

VENTURA COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN
3161 Loma Vista Road
Ventura, California

November 20, 1982

MINUTES

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Ginny Connell, Co-Chair
JoAnne Moore
Lauren Anderson
Mary Baird
Dorothy Engel
Sandy Ryder
Steve Wiman
Carol Keochekian

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Yvonne Bodle, Co-Chair
Lupe Gonsalves
Ida Richardson
Mary Jane Johns
Brook Hbubell
Erin Sheffield
Tila Estrada

STAFF

Beverly French

GUESTS

Deanna Hackman
Berenice Ostergren -
Mamie Island

CALL TO ORDER

The November meeting of the Commission for Women was called to order at 9:15 a.m. by Co-Chair Ginny Connell. The meeting was held at the Camarillo Public Library in Camarillo. Commissioners and guests introduced themselves.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Lauren Anderson moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Executive Secretary Lauren Anderson reported on incoming and outgoing correspondence as follows:

1. Dorothy Engel sent a thank you letter to the Commission in appreciation of the award she received at the October 20 banquet.
2. Marcene Jardine, who received the Arts Award, also sent a thank you letter to the Commission.
3. Mildred Wallace, recipient of the Education Award, thanked the Commission for the award.

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4. The Commission wrote a letter to Ken Kendall in Washington, D.C., inquiring about the status of the grant proposal on child care submitted last year by the Commission. Word had come unofficially that the grant proposal was a dead issue.
5. Yvonne Bodle wrote a letter to George Nolfi at the University of California Learning Center, asking for use of materials and contacts which he offered the Commission earlier in the year. The materials will be used to help put together the Conference on Employer-Assisted Child Care to be held in May of 1983.
6. The Newsletter Editor sent a thank you letter to California Lutheran College for helping to sponsor the Commission's newsletter, by means of a donation of \$25.00.
7. Erica Neville wrote to the Commission with a suggestion regarding honoring Ventura County women during Women's History Week. Her suggestion will be considered by the Women's History Week Task Force.
8. Blake Boyle answered a letter the Commission sent earlier in the month, inquiring if Ventura County had a Female Business Ordinance. Mr Boyle said there is not.
9. Supervisor Ed Jones wrote to tell the Commission he approved of our list of award winners chosen for the Salute to Women banquet.
10. Thank you letters from the Commission were sent to all the people who donated gifts for the banquet or helped make the banquet a success:
 - a. All Pro Sporting Goods (plaques)
 - b. Robert Munoz (cash donation)
 - c. Leonard Ortiz (cash donation)
 - d. J. Richard Glade, Attorney (cash donation)
 - e. Jue's Market (food and wine)
 - f. Henry Gruen of Scott's Apparel (gift certificate)
 - g. Lobster Trap Restaurant (two free brunches)
 - h. County Stationers (gift certificate)
 - i. C'Est Nous Hair Designs (gift certificate)
 - j. Bloomin' Flowers and Gifts (flowers)
 - k. Plankhouse Restaurant (two free dinners)
 - l. Elephant Bar Restaurant (two free dinners)

TREASURER'S REPORT

The staff secretary reported for the absent Erin Sheffield, Finance Officer. As of October 15, 1982, 31% of the year has elapsed, and the Commission has spent 31% of its budget. This does not include the \$2500 to be used for the Child Care Conference. Also, the Awards and Installation Committee reported on the amount of time spent on the October 20 banquet: Lupe Gonsalves, 64 hours; Erin Sheffield, 30 hours; and Sandra Ryder, 45 hours.

AWARDS AND INSTALLATION COMMITTEE

Sandra Ryder reported for the absent Lupe Gonsalves. The income from the banquet totaled \$2,962. The expenses from the banquet totaled \$2,329, leaving a balance of \$633. Several bills are yet to be paid, and then a complete report will be issued. Final profit will be used for Women's History Week and other projects of the Commission.

Gonsalves has pictures which were taken at the banquet to show at the next Commission meeting.

The banquet as a whole was discussed and suggestions for next year were considered. The consensus was that it was a great success. The Commission as a whole expressed its appreciation to the Awards and Installation Committee for a great job done on the banquet.

CHILD CARE PROJECT COMMITTEE

The November 9 meeting of the Child Care Project Committee was basically a training session, reported Chair Dorothy Engel. The meeting prepared Committee members to respond to the flyer sent out to employers regarding employer-assisted child care. To date, ten responses have been received and interviews are being arranged.

Engel showed the brochure that is nearly ready to distribute to interested employers. As a follow-up to the brochure, there will be a presentation book. This book will be used extensively at the Conference on child care next May. Also, information will be available at the Commission's office. Letters will be sent to confirm the appointments made with employers.

On October 29 Keochekian and Engel attended an employer conference. It was a day long program in which they also participated. The Private Industry Council had an exhibit table there and the employer flyer was distributed.

Shelley Botan, a member of the Child Care Committee, represented the Commission at the U. C. Irvine Conference entitled "Winning Ways for Working Mothers." Botan will make a written report to the Commission about the conference.

Carol Keochekian reported that the Conference Steering Committee has planned a meeting for December 9 at the Government Center in Ventura. Maggie Erickson helped to arrange that meeting, and representatives from many Ventura County companies will be present. The program for the Conference should be decided upon by February.

Engel reported that the Simi Adventist Hospital's new child care center is having fund raising problems, so their ground breaking has been postponed.

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Engel also discussed the consultant list now being established for employers interested in assisting employees with child care. There is also an application form being sent to all friends of the Child Care Committee to ask if they want to work as consultants with the Committee. It was decided that consultants can be hired by employers to help them decide about how to get a child care center started at their place of employment.

Engel reported that there was a weekend seminar at Bank Steet College in New York entitled "The Role of Corporations in Child Care Service Delivery." Engel thought the course was very good and moved that the Commission send for the proceedings from this course, which are available for \$7.00. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

A discussion followed about the latest newsletter, which was available for Commissioners. The latest issue, printed through Nu Era Printers, turned out very well. The cost, quality, and photos were all very good. The next edition should be ready to go to word processing about the middle of December and the finished product should be ready for mailing about the first week of January.

WOMEN'S HISTORY WEEK

Ginny Connell introduced Deanna Hackman, a representative from the Ventura County Women's Equity Coalition. Connell and Hackman discussed the project under way for March of 1983 regarding Women's History Week activities. The Coalition wants to raise \$700 to buy the film "How We Got the Vote," so it can be donated to the Ventura County Library Services Agency. The aim of the Women's Equity Coalition is to have the libraries in Ventura County show the film and present programs discussing Women's History Week.

Two fund raising luncheons are being held in January to help buy that film. The first is on Saturday, January 8, at Ventura College, and will feature Supervisor Maggie Erickson and Cindy Cooke of USC as speakers on the subject "Women In Action." Donation is \$5.00.

The second luncheon will be held on Saturday, January 15, at the Thousand Oaks Library and the program will be "History of Women in the West" by Dr. Gloria Lothrop. The donation for lunch is \$8.00. Flyers to advertise the luncheons will be sent out with the Commission's newsletter.

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The focus of the Women's History Week Task Force, says Ginny Connell, is to expand the celebration of Women's History Week throughout Ventura County. In keeping with this, arrangements will be made to show the film, "How We Got the Vote," at the County Government Center in Ventura during the week of March 6-12, 1983. Also, they are going to ask women's organizations in Ventura County to be sponsors and sell tickets for the film showing.

Women's History Week catalogs are being sent to all interested school principals and teachers to help them program Women's History Week into their curriculum for this school year.

JoAnne Moore moved to request that the Friends of the Commission donate some money to the Women's History Week activities so we can act as a sponsor. Motion carried. It was decided to ask the Friends of the Commission to donate \$35 to the Ventura County Women's Equity Coalition for sponsoring Women's History Week luncheons.

LEGISLATIVE ANALYSIS COMMITTEE

Connell reported that the October 29 State Commission's Summary of Pending Legislation has a good summary of the disposition of all bills previously discussed. She indicated that if any Commissioner would like a copy of that legislative summary, they could have one by letting the Commission's staff secretary know. Copies would be mailed to any interested Commissioner.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT TASK FORCE

It was reported that Theresa Bentz of the Fair Employment & Housing handles complaints of sexual harassment for Ventura County. Janice Harper and Wendy Fraser of Rape Crisis, also working on this task force, have gathered materials about sexual harassment procedures throughout Ventura County. Commissioners Connell and Johns are working along with them on this project.

Connell discussed a survey done by the Fresno County Commission on the Status of Women. She pointed out that perhaps it would be a good idea for the Commission to start with a program of education and prevention. Fast food chains are especially an area of concern for sexual harassment. Rape Crisis has a prevention program on sexual assault which they present at places of employment. The Task Force is working on putting together a similar program on sexual harassment. Connell requested that the Commission consider making this project of education and prevention regarding sexual harassment an official project of the Commission, with approval from the Board of Supervisors. This will be further discussed at a later meeting.

Engel questioned the Commissioners being able to split themselves into working on too many different projects at one time. Connell said we would not receive complaints, as much as simply help educate and prevent sexual harassment, using public volunteers on this Task Force, as needed.

Wiman said if the Commission goes to the County officially, there needs to be a written scope of our plan to present to them. Keochekian said the Task Force would need to present goals and objectives to the Commission before any decision could be made to go to the Board. Connell agreed. The Task Force will work on that before further discussion of going before the Board of Supervisors. The Sexual Harassment Task Force will meet again on January 13 to consider these possibilities. Anyone who wants to join this Task Force is welcome.

OLD BUSINESS

DECEMBER MEETING: The December 18 meeting of the Commission will be a potluck dinner held at Yvonne Bodle's house, it was decided. It will be for Commissioners only. There will be a cocktail hour, dinner, and a gift exchange. A written questionnaire will go out in the mail to all Commissioners to decide who will bring what dish to the dinner and how many will be attending.

OTHER MEETINGS: The January meeting of the Commission will be on Saturday, January 22, and the one following that will be on February 19, both at the Camarillo Library. Also, the possibility of meeting somewhere besides the Camarillo Library will be researched, perhaps the County Government Center or the Camarillo City Hall. There will be a report on that at the next meeting in January.

"CREATIVE OPTIONS: A Day for Women" will be held on March 12, 1983, at California Lutheran College. Does the Commission want to be a sponsor for this program by distributing brochures, etc? It was moved to sponsor the workshop, and the motion was carried. Connell suggested the staff secretary call them now to affirm our sponsorship.

CAMARILLO WOMEN'S DAY will be held at California Lutheran College in 1983. Does the Commission want to act as a sponsor for this program, as well? After a brief discussion, it was decided that the Commission would act as sponsors, but not hold its monthly meeting as part of that program. The Commissioners can help circulate the brochures to advertise that program, and will be listed as a sponsor.

PERMANENT STATUS FOR STAFF SECRETARY: Connell moved to request the Friends of the Commission to use the required amount of money from the banquet profits to make the staff secretary a permanent employee of the Commission. Also, that motion would include letting Public Social Services Agency know of that decision. Motion carried.

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SURVIVAL: The booklet "Survival," printed by the Los Angeles Commission on Assaults Against Women, is the first complete booklet of information for rape survivors and their families. Discussion followed as to the possibility of obtaining a copy of the booklet for review, and then perhaps placing copies in hospitals and libraries throughout Ventura County. One copy will be ordered for review now.

VENTURA COLLEGE ADVISORY BOARD: Lauren Anderson, who is a member of the Ventura County Community College District Advisory Board on the Status of Women, can no longer attend their meetings because of a conflict of schedules. She asked if one of the other Commissioners might possibly be interested in replacing her on that Board. She would be willing to recommend that person to Ruth McPherson when she hands in her resignation. Mary Baird will consider it and let Anderson know her decision next week.

CALIFORNIA WOMEN LAWYERS: The Commission received a letter from California Women Lawyers regarding the Supreme Court justices and their decisions causing them to possibly be ousted from office. They support the independence of the California Supreme Court justices and ask that the Commissioners individually support them, too. This item is just for our information only.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly French
BEVERLY FRENCH
Staff Secretary