

Missouri Women's Political Caucus Community Agreements

Be curious, open minded, and respectful: approach each board meeting/committee meeting with an open heart and mind. Show respect to your fellow members.

Contribute to our collective learning: think about what knowledge, skills, and experiences you can bring to meetings; and think about what you can learn from others knowledge, skills, and experiences.

Assume the best in everyone: if you don't understand or agree with something someone says, ask clarifying questions or share your own perspectives in a respectful way.

Take care of your physical and emotional needs: stretch, eat, drink, use the restroom, step away whenever you need to during an in-person meeting or zoom. Be respectful to your fellow board members when they must step away to take care of themselves.

Respect confidentiality: only share what others have given you permission to share; be sure to honor the safe space in meetings. Allow your fellow members to share their thoughts and be honest without holding grudges. Remember every member is as passionate about our mission as you are. It never hurts if you say "I would like to keep this between us" to ensure the next member knows something you say is confidential.

Create space for all members: avoid talking over others, taking up too much time with your statements, and make sure anyone who wants to speak can. Raising your hand helps the president go in order when giving members the floor.

Speak with accessibility in mind: make sure your language is inclusive to all by avoiding jargon (special words or expressions that are used by a particular profession or group and are difficult for others to understand), industry speak, or other words or terms others in the meetings may not understand.

Share time: be mindful that speakers and facilitators may need to move on from a topic to make the most of our short time together during meetings.

Speak from your own experience: use "I" statements and avoid speaking in generalizations about groups, communities, etc.

Be aware of your intention and your impact: regardless of your words, actions or intentions, you are responsible for their impact on others. Remember an apology can go a long way.

Be safe: When traveling for NWPC business or leaving an in person meeting, leave out of venues with someone, specially if it is dark outside.