



COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

May 4, 2006 – 6:00 PM

Permit and Resource Management Department
2550 Ventura Avenue, Santa Rosa CA 95403

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Chris Allen, Robyn Bramhall (Chair), Karen, Famini, Ginny Helm, Roxanne Meuse, Tiffany Renee

Commissioners Absent: Patricia Boyd (Notified), Rebecca Hollingsworth (Notified), Carol McHale (Notified),

Community Members: Ai-Chu Wu, Ph.D. (Sonoma State University)

Staff Present: Maggie Martin

- I. Call to Order - Introduction of Commissioners and Staff:** Bramhall called the meeting to order at 6:16 PM.
- II. Consent Items:**
 - Approval of Agenda: The Agenda was reviewed.
 - Approval of April 6, 2006 Commission Meeting Minutes: Item tabled because a quorum was not present.
- III. Community Input:**

Ai-Chu Wu agreed to postpone her comments until her class' presentation were discussed in the "Reports on Events and Activities" section of the Agenda.
- IV. Supervisor Communication Updates:**

Renee mentioned that she had spoken to Commissioner Kerns at Petaluma's Butter and Eggs Day celebration. Renee briefly discussed the fact that she is actively recruiting for the 2nd District Commission opening and hopes to identify a qualified Latina candidate for the position. Kerns assured her that he supports her efforts.
- V. Staff Report:**

Martin reported that a new folder has been added the "Commission Box" for handouts. This "Distribution Folder" will contain any materials to be distributed to all Commissioners and will be passed around with the "Mail Bag Folder."

Martin also explained that Teresa Giusto has agreed to continue working in the office on a part-time basis during May. She will be working on Wednesdays and Fridays.



Martin also notified Commissioners that, with staffing reductions, the office may be closed when coverage is not available. This shouldn't happen often, but is most likely during the "lunch hour" of 12:30 – 1:30 PM. She encouraged Commissioners to call the office before stopping in to make sure that someone will be there.

VI. Old Business:

Nominations & Elections: Bramhall explained that the nominations for elected offices are McHale for Chair and Hollingsworth for Vice-Chair. She also reviewed the list of appointed positions (e.g., Ad Hoc Committee Chairs and Liaisons) and the nominations received in each category. She solicited additional nominations. The list will be updated and distributed at the June meeting.

Bramhall reminded everyone that elections will be held at the June meeting.

Commission Meeting Schedule: Bramhall explained that holding the Commission meeting on the 3rd Thursday of each month means that the meeting falls too close to the Commission on Human Rights meeting given staff constraints. Therefore the meeting will be held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM.

VII. New Business:

CSW Support of Sheriff Department/UASA Grant to Combat Human Trafficking:

Bramhall explained the Commission had received a request to write a letter of support for a grant that the Sheriff's office and United Against Sexual Assault (UASA) has applied for to educate and combat human trafficking in Sonoma County. The grant calls for the establishment of the Northern California Counties Anti-Trafficking Team (NCCATT) to carry out the grant activities.

After reviewing the matter, the Executive Committee had approved this and had sent a letter and signed Memoranda of Understanding with both the Sheriff's Department and UASA with the support of staff.

The materials were not available for distribution. They will either be distributed by e-mail or copies will be available at next month's meeting.

VIII. Correspondence: None

IX. Activities and Events:

- **National Crime Victim's Rights Week:** Item tabled due to Hollingsworth's absence.
- **SSU Statistics Class - Presentations:** Bramhall reported that she and Aleena Oberthur (Intern working with the Employment Education and Training Committee) attended the SSU Statistics students' presentations on their progress earlier in the day. She was impressed with their research and analysis and was glad that she and Oberthur had the chance to give the students feedback before they prepare their final presentations.

Dr. Ai-Chu Wu also addressed the Commission. She explained that the class had adopted the Report Card Project for their class on statistical consulting for business because of the Project's scope, the variety of research areas and the clearly established goals for statistical analysis. Matheny had provided comprehensive background information that was fundamental in Dr. Wu's selection decision.

Wu did express her view that more communication between the Commissioners and the students would have been beneficial. With greater interaction, the students could have had more opportunity to hone their analysis to the various Committees' needs.

X. Committee Reports:

- **Executive Committee:** Bramhall explained that the Executive Committee's work has been covered in earlier sections of the Agenda. She did let the Commissioners know that with the restructuring, the Executive Committee will no longer exist in its current form. Instead, she expects that staff will be charged with developing the Agenda. Matheny will, in turn, work with the Chair, Vice-Chair and/or others to set the Agenda.
- **Report Card Steering Committee:** Helm reported the Committee had met and plans for the Forums are moving forward. She plans to meet with Dory Escobar of St. Joseph's to finalize the format and questions. She also said that reading the list of priorities from the UN Conference has made her think that we should consider reviewing the Report Card Project as a whole and Forums again to make sure our topic areas are aligned with those topics.
- **Junior Commissioners:** No report.
- **Employment, Education and Training:** Allen reported that she is looking forward to the SSU students' presentations on the Committee's topic areas. She also mentioned the fact that Oberthur was coordinating presentations from various community partners, including SSU's administration.
- **Childcare, Healthcare and Housing:** No report.
- **Criminal Justice and Personal Safety:** No report.
- **Representation and Access:** No report.
- **ACCW:** No report.

Bramhall reminded the Commissioners that the next ACCW meeting will be held on May 19, 2006 in Sacramento. Hollingsworth plans to attend, and anyone else interested in going should contact her.

XI. Commissioner Announcements:

- Bramhall announced she was meeting with Maddy Hirshfield and Jill Ravitch, candidate for Sonoma County District Attorney. She will see if Ms. Ravitch has taken any positions of specific concerns to women. She will report at the next meeting.
- Bramhall also announced that she is coordinating a Comedy Night in conjunction with the celebration of Gay Pride. The event will be held on Saturday, June 3, 2006 at 8:00 PM at the Wells Fargo Center for the Arts (formerly Luther Burbank Center for the Arts).

XII. Next Meeting: The next meeting will be on Thursday, June 8, 2006 at 6:00 PM.

XIII. Adjournment: Bramhall adjourned the meeting at 7:28 PM.