



COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

May 10, 2007 – 6:00 PM

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

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Liz Acosta, Chris Allen, Patricia Boyd, Ginny Helm, Rebecca Hollingsworth, Jan Kiely, Roxanne Meuse, Mary Alex Needham, Donna Roper

Commissioners Absent: Carylon Alexander (Notified), Karen Famini (Notified), Carol McHale (Notified), Tiffany Renée (Notified)

Junior Commissioners Present: Ridhi Goswami, Rena Wang

Community Members: Jeanne Robinson

Staff Present: Maggie Martin

I. Call to Order - Introduction of Commissioners and Staff: Hollingsworth called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

II. Consent Items:

Approval of Agenda: The Agenda was reviewed and approved.

Approval of April 12, 2007 Commission Minutes: The Minutes were reviewed, revised and approved.

III. Public Comment:

- Jeanne Robinson, representing the 1st District, came to because of her interest serving the Commission.

IV. Commission Update:

Swearing in of New Commissioners: Mary Alex Needham was sworn in to represent the 5th District.

Appointments and Openings:

- Hollingsworth announced Blackwood had resigned because she is not able to attend meetings regularly given the other demands on her time.
- There are now two openings, one in the 1st and one in the 2nd District.



V. **Supervisor Communication Updates:** None.

VI. **Old Business:**

Report Card Event: Hollingsworth reviewed the fact that the luncheon will be held on Wednesday, August 29th at the Sonoma Mountain Village in Petaluma. Current plans include a formal program during lunch to be followed by break out sessions.

Martin asked Commissioners to assist in contacting caterers, helping develop the invitation list by getting contact information for city officials, soliciting sponsorships, publicizing the event and coordinating decorations. Commissioners volunteered to help in one or more areas. Martin asked that the volunteers get the catering and city government contact information to her by Friday, May 18th, so that we can proceed with a "Save the Date" mailing and developing sponsorship support solicitation materials.

Report on the Status of Women in Sonoma County: Helm began by thanking Dawn Matheny and all the Commissioners who contributed to and helped edit the report. She explained that the Report had been shared with various County Departments (e.g., Sheriff, District Attorney, and Health Services) and that feedback had been incorporated into the final version. She pointed out that the next steps are for the Commission to approve the Report's recommendations and the Report itself followed communications with the County Administrator and the Supervisors.

- Helm reviewed the recommendations in the Report. Hollingsworth noted that a minor additional revision will be needed based on the feedback she received from the Sheriff and District Attorney. **Motion by Meuse:** *"Move to approve the recommendations as edited."* Second by Kiely. Passed unanimously.
- Helm discussed editing process for the Report and explained that the version they had received before the meeting will require edits in the Criminal Justice and Physical Safety sections to incorporate the feedback Hollingsworth had been given by the Sheriff and District Attorney. **Motion by Acosta:** *"Move to approve the Report (with edits noted)."* Second by Meuse. Passed unanimously.
- Helm explained that prior to the Report being formally presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval and/or released to the public, we need to review it with the County Administrator (CAO) and with each Supervisor. The timeline for this is to have the CAO review completed by June 26, 2007. Hollingsworth will coordinate visits with each of the Supervisors, and either she or Helm will be included in each visit. The tentative date for formally presenting the Report to the Board is August 7, 2007.

Strategic Planning – Rescheduling: Martin asked the Commission to consider rescheduling the strategic planning session from July to September. This delay will allow CSW to include the information and ideas gathered at the event may when developing the goals and activities for the future. A brief discussion followed in which it was determined that Friday September 14, 2007 would work best. **Motion by Helm:** *"Move to reschedule the strategic planning session for Friday, September 14, 2007 from 1:00 to 6:00 PM."* Second by Kiely. Carried unanimously.

VII. **New Business:**

We Are Pride Festival – CSW Booth: Martin explained that the Commission had received an invitation from the Festival’s planning committee to exhibit. The cost is \$35.00, and the will be held at Julliard Park, from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm on Sunday, June 10, 2007. If the Commission is to have a booth, Commissioners will need to set up the display, staff the booth during the Festival, and then dismantle and return the booth to the office. After a brief discussion, it became apparent that the Commission’s time and effort should be focused on the Report and the Event, however the Festival could be a good opportunity to publicize the event. **Motion by Helm**: *“Move to ask the Commission on Human Rights if they would be willing to share their exhibit space with CSW during period(s) when CSW Commissioners could be present to distribute materials and speak to the public.”* Second by Meuse. Carried unanimously.

VIII. Ad Hoc Committee Reports:

Junior Commissioners: Wang commented that she had found the Report quite interesting. When asked by Helm if they felt the section of the Report devoted to their forums was accurate, she confirmed that it was. Goswami reported that a “career panel” featuring their mothers was scheduled for Wednesday, May 23, 2007 at 5:00 PM. She invited all Commissioners to attend. Martin asked that they RSVP to the Office by May 14, 2007 if they want to attend so staff can ensure compliance with the Brown Act.

ACCW: Boyd reported that the association meets quarterly with the locations alternating between northern and southern California. Their annual retreat will be held on June 8 – 10, 2007 near at Asilomar near Monterey. She always finds the meetings interesting, particularly the time representatives spend sharing information on their projects and activities. Either she or Hollingsworth are slated to represent CSW at this year’s retreat.

Family Violence Prevention Council: Boyd reported that this Council, comprised of representative of 32 non-profit agencies, meets every two months. They are broken into a number of committees, and she serves on the Prevention and Education group. This group is planning a Teen Summit in October or November. Prior to that, they plan to hold an essay and poster contest (with winners to be announced at the Summit). Recently, they held a youth focus group to learn more about teen dating and family violence issues. Twelve teens attended, representing different non-profit groups. Some of the key findings were that the youth has very little trust in the systems and programs in place to protect them. The final preparation step leading up to the Summit will be a review of the focus group findings with a panel of experts in an open forum in hopes of generating interest, as well as additional programs designed to create open communication at the Summit.

Women’s Organizations: Hollingsworth announced that Reneé was unable to attend this month’s meeting because she is being installed as the President-elect of AAUW’s Petaluma chapter.

IX. Staff Report:

Reorganization: Martin reported that the EEO Manager recruitment is underway. Interviews are scheduled for finalists on Friday, May 25, 2007, and Alexander will participate in that process along with Judy Boyce, Officer-at-Large for the Commission on Human Rights and Rick Corbin, Assistant Director of Human Resources.

Governing Ordinance Revisions and Approval: Martin reported that the request for approval of amendments to the governing ordinance was presented initially to the Board

on May 1, 2005. The Supervisors had no questions and indicated their intent to approve the changes. The final presentation will be at the Board meeting on May 15, 2007.

Correspondence: None.

Update on Staff's Current Activities/Issues: Martin reported that staff is working on reorganizing the office in anticipation of the EEO Investigator and Secretary moving to the suite.

X. Reports on Events and Activities: None.

XI. Commissioner Announcements:

- Hollingsworth reported that she will be speaking at the luncheon to celebrate the 125th anniversary of AAUW on Saturday, May 19, 2007.
- Meuse reported that the closure of Sutter Medical Center has been postponed.

XII. Next Meeting: The next meeting will be on Thursday, June 14, 2007 at 6:00 PM.

XIII. Adjournment: Hollingsworth adjourned the meeting at 7:36 PM.