

accepted

VENTURA COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

3161 Loma Vista Rd.
Ventura, California

MINUTES
October 15, 1983

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:
Lauren Anderson
Mary Baird
Ginny Connell
✓ Dorothy Engel
Tila Estrada
Lupe Gonsalves
Brook Hubbell
Carol Keochekian
Joanne Le-Fils Moore
Sandra Smith Ryder
Erin Healy Sheffield
Stephen Wiman

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:
Mary Jane Johns
Ida Richardson

The meeting was held in the Conference Room of the Commission on Human Concerns, 255 S. Laurel, Ventura, California and was called to order at 9:15 a.m. by Co-chair Erin Sheffield.

I. REVIEW OF PAST MINUTES

The minutes of Sept. 10, 1983 were amended as follows:

Section II.B.2 - the reference should be to Dr. instead of Mr. James Cowan.

Section IV.A. - the Child Care Committee working on a Needs Assessment for county employees should include the names of Dorothy Engel and Mary Baird.

Section VII.B. - Erin Sheffield asked that the minutes show that she is opposed to the inclusion of Full Employment on the priorities list sent to NACW - add: "because it dilutes the focus on specifically women's issues."

Section VIII -the announcement should be that the Human Services Association was investigating the possibility of having Mounds School serve as the central office space for all 16 agencies represented by the Human Services Association and, that should the county at some point in the future be interested in a day care center for employees' children, the Mounds School would seem to be an ideal place since the structure is already there.

II. Executive Secretary's Report

- A. The Commission has received the following items of correspondence:
1. An invitation from the San Francisco Commission for Women to attend a reception honoring Louise Davies on Friday, October 28th.
 2. A copy of a letter from Lyn Perino, Director of Curriculum for Ventura County Schools to Ricki Mikkleson, CLC Continuing Education Office Director, regarding the teachers' workshop on Women's History.
 3. A letter from Lyn Perino to Ginny Connell regarding the dates for the presentation to the Curriculum Council on National Women's History Week.
 4. A letter from Public Advocacy Research announcing the publication of "Corporate Initiatives for Working Parents in New York City: A Ten Industry Review" - regarding employer-supported child care.
- B. The Commission has sent out the following items of correspondence:
1. A press release announcing the new Commission officers, the Salute To Women Awards and Banquet.
 2. An information update request from the Child Care Committee to those who participated in the Working Parent's Symposium.
 3. A letter to Sally O'Rourke asking her to perform at the awards banquet.
 4. A letter to Assemblywoman Gloria Molina thanking her for accepting our invitation to speak at the banquet.
 5. A letter to Belinda Gonsalves giving her information on the BusinessWomen West '83 Conference and AWED.
 6. A letter to Barbara Schramm giving her the most recent needs assessment form for child care.
 7. A letter to Dr. Henry Press with information about the Commission and copies of past newsletters.

III. TREASURER'S REPORT

Ginny Connell reported that 23% of the fiscal year has elapsed with 15% of the budget spent.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Child Care Committee

1. Dot Engel reported that there are no formal meetings of the Committee being held at this time. Information from Clint Tatum in the CAO's office indicates that the Needs Assessment Survey of County Employees has been on hold but that the survey will go out soon and, when completed, a report will be made. At that point the Child Care Committee will begin meeting again.
2. Carol Keochekian stated that the Committee is very proud of their efforts and accomplishments with the Working Parents Symposium. Many people with expertise in the field believe that they have made significant "professional inroads in the field of employer-assisted child care." The Committee is looking into the requirements for publishing a Proceedings of the Symposium rather than just a synopsis. Denise Honeycutt and Lisa Carpenter have prepared a manuscript of the proceedings; Carol Keochekian and Dot Engel have done some editing, particularly in the welcoming speeches. Denise Honeycutt suggested that the Proceedings also include some letters from employers who attended the Symposium detailing the steps they have taken regarding child care since the Symposium. The Committee has sent letters requesting update information from those who participated.

Printing requirements and costs are being investigated. The budget of \$500 has to include postage as well as printing costs. The possibility of charging for the Proceedings needs to be discussed.

3. Mary Baird reported that the Private Industry Council has offered to print 1000 KISS brochures for the Committee. Mary suggested selling the brochures at \$2 each for an individual copy and at a lower cost for a volume order. Discussions need to be held with the County regarding policy for selling the brochure. Dot Engel will put together a proposal to present to the County.

B. Communications Committee

The next newsletter will be published after the Oct. 27th Salute To Women Awards & Installation Banquet. It will include information on the award winners.

Lauren Anderson will be the new editor of the newsletter. Working with her will be Ginny Connell and Sandy Ryder.

C. Awards Banquet

Lupe Gonsalves, coordinator , discussed plans for the banquet.

Yvonne Bodle will make arrangements to have the plaques for the award winners made by All-Pro Sporting Goods, Inc. in Ventura.

Sally O' Rourke will perform her sign language rendition of "I Am Woman".

Supervisor Susan Lacey will install the new officers.

Commissioners are requested to be at the banquet by 6:00 p.m. At the door to receive those attending the banquet and to oversee the check-in process will be: Mary Baird, Brook Hubbell, Sandy Ryder and Martha Baskerville.

Sandy Ryder will prepare name tags. Yvonne Bodle will give the invocation.

D. Awards

Ginny Connell announced the names of the award winners who were chosen by the Selection Committee. There will be 12 winners in 10 categories. Two women were chosen for Community Service awards and two for Political Action awards.

The 1983 "Salute To Women" Award winners are:

The Arts - Luisa Franceschi-Runge, Ventura
Businesswoman - Carol Haverty, Camarillo
Community Service, Volunteer - Evelyn Brubaker, Ventura
Professional - Lee Riggan, Ventura
Educator - Lillie Watkins, Camarillo
Homemaker - Byrdenne Johnson, Oxnard
Humanitarian - Julie Reinhart Coburn, Thousand Oaks
Law/Law Enforcement - Colleen Toy White, Ventura
Outstanding Senior Citizen - Leona Lee, Camarillo
Political Action - Barbara Garcia-Weed, Ventura
Deanna Hackman, Thousand Oaks
Science/Health - Dr. Joane Goforth Baumer. Ventura

E. National Women's History Week

Ginny Connell announced that she and Martha Baskerville had met with Lyn Perino, Curriculum Director for Ventura County public schools, to do a short presentation on NWHW and to share with her some resource information. Packets of resource information were prepared and distributed to members of the Curriculum Council in September.

E. National Women's History Week (cont'd)

Ms. Perino is very supportive of the Task Force's effort to increase awareness in the schools of NWHW and women's history in general. Part of the discussion during the meeting dealt with the possibility of arranging an in-service for teachers in conjunction with California Lutheran College Continuing Education Office and the staff of the National Women's History Week Project who are consultants for the California State Department of Education.

On Sept. 30 Ginny and Martha met with Ricki Mikkleson and Leslie Seifert at the Continuing Education Office of CLC to discuss the in-service. Both Ms. Seifert and Ms. Mikkleson were enthusiastic about the proposed workshop. In subsequent phone calls with the NWHW Project staff the dates for the workshop were arranged. It will be held on Friday and Saturday, January 27 and 28, 1984, with a follow-up in-depth workshop to take place in April. Both workshops can be taken for credit.

V. INFORMATIONAL

The Commission welcomed Maria Diaz, Director of the Ventura County Affirmative Action Office.

Ms. Diaz meets monthly with a 10-member Advisory Committee which monitors Affirmative Action programs and makes recommendations directly to Richard Wittenberg, the Chief Administrative Officer.

The Affirmative Action Office is interested in providing training programs which increase the eligibility of women to move out of clerical positions into management and professional positions.

Ms. Diaz is working with the County Personnel office to establish a closer working relationship in order to provide on-going training for county employees in affirmative action policies and concepts and training for department managers in the area of equal employment opportunities, sexual discrimination and sexual harassment. At this time Ventura County has no official policy on sexual harassment.

Commissioners Lupe Gonsalves and Tila Estrada stressed the importance of the Commission for Women always being aware of and sensitive to the concerns of ethnic minority women.

When asked how the Commission for Women could be helpful to her efforts, Ms. Diaz recommended that a letter be sent from the Commission to the Board of Supervisors supporting Affirmative Action Training Programs for all county employees.

INFORMATIONAL (cont'd)

Lupe Gonsalves moved and Lauren Anderson seconded that the Commission send such a letter of support for the programs of the Affirmative Action office. The Commission approved.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

In the interest of time Joanne Moore asked that the Commission postpone the discussion of the Coalition Against Household Violence until the next meeting.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A By-Laws Review Committee was formed consisting of Steve Wiman, Ginny Connell, Erin Sheffield, Lupe Gonsalves and Joanne Moore.

The Commission has been invited to attend a tri-county meeting with the Commissions for Women of Santa Barbara County and San Luis Obispo County. The meeting will take place in Santa Barbara on the morning of Dec. 3rd. A delegation consisting of Lupe Gonsalves, Sandy Ryder and Tila Estrada will represent the Ventura County Commission.

Joanne Moore urged the Commission to begin the process of surveying the services and needs of the women in Ventura County.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Commission for Women will be on Saturday, November 12, 1983, at the Camarillo Library, 3100 Ponderosa Drive, Camarillo, from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joanne Moore reported that the Ventura County Human Services Association, which represents 16 agencies, has received permission to use Mounds School for office space.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Martha Baskerville