90 million.

Ms. Millay explained that coverage of the Commission and its initiatives through online stories alone had a reach of over 1.3 billion, which is the total potential number of views of these stories based on each outlets' viewership. For broadcasting, between the *Our Story* mosaic, *Forward Into Light*, and the *Air Force Flyover*, the Commission had a reach of over 8 million in August alone.

Ms. Millay added that after the big centennial date on August 26, stories about the Commission continued. The WSCC's podcast hosts Rosario Dawson and Retta had recently appeared on the *Drew Barrymore Show*. The Commission is continuing to pitch new projects such as the Equality for All mural and the Seneca Falls statue.

Ms. Stephanie Marsellos informed that the Commission placed online, TV, radio, podcast, and print advertisements focused on promoting four major areas: The Suff Shop, National Women's Suffrage Month, *Forward Into Light*, and general education about suffrage history and the centennial.

The advertisements with the highest number of impressions, the number of times these ads appeared on a screen, included Google Display Ads, month-long ads on PBS Newshour, and advertisements on Spotify and The Skimm e-newsletter. Ms. Marsellos informed that the Google Display ads had a total of over 22 million impressions, PBS Newshour advertisements aired on 350 public TV stations nationwide with over 12 million impressions, and the advertisements with Spotify and The Skimm each had approximately 2.5 million impressions. The Commission's ad campaigns totaled over 39 million impressions.

Through Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube, the Commission distributed content telling stories from the history, highlighting centennial commemorations happening across the country, and promoting WSCC programs and initiatives. Throughout 2020, the Commission had a total of over 2.8 million impressions through its social platforms.

The Commission also partnered with Twitter in August to increase visibility of the suffrage centennial on that platform, creating a special National Women's Suffrage Month emoji, which was used over 137 thousand times, and holding a livestreamed keynote conversation with Librarian of Congress, Dr. Carla Hayden, historian and author Elaine Weiss, and Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton. The Commission also reached Snapchat's 46 million users in the U.S. with a custom suffrage centennial lens on August 26, 2020. The Commission used email campaigns to reach its over 5,000 subscribers.

Ms. Marsellos reminded attendees that the Commission launched its website, www.womensvote100.org, in May 2019 to serve as the official portal into the suffrage centennial. The website provides information about the Commission, programs and events, historical resources, educational activities, and The Suff Buffs blog series.

The website also provided information about centennial commemorations in states across the country, as well as Centennial Planning Guides -- tailored to each state -- to provide support to leaders and communities nationwide in their centennial planning. Since the website's launch, 327,000 Americans within all 50 states visited the Commission's website.

Ms. Kelsey Millay acknowledged the truly collaborative effort to amplify this historic moment through as many channels as possible. Ms. Millay mentioned, for example, the op-eds that the Commission placed and the articles from its blog series, but the Commission would also like to thank its commissioners and their organizations for placing op-eds, writing blog posts, holding podcast interviews, posting to social media, and more in order to share the importance of the suffrage centennial through their networks.

Ms. Laymon stated that through WSCC projects, campaigns, and media efforts, the Commission achieved its goals of amplifying the story of women's fight for the vote and investigating a more complete and full history of the suffrage movement than has been traditionally told. Ms. Laymon added that the Commission leaves a legacy of public art, educational resources, and scholarship that will ensure the visibility of women's stories for the next 100 years, uplifting the complexities of an imperfect but powerful movement for change and motivating a new generation of leaders. Ms. Laymon concluded the final report presentation by asking meeting attendees to view the Commission's Legacy Video, which showcased commissioner interviews, project highlights, and encapsulated the work of the WSCC.

Ms. Laymon thanked videographer Mark Fastoso and his team for their work on the Commission's legacy video. Ms. Laymon announced that the video would be posted to the Commission's social media, available on YouTube, and archived with the National Archives.

F. Agency Budget Summary- Dr. Colleen Shogan

Vice Chairwoman Shogan reminded attendees they had a copy of the Commission budget in the meeting documents, and asked commissioners to be sure to review it. The Commission had been appropriated a total of \$5 million by Congress to carry out its mission to educate and celebrate the 2020 year. The Vice Chair stated that WSCC leadership worked closely to ensure that the Commission were the best possible stewards of its federal appropriation. Vice Chairwoman Shogan was pleased to report that the Commission had stayed exactly on budget, with more than half of its total congressional appropriation going directly to projects and partnerships. The Commission will have spent about \$700,000 in the Capital City Subcommittee, \$970,000 in the Multi-Media, Education, and Engagement Subcommittee, and \$890,000 in the 50 States Subcommittee to achieve the incredible breadth of projects the Commission staff just outlined.

The Vice Chair stated the Commission still had the projected expenses for FY20. The WSCC will have the FY20 actuals from its accounting partners at USDA in a few weeks. The Vice Chairwoman clarified that an updated agency budget with the FY20 actuals would be sent to commissioners in November. The Commission is fully on track to close the agency by December 18, 2020 as planned. A final agency budget summary will be sent in December as well. The WSCC has been advised by GSA, USDA, and the U.S. Department of Labor to keep about \$100,000 in the Commission's account after the agency closes in December to account for any unexpected expenses that may come following closing. Vice Chairwoman Shogan added that the Commission's attorneys at GSA advised to keep the Commission's account open for 24 months after the WSCC closes, which would be December 2022, at which point all remaining funds in the account would be returned to the U.S. Treasury. Before the agency closes on December 18, 2020, Chairwoman Combs will sign a directive that instructs GSA to keep the Commission account open for 24 months and to then return all remaining Commission money to the U.S. Treasury. Vice Chairwoman Shogan explained that the most recent historical commemorative commission to close was the 50th Anniversary Vietnam War Commemorative

Commission, and these are best practices recommended to the Commission based on GSA and USDA's experiences shutting down that agency.

Discussion

Commissioner Kay Coles James shared she was so proud of Chairwoman Combs and Vice Chair Shogan as well as the WSCC staff for bringing the Commission in on time and under budget. Commissioner Heather Higgins added that it has been a great pleasure to be associated with a Commission that has managed to be so fiscally responsible. Commissioner Penny Nance extended her gratitude to the Commission for all its hard work and fiscal responsibility.

Senator Barbara Mikulski shared that as the former chair of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, it was so rare to see any federal group return money, finish on time, while meeting the bottom line. Senator Mikulski complimented the Chairwoman, Vice Chairwoman, and WSCC staff on the fiscal stewardship of the management of the Commission. Senator Mikulski asked who would pay any pending bills after December 18th, while following the best practices and recommendation of retaining money for the following months. Ms. Laymon explained the Commission has a contract with GSA where they would fulfill that role and would be the stewards of that funding. Ms. Laymon clarified that if there were any unpaid bills GSA would manage them. Ms. Laymon stated that 24 months after the Commission has closed, it would be GSA who ensures that those funds were returned to the U.S. Treasury.

G. Commissioner Discussion

Vice Chairwoman Shogan shared that the last couple of years has been an incredible journey and invited her fellow commissioners to share their thoughts on the centennial and the work of the Commission.

Commissioner Marjorie Dannenfelser

One of the most special parts about this for me was digging in a little bit more on the strategy behind getting the 19th Amendment passed. The different personalities from the very beginning until the time of Alice Paul, how they were among each other, how they dealt with each other. I think there's a lot of lessons to any great cause, and that is impatience and patience and always keeping your eye on the prize for the good that you seek. That really does mean that things generally will work out in your great movement that you're trying to champion, as long as you're keeping your eye on that prize. I just loved what Alice Paul did, so many people's favorite suffragist, who was great for her ability to maneuver political strategy at the right moment. And she was one of those ones who I saw at the Belmont Paul Women's Equality National Monument on little cards, little notes, on every single member of Congress and senator that they had met with. Exactly what we do now, but probably even better because they're probably more personal, but with specific things in mind that they were trying to achieve with each one. I think we tend to look back and think we just invented democracy and the tools of lobbying lately. Not true at all, of course. So I've just learned so much from the history and being around each of you. This incredible staff really gives me incredible hope that the generation behind me has got this creativity and genius in how to communicate really high-level important things in a variety of ways. So, I've really enjoyed getting to know all of you on the Commission and the staff, what a blessing to know you. Thank you, thanks for the hugs, virtual ones.

Commissioner Karen Hill

Hi, good afternoon everyone. I have to say I met women that I probably would have otherwise not met were we not all commissioners. And that has been remarkable, because I always want to be open to

meeting new people, people who have different points of view, and discover the common ground. I have to say that Colleen, Debra and Julissa, the federal agencies were incredible in helping us, particularly in the beginning in getting our grounding and providing amazing substance to the Commission. And Colleen, I'd like to thank you and Susan for the leadership when we did the piece on Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass with the National Park Service, I thought that was an illuminating moment. I thank Senator Mikulski for just coining the good, the bad, and the ugly in telling the whole story. I have grown to love Kay Coles James, we probably would not have met were it not for the Commission, but her ability to be generous and gracious to all and to embrace so many different threads that ran through our Commission was just amazing. For Colleen and Susan to come and just carry us home was awesome. I was deeply, deeply, deeply disappointed that we couldn't come to Seneca Falls and do the work of the Commission there, to really stand in the places of Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth and so many others because that is a hallow part of our country and I think that at some point, if you ever have any free time for vacation, it's wonderful place to come spend some time. I invite you to please come. The National Park Service and I in the region are hoping that once all of this opens up, that we talk about suffrage and women in the next 100 years. That will also allow us to have more young people involved with us and I'm really looking forward to that. I thought the last event at the White House with the ceremonial signing of the proclamation was really an important event to lift up women's suffrage. I'll be very honest and very frank as I have always been, when the leader of this country kind of went off script of the occasion it certainly got us more headlines in terms of people knowing more about suffrage. And I've gotten lots of phone calls from people wanting to know why were we there, because they didn't really show that in the media as fully as I hoped they would. Because that was the main reason that we were there, was to show suffrage. So, I've been sort of my one person PR team explaining the occasion and why it was important. And I was just a little disappointed because we didn't stay focused on the women in suffrage, my prayer is that we continue to learn more about each other, appreciate and respect our diversity, and that we adopt attitudes of more inclusion, and do the things we need to do to lift up women. I want to thank the staff for sending me a lot of collateral material. We had a citizenship ceremony on August 27th as part of the whole month of August celebration, so I appreciate the votes for women sashes. We wore white, we had the sashes, we gave out the pins, we did as much as we possibly could as we welcomed new citizens for them to know the story of suffrage that people that came before them and the work that was done by women.

Commissioner Kay Coles James

Karen, I felt exactly the same way you did standing in the White House but I directed ire at the media for not staying on focus and not celebrating women and what we were there to celebrate that day. And I, like you, got a lot of phone calls saying, "Kay what was your expression, what were you thinking"? And I was thinking dadgum media, we were here to celebrate and you're asking all sorts of questions. But I also have been around this town long enough to know that if you get the President of the United States in a public event, they're going to try to get everything in that they want, so I just decided to go with it. We were there, we were able to celebrate. At one point in my life though, when I was doing federal commissions as sort of a job, I've been on so many of them, but none quite like this one. I want to say to the women who's faces I'm looking at right now, one of my biggest disappointments is that I didn't have more time with you. I have made some real, very new friends and cemented some old relationships as well. I am enjoying reading Colleen's books; I am enjoying getting to know Karen and her spirit and she's absolutely right; but for this Commission that would never have happened. I will also tell you that I made a lifelong friend in Senator Mikulski. I have admired and adored her from a distance, and you know what makes that relationship so incredibly special is that we do have deep differences of opinions and points of view on certain policy issues, because if we were

right together then the friendship wouldn't be as remarkable. And Senator I hope that one day they put our relationship in the same category that they did Scalia and Ginsburg, just that close. Were it but for COVID, we would have spent time together, we would have socialized, we would have been in each other's homes. We have a lot to celebrate, as I've watched what's going on in our country this summer and the unrest out there, one of the things that I have made a point of saying is that we have been blessed with a phenomenal nation that gave us all the tools that we need to right the wrongs and fix the flaws. And so, while we are celebrating women's right to vote I also want to celebrate the great country that we live in and the opportunities that we've had to get it right and to fix it. Sometimes when things are as difficult as they are in our country right now, we forget that to stop and take a minute and celebrate. And so, one of the things that I loved about this Commission was that that was our mission, and I think we accomplished it. We celebrated our country, we celebrated women, we celebrated the right to vote, and we celebrated genuine friendships. Thank you to the staff, having been a professional commissioner in so many different ways I want you to know that I've seen it all, but I've never, ever seen anything any better than you. You all are phenomenal, so thank you for all the work that you did, you are appreciated.

Commissioner Julissa Marengo

For me this has actually been a very special experience, and I would like to take us back to March 2019 when the participation of this Commission and my organization, the Smithsonian's first suffrage exhibit for "Votes for Women: A Portrait of Persistence" where we had such strong participation from our commissioners, we had all just started getting to know each other. But then throughout the year the support the federal agencies have received with the different exhibits that took place across our organizations at the Library of Congress with "Shall Not Be Denied" and at the National Archives with "Rightfully Hers," from this Commission has been instrumental. Not just in participation but also in support. These exhibits were so very important to us as a country to be able to tell the public different stories of suffrage through different lenses. And it really would not have been possible without the good work of the federal employees that work in these institutions, but also organizations and a Commission like this that helped and supported not just from a financial perspective but most certainly from being there. For me the start of this Commission kind of started off with such a big bang with the event in 2019 where we all dressed in white to celebrate suffrage. Just a very special evening and special occasion, as many folks said, it was an evening of sisterhood and that's kind of the way I've looked at this experience. It's really been a pleasure to get to know my fellow commissioners. In addition to getting to know folks, to Karen's points earlier, folks that you probably would not meet on your day to day. This has really provided a special opportunity to get to know different folks, to get to hear from them, to hear different perspectives and to really challenge our way of thinking about today as well as yesterday, as well as the history that is so important for everyone to know. So, thank you very much. As we all know, all of this work could not be done without an exceptional staff under the leadership of Anna Laymon and her colleagues across this group. Anything that we've needed at any given moment somehow, they've made it happen and we have not maybe known all details but my hat's off to you Anna. Thank you for stepping in when you did and thank you for leading us. And of course, to the leadership of our chairs and our vice chairs, initial chair and vice chair as well as our current, thank you so much.

Commissioner Senator Barbara Mikulski

First, often people in my position say it's been honor and a privilege to do this. It really has become an honor and an honor to do this. To really be able to tell the story of how we amended the Constitution to extend the democracy and bring fifty percent of the population into their ability to exercise the fundamental right of citizenship. So, it has been honor, it has been a privilege, and it's actually been

pleasurable. Not every time, and not in every conversation, but it has been pleasurable. I think it has been an amazing journey from when the women of the Senate thought of the idea of a Commission, our colleagues in the House, the congresswomen caucus put forth this idea. I was so glad you had Senator Baldwin speak, but I'd also like to do a shoutout for Senator Capito of West Virginia because she was the republican sponsor of the legislation, following what we did in the Commission: principled nonpartisanship to tell the narrative. Also, a shoutout to Senator Lisa Murkowski in her role serving on the Senate Appropriations Committee, Subcommittee on Interior. We had the idea, Capito and Baldwin moved the idea, and Murkowski made sure we had the money in the federal checkbook so we could talk about this. We have survived so much during this Commission's work, some rocky personnel changes, certainly a political climate that does not foster dialogue and conversation and cooperation, and then on top of it all a pandemic. The fact that the commissioners, the professional staff that is so outstanding, and dedicated civil servants enabled us to be able to tell this story. Remember what our goal was: to remember, to reflect on what we were learning and to then recommit. The recommit is a 2021 project that we'll all do. So, it's been incredible, and I want to say that this whole idea of meeting people who were different than ourselves is certainly been true. And I want to comment on a great friendship with Kay Coles James, I of course knew about Kay Coles James and she's a legend in Washington D.C. I knew her also as the head of OPM because so many civil servants are in Maryland, I always kept an eye on the OPM director. Her legendary reputation for superb executive ability along with a skillful way of resolving conflict, I think showed in the Commission and I would love to salute her. She talked about Justices Ginsburg and Scalia, but I'd like just a quick word about Kay Bailey Hutchison and myself. Part of the reason we have a Commission is because of the women of the Senate dinners. We would have never had those dinners if Kay Bailey Hutchison hadn't called me on an economic policy idea to help women. When she called, she was a new Senator and my staff said "what do you want to talk to her for she's that republican from Texas and you know how they are." And I said, "no, I don't know how they are. Kay Bailey Hutchison is a Senator, I'm calling her back." When she said she wanted to call me, her staff said "why are you calling that feisty, mouthing liberal from Baltimore Barbara Mikulski." "She's the senior most woman in the Senate, she has a lot of clout." Kay and I went to work on that economic idea and one night we went out to dinner and we had such a good time because we got to know each other's people. And we found that there was so much in common that we wanted to work on. That's how the women of the Senate dinners got started. And an enduring relationship between now the Ambassador Kay Bailey Hutchison and then Senator. And that's truly what it was, the women decided to have a zone of civility and to work on things. We never had a caucus. We always said that we would be a force to try to make change. So, when they created the Commission this was great. And now for our Commission, I think the job was not only telling the story throughout the year. One of my favorite things has really been Forward Into Light. When I saw those pictures, every picture, even now as I comment on it now, was inspirational. I think it's also a mantra for where we want to go in our own lives and to recommit. It has been great working on this Commission. We could not have done it without the commissioners being willing to work together in such a respectful way, a fantastic professional staff executing our directions, and also a phenomenal civil service that got us started even during a government shut down and provided the basic infrastructure to keep us going in a pandemic. I think the Commission should be a model for the way the whole government should work and certainly when one looks at the conversations and dialogue the way our political process should work. This has been phenomenal, and may the force continue to be with us.

Commissioner Heather Higgins

There have been so many things that the Commission has accomplished. I thought the video, your presentation, and this report is just phenomenal, so kudos to Anna and the team. Many thanks to our

two sets of chairs. It's been admiral at the way you have put that together. It would have been a big lift anyways; it was a particularly big lift with the challenges that 2020 has thrown at us. The thing that I'm most proud of is the thing that we didn't do and how we chose instead to proceed. We as a Commission, unanimously resolved early on to remain scrupulously nonpartisan, historical, and factual. That can be harder than one thinks, there certainly are lots of reinterpretations of history, selective tellings to suit a current narrative, and pressures to use the Commission itself to advance an agenda. We didn't do any of that, particularly notable and admirable in this time that can be so divisive. We stay true to telling and celebrating as best we could the full story, warts and all with all the important nuances of actions and decisions and appreciating their advances and challenges within the context of their time. And that's not too unlike the suffragists themselves who came from wide variety of backgrounds to fit and finish and singular unifying cause and despite their various disagreements they united around this particular. Important issue as an important lesson for future generations to learn. And I'm hoping that this Commission in its own way serves as a model for future commissions about how they ought to most effectively proceed. So just wanted to say thank you all and I'm very sorry that we're not doing this in person.

Commissioner Nicola Miner

I want to talk a little bit about my experience and how I really enjoyed learning about the history of women's suffrage movement. I did not learn a lot about that when I was in high school myself, and I didn't even learn about that when I got a degree in history. One of the biggest things, aside from what everyone else has mentioned, that I hope that the country gets out of this celebration of the 19th Amendment is that states maybe will add a little more suffrage history into their curriculum. I think we've helped provide at least some information to make it a little bit easier for teachers to add it in their studies of American history. Beyond that, sometimes I like to think about what would've happened if Harry Burns had not changed his vote, how many more years would it have taken, would we be celebrating this five years from now? Such a big change to the country to enfranchise fifty percent of it, that it's kind of amazing that we could have gone another five years, even more, without Harry Burn. I wanted to thank the staff. I was particularly impressed with how they pivoted after COVID. There was a big part of me that wondered how this was going to go forward, especially as we were having those great meetings coming up and everyone was super excited about them, but I think you did a fabulous job still pushing forward. Finally, I want to thank all my fellow commissioners. I really enjoyed working with you, I wish I would have gotten to know you better. It's a little bit hard to go to D.C. from California for a couple hour meeting, but I did my best.

Commissioner Clela Mitchell

I will say this, what if Harry Burn hadn't voted the other way, I had the good fortune last fall to attend a traveling exhibit in North Carolina, which was put together by the North Carolina Historical Association who were traveling around to different libraires, and part of the exhibit was how North Carolina was waiting in the wings to become the final ratification state, and we're really mad that Tennessee stole its thunder. So maybe it would've been North Carolina we would have been celebrating, I don't know. I'm absolutely amazed, and when I see that video, when I read the report, it just makes me cry, it's just amazing to me. All the things you thought of to do, and that you got them done. And I'm so proud and happy about that. I'm also very proud that our staff is of a generation to figure out how to do certain social media things that I'm not really sure I even understand. The reach, the involvement, the reports of all the different kinds of multi-media, and curriculum, and reports, and books, and speeches. It's overwhelming to me and the video today brings that to life. I don't know about the rest of you, but I did sit down and go through every photograph and description of Forward Into Light and I started crying. The other thing you should do if you haven't is go through the First

Lady's art exhibit and look at every one of those pieces of art for each state, and read the statements that those children wrote about their particular entry. It's phenomenal, really phenomenal. My hat is off to the staff. Anna, you have absolutely proven that you are the embodiment of what we stand for, because you did all this and then had a baby in the meanwhile, it speaks for itself. I had studied Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Lucretia Mott and a lot about the movement. When Frederick Douglass decided he was going to do this sequentially and not simultaneously, I've been kind of annoyed at him for a long time. What I was happy to learn about was a lot of other suffragists. So many of the African American suffragists and that was very illuminating and enlightening and I appreciate that. I don't want to ever minimize the role that Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony played because without them I'm not sure any of it would have happened. I do think that there is a permanent repository so that we can access all of it for years to come. It's pretty glorious and I appreciate being a small part of it because you guys have done an amazing job, so thank you.

Commissioner Debra Wall

I agree with so much of what my fellow commissioners have said, and I know we're running a little over time so I won't repeat all of it except for two points. One, I second Julissa's perspective on the value of the Commission to the federal agencies and how the agencies and the Commission worked together to amplify the message of suffrage. Of course, I have to thank our chairs and co-chairs for their leadership, and our staff and Anna for their exceptional work. I know everyone has been saying it, but you are an amazingly dedicated and talented group of people and I hope I get to cross paths with many of you again. I am proud of the work we did, I think we honored generations of suffragists with a meaningful and thoughtful commemoration. And Cleta I teared up too when I looked at the Forward Into Light photos and I drove around that night in D.C. too. And I realized that it was because of something unifying and I really needed that feeling. And that's something I think our commemoration achieved a little bit of for our country. We were able to unify around the message of the suffragists. So, thank you and I do hope we get to meet again and celebrate in person.

Commissioner and First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom (Message shared by Hannah Milgrom of Commissioner Siebel Newsom's staff)

Jennifer wanted me to share her absolute disappointment that she last minute wasn't able to be here today. She wanted to express her gratitude to every commissioner and the staff for their extraordinary work and it has been a real honor of hers to make this a cornerstone of the work she's been doing as the First Lady of California. She will be sending out something a little more formal on behalf of herself to all you to express her gratitude and she will be the first to say that when it is safe to do so she would love to host everyone in California.

Vice Chairwoman Dr. Colleen Shogan

Thank you to the members of the public who joined us today, to the Commission staff for all of your hard work to bring this history to Americans across the country this year, and to the commissioners, whose leadership and commitment to our work was invaluable. On behalf of the Commission, I'd like to say, we are proud to have led our country's centennial celebrations. It has been a privilege, and we are honored to have left a legacy of celebration and education that will endure for the next 100 years.

Chairwoman Susan Combs

This has been so much fun, so eye opening, and sort of throat clutching I would say. The comments that each commissioner has made, the staff's stats are just unbelievable, the reach of this Commission, the legacy piece, which I think is one of the real positive benefits of this awful COVID was that we went to very concrete, long lasting, archivable things. And I think that when we look back in one month, or

six months, or ten years I think we're going to say "my gosh we knocked it out of the park." And so, I want to say thank you to Colleen, thanks Kay and Barbara for being such a wonderful previous chair and co-chair, and thanks to Anna and all of you. This has been an incredible effort fueled by partnerships, funded by Congress, managed by the team and I think we have much to be proud of and I think that when the final report comes out, which will have on its face dated November the 8th, I hope everyone will rush out and make multiple copies and hand them out to people and of course post it on social media. I just want to say it's been a great meeting. I'm sorry that my internet is sick, sick, sick, but I'm sure somebody who is smarter than me can fix the cable.

Discussion

Ms. Anna Laymon informed the statue in Seneca Falls would most likely be unveiled in late summer, early fall of 2021. Ms. Laymon added that the Commission will make sure that all commissioners have an invitation to that. Ms. Laymon hopes that at the point it will be safe to travel and gather.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Coline Jenkins – Great, Great Granddaughter of Elizabeth Cady Stanton

Hello, I am Coline Jenkins, I am the great, great granddaughter of Elizabeth Cady Stanton. And I have been with you since your first meeting in Washington D.C. until now, your last meeting. I just want to say that I fully appreciate any project that's on time and that's on budget. I worked for seven years to put the first statue of real women in Central Park in honor of the 19th Amendment and we unveiled that on August 26, 2020 of Sojourner Truth, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Susan B. Anthony. The point I'd like to make today, and I invite you all to Central Park, it is a bronze statue that will be there longer than any of us will be walking on the Earth. What I'd like to do is continue support, financial support, by the way our 1.5 million dollars was private money. We did not go through the Commission asking for any money. I do know that there are several projects that still need support in order to reach completion. I noticed that there \$231,000 that is remaining as appropriations not allocated in the annual budget. I also heard the discussion of keeping \$100,000 and then eventually returning that to the treasury. I would encourage that \$131,000 that is unallocated be allocated to statues or monuments to the suffrage movement. For instance, particularly the National Votes for Women Trail is in the middle of creating 250 markers nationwide. They are in need of money. I would love to see a motion passed by the Commission that essentially allocated the remaining money to permanent markers to the monument. Not ephemera for instance, I think the ephemera has been well done. I think we want to have things that will be there for generations to come. So that is my recommendation.

Nancy Tate – Co Chair, Women's Vote Centennial Initiative

Hello, I am Nancy Tate, co-chair of the Women's Vote Centennial Initiative and I have also been with you since your first meeting and have followed you all along the way. I remember the first meeting when there was a chance for the public to speak and you were all trying to focus on how to move forward, that I encouraged you to reach out to organizations who were already planning something for some type of partnership. And you really did that. And I really want to commend you, particularly for the legacy project, the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial, the Lucy Burns Memorial, and the Votes for Women Trail and other areas where I know you've supplied some funds even though they might not have ended being a statue. So, I want to commend you for building on groups who already had plans underway because as you know you came kind of late to the game and that part of the difficulty of your task. Instead of trying to create something from scratch you built on a lot of relationships and groups that already existed, but you also created new ones. And as we can see from your report and the video, you reached out in a lot of innovative ways and created new partnerships and social media,

like the skydivers and took advantage of this very bizarre year with COVID. I just want to thank all of you. It's been a pleasure watching you execute and doing an excellent job.

Pat Wirth – Turning Point Suffragist Memorial

On December 7th, 2018, my alarm went off at 4 o'clock in the morning. I jumped out of bed, got quickly dressed, and drove so that I could park at Union Station and walk up the hill to the Belmont-Paul House to make sure that I was going to be on time for the very first meeting that you had. I was like a little kid on Christmas, I couldn't even sleep the night before. That first meeting included a couple of dozen organizations and individual stakeholders interested in suffrage history and properly celebrating the centennial. We stakeholders were thrilled that Congress had established this Commission because the suffrage movement has clearly been the best kept secret in American history. We all needed this amazing Commission to put a spotlight on this little known but most important history. The Commission did not disappoint. Personally, and on behalf of the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial, I would like to thank the Commission and its incredible staff for its partnership and support of the memorial. Now you as commissioners have said wonderful things about your staff, but one of the things that you may not be aware of is that when you establish partnerships, we partners need to talk to your staff as well. So, believe me you got a whole laundry list of partners that have had to avail themselves of the excellent work by your staff also. The pandemic adversely affected construction and funding of our memorial. But as we all know failure is impossible. So, I would like to thank Vice Chairwoman Shogan for speaking at our groundbreaking nearly a year ago and thank you to the Commission for sponsoring the three suffrage statues that will be featured in the memorial. They are as of today at the foundry being cast in bronze and expect delivery and installation by the end of the month. Thank you, Chairwoman Combs, for leading the charge to help us secure a 24-foot section of historic White House fence that will be installed and displayed in the memorial. Those 24-feet of fence served as a backdrop for the Silent Sentinels who picketed in 1917. Memorial visitors will be able to have their pictures taken in front of this artifact and reflect on the sacrifices made by those courageous women. We have hired a firm that specializes in construction on projects that incorporate historical artifacts to ensure perfect installation of this treasure. We expect installation to be completed this fall. We are projecting that the memorial will be completed in early 2021 and you will all receive an invitation to visit and help us celebrate the memorial dedication. The memorial will serve as a visual symbol and an education tool to elevate to their proper place in history the millions of women who fought for more than seven decades to win the vote. The memorial will help to ensure the legacy of this exceptional Commission and we all thank you very, very much.

Marsha Weinstein - National Collaborative for Women's History Sites

Hi, I'm Marsha Weinstein and I'm president of the National Collaborative for Women's History Sites. Our project to celebrate the centennial was to create a National Votes for Women Trail. And when we started this journey, I had no idea of the depth and breadth of this project in terms of how many unknown women and men we would identify nationwide. And I would like to thank the Commission in your support for giving us funding to have the researchers and historians to identify the sites. We are truly adding to the body of knowledge of American history, of the stories that have never been told of all the different ethnic groups, of the Asian-Americans that didn't get the right to vote until 1952, the Latinos, Latinas, Native Americans, and of course African Americans, the rural women. These stories are so powerful and what they'll be able to do and encourage people in local communities to honor their foremothers and also their commitment to improving and expanding democracy in this nation, which has never been more important. I want to thank you for your support and realize that what we have created is a lasting living legacy that will go forth in the next hundred years. People will look at what you did in funding this. I just won't take up too much time, were still short of some of the money

we need to finish, it's unfortunate. Some of our research has been performed, we won't be able to tell completely all the stories. But we will be continuing to look for other funding sources, but I think this is so vital because the reach is so large nationwide. Thanks.

V. WRAP UP/CLOSING

Chairwoman Combs thanked the public for listening and thanked the commissioners for their time. The Chairwoman called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Marengo motioned to adjourn, and Commissioner James seconded. No one opposed. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:27p.m. EST.

Interested states and organizations who would like information about the Commission may contact the Staff Director, Candace Samuels at staff@womensvote100.org.

Interested parties with any questions, comments, or concerns regarding the content of this meeting summary may contact the Designated Federal Officer, Stephanie Marsellos at (202)-707-0106; email: stephanie@womensvote100.org.

VI. MEETING PARTICIPANTS

A. COMMISSION MEMBERS

Susan Combs (Chair), Former Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, Department of Interior

Colleen Shogan (Vice Chair), Senior Vice President, White House Historical Association and Director of the David Rubenstein Center for White House History

Barbara Mikulski, Former U.S. Senator, State of Maryland

Cleta Mitchell, Partner and Political Law Attorney, Foley & Lardner, LLP

Debra Wall, Deputy Archivist of the U.S., National Archives

Heather Higgins, CEO, Independent Women's Voice

Jovita Carranza, Administrator, Small Business Administration

Julissa Marengo, Assistant Secretary for Communications and External Affairs, Smithsonian Institution

Karen Hill, President and CEO, Harriet Tubman Home

Kay Coles James, President, The Heritage Foundation

Marjorie Dannenfelser, President, Susan B. Anthony List

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

Penny Nance, President, Concerned Women for America

B. STAFF SUPPORT

Anna Laymon, Executive Director, Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission

Candace Samuels, Staff Director, Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission

Emily Threadgill, Staff, Small Business Administration

Gabriela Hernandez, Program Coordinator, Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission

Hannah Milgrom, State of California

James Imoehl, Staff, The Heritage Foundation

Kelsey Millay, Director of Communications, Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission

Kim Oliver, Staff, U.S. Department of the Interior

Kimberly Wallner, Director of Programs and Partnerships, Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission

Louise A. Flavahan, John Hopkins University

Margaret Triebisch, Committee Management Officer, U.S. Department of the Interior

Stephanie Marsellos, Communications and Program Specialist and Designated Federal Officer,
Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission

C. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Amanda Burdan

Bonnie Nelson Schwartz

Brian Moulton

Coline Jenkins

Doreen Denny

Elizabeth Melville

Pat Wirth

Nancy Tate

Marsha Weinstein

Renee Chanon

Rosana Swing

Susan Philpott

APPENDIX A: MEETING MATERIALS