

VENTURA COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN
3161 Loma Vista Road
Ventura, California 93003
805/652-6411

MINUTES of Saturday, September 14, 1985

The meeting was held at 77 North California Street, Ventura, and was called to order by Co-Chair Alicia Ramirez-Brewer at 9:05 am.

I. Commissioners Present:

Jean Bush
Raymond Clayton
Ginny Connell
Julie Elliott
Dot Engel
Tila Estrada
Louise Grethel
Brook Hubbell
Candace Matson
Alicia Ramirez-Brewer
Sandra Ryder
Mary Silverman
Martha S. White

No appointed commissioners were absent. There are two vacancies: District I (Supervisor Lacey) and District V (Supervisor Flynn).

Guests :

Sally Newell, CAAN Inc.; Lee Anderson, Diane Koranda and Margarita Corral, Friends of the Commission; Virginia Shilinga, CAHV; Sylvia Armita, Interface; Arleen Rosenfield; Pat Mason; Laurie Freeman, Organized Parents Against Latchkey (OPAL); Sue Connelly; Margaret Carey, Blanchard Community Library Adults Learn - to - Read Program (F.L.A.I.R.); Margaret Roberts, participant in the Nairobi NGO conference.

- II. The Minutes of July 13 were accepted as submitted. There was no meeting in August.
- III. Financial Report - The most recent fiscal report ends August 16. As of that date, 15% of the fiscal year had elapsed with 10% of level 1 funds expended (salaries & benefits), 5% of level 2 funds expended (services & supplies) for an organization total of 8% expended.
- IV. Correspondence - This report covered correspondence since July 13. Since the typed report was quite lengthy, a copy was provided for each commissioner. Specific items discussed included information received from the cities of San Francisco and Concord concerning their establishment of child care programs and child care funds, and information from Organized Parents Against Latchkey along with a \$25 sponsorship of our newsletter. Persons reading these minutes may request a copy of the correspondence report or a list of other information received; includes reports, newsletters, and minutes from other commissions.

V. Needs Assessment Report

Copies of Ventura County's Women: A Needs Assessment and Five Year Plan were distributed to each commissioner. The document and oral report will be given to the Board of Supervisors on Sept. 17 at 10 a.m. Commissioner Connell reviewed the document describing the section on Issues and Recommendations as the fruit of the entire needs assessment process. Included in that section are discussions of problems, summaries of issues and recommendations based on the Commission's five year work plan. The problem areas discussed include Housing, Education and Pay Equity, Crisis/Counseling Services, Child Care, Divorced Women/Female Heads of Households, Other. Other sections of the document include an Executive Summary, Methodology, Data & Summary, and Appendix which includes the Five Year Work Plan, Questionnaires and news clippings. Copies of the Executive Summary will be available free upon request.

****NOTE:** Since the presentation of the Report to the Board, it has been determined that one copy of the document will be available free upon request to government agencies, libraries, educational institutions. Private organizations and individuals will be charged \$5 to cover printing costs.

VI. Friends of the Commission, Joint Report with the Awards Selection Committee

Commissioner Matson announced the names of the recipients of the 1985 "Salute To Women" Awards:

The Arts - Harriet Baker, Thousand Oaks
Business/Management-Gwendolyn Hunt, Oxnard
Professional Community Service - Catherine E. Johnston, Ventura
Volunteer Community Service - Marian Hadley, Ventura
Education - Daisy Tatum, Oxnard, and Barbara Derryberry, Ventura
Homemaking - Gig Wishon, Ventura
Law/Law Enforcement - Donna Clontz, Oxnard
Media - Catherine Garnica, Fillmore
Philanthropy/Humanitarian Action - Irene Bahn, Thousand Oaks
Political Action - Patricia Lacy Longo, Ventura
Science/Health - Mary J. Jones, Ventura
Senior Citizenship - Mabel Assheton, Ventura

Matson gave the breakdown in percentages of the areas from which nominations were received and suggested that we do even greater outreach next year to reach those areas of the county that are under-represented.

Each recipient has been notified of her selection. Commissioners were asked to be available to serve as a recipient's hostess for the night of the banquet.

Commissioner Estrada announced that a donation of \$200 had been received to cover the costs of the recipients' dinners. The Friends have sent letters to county businesses requesting financial

support for plaques, publicity photos and other banquet expenses to enable all proceeds from the banquet to be used in support of implementation of the five year work plan.

M/S/P Connell/Hubbell that current members of the Commission for Women, Directors of the Friends of the Commission and members of the Board of Supervisors would not be eligible for consideration for a "Salute To Women" award while they are serving in those positions. Commissioner Elliott dissented.

After the banquet takes place, Friends and Commissioners will discuss the retention of certain categories for awards.

Lee Anderson updated information on the banquet. The Mistress of Ceremonies and presenter of awards will be the Honorable Melinda A. Johnson, Judge of the Superior Court in Ventura County. Anderson, Margarita Corral, Commissioners Matson and Engel will develop the format for the banquet.

Some invitations to the banquet will be mailed from the Commission for Women, others will be given to Commissioners to mail on their own to personal friends and contacts, Friends will do a mailing. The banquet will be on Wednesday, October 30 at the Hilton Inn, Oxnard. 5:30 p.m. - no-host cocktails, 6:30 p.m.-dinner; 8 p.m.-program. Reservations are \$25 per person and \$50 for Patron reservations. Patron reservations must be made by Oct. 16 to ensure the VIP listing in the program; other reservations must be made by Oct. 23. Tables of 10 may be reserved. Send checks to Diane Koranda, Koranda-Berry Enterprises, 3875 Telegraph Rd., Suite 159, Ventura, CA 93003. She will send confirmation of checks received.

For the printed program Commissioner Matson will provide the information related to the Commission for Women; the Friends will take care of the other pages.

VII. Committee Reports

B. Needs Assessment Fundraising - Commissioner Connell announced a contribution of \$3000 from Sunkist Growers. We still await the final \$900 from VCWEE which is in dissolution. CHC paid the consultants their full contract amount. We now have the final payment to forward to CHC.

The largest financial contributors to the needs assessment project were Ventura County Women's Education and Employment, Sunkist Growers and the Ventura County Professional Women's Network. Connell will send letters of thanks. M/S/P to send a copy of the needs assessment report to those who contributed \$500 or more. On the agenda for October's meeting will be a discussion of ways to publicly recognize the contributors.

C. Child Care - Commissioner Hubbell

The brochure targeted for county employers is ready to be mailed along with a cover letter.

Hubbell has been asked to speak to the state Business & Professional Women's Conference in Solvang on Sunday, 9/15.

In 1978 there were 105 employer-assisted child care programs in the U.S.; in 1984 there were 600; in 1985 there are 2,850.

M/S/P to send letters of support to the Governor for Senate Bill 1029 (Lockyer, Seymore) and SB864 Hart). (Motion by Hubbell.)

SB1029: would require the State Dept. of Education to establish an Employer-Sponsored Child Care Fund to provide grants, allocated by the Superintendent of Public Instruction upon application, to employers seeking to provide onsite child care services for their employees.

SB864: would authorize a tax credit under existing laws, not to exceed a certain amount, equal to 30% of the cost incurred by the taxpayer for the startup expenses of establishing a child care program or constructing a child care facility to be used primarily by the children of the taxpayer's employees.

M/S/P Grethel: to send letter of support to appropriate persons for AB1523 (O'Connell) which would raise the number of children who can be cared for in a home day-care situation. The limit now is 6 which includes the care-giver's own children. This bill is shelved for the time being.

Legislation which was passed as part of the "workfare bills" will include funding for child care for all school-age children of parents on welfare.

Watch for SB1474 (Seymore) re: insurance for Day Care programs. It was carried over for the next session.

D. Legislative Analysis

Commissioner Connell suggested that legislative analysis duties be split into subject areas or state/federal levels because so much is happening legislatively that we need to be aware of and informed about.

M/S/P Connell: that if SB792 and SB1167 passed the legislature before the end of the session, letters of support be sent to the Governor.

SB792 (Green) Educational Equity - would further sex equity in the classroom at all levels.

SB1167 - Displace Homemakers Emergency Loan Act - seeks funding for state guaranteed loans for emergency situations for separated, widowed, divorced women.

Commissioner Bush suggested that we send a packet of our information on the child care issue to Lt. Gov. Leo McCarthy who has expressed a big interest in this problem area and is receptive to information which will support proposed legislation.

Federal Legislation:

M/S/P Connell: to support HR700 without amendments and HR3008.

HR700 is the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1985. The corresponding Senate bill is SB421. This would put the meaning back in Title IX and protect sex equity in education. It failed last year and is in trouble this year because of 2 amendments: the Tauke amendment re: abortion and the Jeffers amendment which would expand religious exemptions. HR3008 (Oaker) Pay Equity - would require the Office of Personnel Management to study the pay and job classifications systems of the federal government to see if sex discrimination does exist and to recommend ways to eliminate discriminatory practices if found.

E. Communications - Commissioner Ryder reported that this issue of the newsletter will focus on the "Salute To Women" awards and will be sent to the printer at the end of the week. The next issue will deal with the Needs Assessment report.

F. Domestic Violence Services Monitoring

Commissioner Grethel reported that she and Jane Johns had met with PSSA Program Manager Nancy Steinhelper. CAHV and Interface will be funded again this year. The Commission will be working with both organizations in our 5-year plan in investigating the need for a third shelter in the county or for second-stage housing.

G. Women's History Task Force

Commissioner Connell attended Project SEE - Sex Equity in Education - Conference in Sacramento in August. She will discuss the conference and share materials at the October commission meeting.

The Library Services Agency printed a bibliography of resources on the suffrage movement for Women's Equality Day, Aug. 26, the anniversary of the passage of the 19th amendment giving women the right to vote.

The task force staffed a display table at the county teachers' summer workshops in August. Jo Ellen Heil presented several sessions on women in history.

The workshop, "Make Women In History Come Alive in Your Classroom" will take place on Oct. 11 & 12. Cal Lutheran printed and Superintendent of Schools Curriculum office distributed fliers for each public school teacher.

Project SEE had a budget reduction this year and can fund expenses for one presenter, Molly MacGregor. The Task Force will need to cover the presenter's fee of \$300. The Equity Coalition has \$150 available now. They are considering a presentation by the American Living History Theater as a fundraiser.

Connell and Martha Baskerville met with the Curriculum Council to distribute resource catalogs and other resource information and to encourage their continued support for women's history activities.

VIII. Public Participation

- A. Sally Newell, President of Ventura County Human Services Association, discussed the formation of the Association and the services provided. They were able to take over a vacant school, the Mound School on Hill St., to provide a central place for different types of human services. Members of the association are Child Abuse and Neglect, Inc.; Creative Corner Preschool, Montessori School, Peppermint Junction, Candelaria School, Saratoga Clinic (occupational therapy), Coalition Against Household Violence and the Ventura County Law School. They have an auditorium which seats 400 for presentations of public information programs.

Ms. Newell is also the founder/Executive Director of CAAN, Inc. - Child Abuse and Neglect - which is designed to help abused and neglected children as well as their families. CAAN became an agency of United Way in 1981 and has helped mount county-wide public awareness campaigns, publish child abuse materials, furnish technical assistance and consultative services, provide training, serve as an active advocate for abused children, sponsor workshops and seminars and develop child abuse prevention support systems. CAAN provides intervention and prevention in trying to identify and help treat abusers before they take their problems out on their children.

CAAN is sponsoring a workshop on Nov. 22, 1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the County Schools Conference Facility at the Camarillo Airport dealing with the continuing need for nurturing and touching in spite of the current backlash against those things because of child molestation cases. The speaker will be Dr. Michael Durphy, USC School of medicine. Call CAAN for more information. 644-1555.

- B. Margaret Roberts spoke briefly about her experiences at the Nairobi Conference and offered to make presentations to community organizations. She may be contacted at 30 West Fiesta Green, Port Hueneme, CA 93041, 984-6455.

IX. Unfinished Business

- A. Commissioner Clayton discussed a petition initiative in Thousand Oaks to halt construction of apartments and condominiums in that city for 15 years (may be changed to 5 years).

M/S/P Clayton: to form an ad hoc committee to investigate the impact of the initiative on the housing situation in Thousand Oaks and to advise the Commission as to its findings.

The ad hoc committee will consist of: Commissioners Clayton, Connell and Grethel and President of the Friends Lee Anderson.

- B. Recommendations to Friends

Commissioners need to study the 5-year plan, to think creatively about the proposed projects to see how and where each one fits in, to develop a work plan and job descriptions stated as specifically as possible. Then we can make specific recommendations or requests to the Friends. Decide if your project is going to need money to complete so fundraising requests can be made.

One specific request made at this time was the development of a brochure about the Commission.

- C. Commissioner Bush reported that the county's new payroll system will be able to match the payroll file with the Child Support Unit's file of county employees who are delinquent in child support payments.

M/S/P Bush: to send a letter to the Board of Supervisors to request them to direct the District Attorney - Child Support Division and the Auditor-Controller's Office to match the D.A.'s delinquent child support payor file with the Auditor-Controller's payroll file to determine if any County employees are delinquent in child support payments and to garnish the salaries of those persons found to be delinquent and to transfer the garnished pay as directed by the District Attorney Child Support Division.

X. New Business

- A. M/S/P Connell: to renew membership in the National Association of Commissions for Women. Membership dues are \$50.

- B. Commissioners Silverman, Engel and Bush constitute an ad hoc committee appointed to review the work and activities of the Commission to draft policy statements for inclusion in the member's manual.

- C. Commissioners expressed interest in a field trip to the new television station, KTIE-TV. Staff will pursue.

- D. Commissioner Silverman and staff distributed the newly developed member's manual. Review for discussion at the Oct. 19 meeting.

E. The following slate of officers for 1985-86 was accepted by acclimation:
Co-Chairs Dot Engel and Jean Bush
Executive Secretary, Candace Matson
Finance Office, Martha S. White

Commissioner White asked that each person let her know the length of time remaining in their appointment to the Commission.

The meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be a conference on Domestic Violence, Family Secrets, on Oct. 8 from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at Harbortown. Contact Interface, 647-7855 or CAHV, 656-3443, for information.

Forward Looking Strategies: How We Achieved Consensus
A conference sponsored by L.A. End Decade for Women, Post Nairobi. Palm Junior High School, 10860 Woodbine Ave., Los Angeles. 1 p.m. - 4 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 6. \$5 per person registration. Call Ethel Ellenbogen, 484-5868 for information.

The Commission on Human Concerns celebrated 20 years of service to Ventura County with a dinner in honor of their volunteers on Sept. 19 in Oxnard.

Martha Baskerville
Staff
9/24/85