



COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

November 9, 2006 – 6:00 PM

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

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Chris Allen, Jennifer Blackwood, Patricia Boyd, Robyn Bramhall, Karen Famini, Roxanne Meuse, Rebecca Hollingsworth, Tiffany Renée

Commissioners Absent: Ginny Helm (Notified), Carol McHale (On Leave)

Staff Present: Dawn Matheny

- I. Call to Order - Introduction of Commissioners and Staff:** Hollingsworth called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM. Hollingsworth thanked Maggie Martin, Pat Boyd and Dawn Matheny for being responsible for the fabulous organization of the ACCW meeting held on November 3, 2006.
- II. Approval of Agenda:** The Agenda was reviewed and recommended.
- III. Public Comment:**
 - Gayle Van, 5th District visitor, considering application to Commissioner.
 - Catherine Daley, 3rd District visitor and professional photographer, willing to volunteer taking Report Card photographs.
 - Donna Roper, 5th District visitor from River Child Care Services.
- IV. Commission Update:** Renée has made potential contact for Commissioner with Teresa Hernandez, in District 2.
- V. Supervisor Communication Updates:** Boyd reported on contact with Supervisor Kerns.
- VI. Staff Report:**
 - Ethics Training makeup sessions scheduled for December 6-11. Contact Maggie Martin to arrange.
 - By-Law Approval Process slated for a December Board of Supervisors meeting.
 - December 1, 2006 Human Rights Awards Event was announced.



- Update was given on the remodeling of the CSW staff office and storage project. CSW tapestry quilts will be photographed before archiving to the County library.

VII. Reports on Activities and Events:

Matheny reported on public hearing held by California Commission Women's Forum she attended in Sacramento. The information was excellent and confirmed the direction of the Report Card Project. There were panels on the following:

- Girls
- Childcare
- Caregivers
- Incarcerated Women
- Women and the Law
- Women of Color
- Women and Welfare
- Women Veterans
- Violence Against Women
- Women in the Workplace
- Miscellaneous

Day of Remembrance at Kaiser: Bramhall reported the *Day of Remembrance* was established at Kaiser because three of their employees were killed by their partners. It was primarily an informational event. CSW staffed a table. The Santa Clara Assistant District Attorney was the speaker. Bramhall offered our local contacts for their next event. .

VIII. Ad Hoc Committee Reports:

ACCW

- Boyd reported we hosted a good meeting. It was a small meeting, with only twelve from out of County attending. The next quarterly meeting will be held in San Diego. A business meeting was held and covered their bylaws, a treasury report with a balance of \$27,000, survey, phone tree and convention planning guide schedule. Santa Barbara's referral card is worth considering. The presentation by Alice Cochran on Roberta's Rules was great. Several Junior Commissioners presented on their experience and Hollingsworth talked about how to start and operate a Junior Project.
- Hollingsworth referred to the need for us to connect with Mary Wiberg about the Report Card Project.
- Bramhall reported Boyd did nice job of door prizes, making us popular hosts. Bramhall would like to send specific comments with the delegate for the next meeting.

Junior Commissioners:

No Juniors attended the Commission meeting. Famini reported there has been a lot of activity from interviews, Parent Orientation to the first Junior Commissioner meeting, and Orientation Day. Also two Juniors attended part of the ACCW meeting. Famini thanked Matheny for organizing the schedule involved for each event mentioned, and thanked all involved in the Orientation Day. The project is working well.

Report Card Steering Committee:

The statistics and Demographic data collected are being reviewed by a sub-committee. They will meet again in December.

Representation & Access

Renée is looking at statistics, working with the data.

Employment, Education & Training:

Allen is continuing to look at the data, along with Bramhall.

Childcare Healthcare & Housing:

Meuse has childcare speakers arranged for the November committee meeting and is pursuing leads on healthcare. Homeless count will be coming in January, and Hollingsworth will work with Meuse to organize a focus group for homeless women.

Criminal Justice and Personal Safety:

Defense attorney spoke at the October meeting regarding unintended consequences of the Zero Tolerance for Domestic Violence policy. The November committee meeting will have Lt. Ernesto Olivares speak on Measure O money and gang prevention. The December meeting will have speakers on drug abuse services for women.

IX. Consent Items:

Approval of October 12, 2006 Commission Meeting Minutes: The Minutes were reviewed and approved.

X. Old Business:

WIN Scholarship Funds and the YWCA: This item will be carried over to the next meeting. Staff needs to explore options.

XI. New Business:

Elections for Officer-at-Large: Helm was nominated by Bramhall and seconded by Meuse. Helm has agreed to serve if elected. There were no other nominations from the floor. Helm was voted in unanimously.

Women's History Month:

We will continue to support women's history month by distributing packets to County schools. There is a new Maestro at the Symphony, and Bramhall proposed approaching the Symphony conductor regarding choosing women Composers and Conductors in program in honor of Women's History Month.

Bramhall: *Motion to form delegation to approach new Conductor regarding choosing program Women Conductors and Composers.* Famini seconded motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Hollingsworth is developing a presentation on Women's History Month suitable for presentation at middle schools. She will explore the possibility of bringing this program to several area schools.

XII. Commissioner Announcements:

- Famini: warned everyone to get flu shots because young children and older women are hit disproportionately.
- Bramhall: has copy of *Iron Jaw Angels* and will loan it out. Bramhall also reported that the Sonoma City Opera commissioned *Every Man Jack*, tickets for award winning SSU performance opera by Libby Larsen.
- Ellen Goodman's column in The Press Democrat used the term gay marriage. Bramhall wrote her advising that 'same sex marriage' is the more appropriate term, just like 'pro-life' should be termed 'anti-choice.' Language makes a difference.
- Hollingsworth: attended the *Safe Schools Ambassador* luncheon and described it as an impressive program, that trains kids to interrupt violence. Women and students in schools need to be safe and empowered. Violence is just as hard for observers as for victims. Females are disproportionately victimized.
- Renée: Equal Rights Amendment possible now. Need three more states.

XIII. Next Meeting: The next meeting will be on Thursday, December 14, 2006 at 6:00 PM.

XIV. Adjournment: Hollingsworth adjourned the meeting at 7:08 PM.