

COMMISSION FOR WOMEN MEETING

MARCH 12, 1994

MINUTES

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:25 by Chairperson.

2. Present

Guests

Absent

Boncich, Rosemary
Bysshe, Judy
Cherry, Sandra
Huffman, Dana
Lawrason, Connie
McGrath, Beverlee
Rogalsky, Virginia
Scovill, Jeanette
Siegel, Loma
Steffey, June
Thomas, Eliza
Weingardt, Celeste

Warrington, Bonnie

Harrison, Lois
Jones, Mary
DeLaSelva, Aurora

3. Chairperson Weingardt reported that NOW has much information on female genital mutilation. She is collecting further information for the letter the Commission approved for drafting and sending on June 8.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Bonnie Warrington noted the stress that earthquake victims are under with respect both to housing and to basic services.

5. Minutes for January 8 were approved as sent. Feb. 12 minutes did not have to be approved, since this was an "unofficial" meeting. Virginia Rogalsky was appointed the March Sergeant-at-Arms.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Commissioner Weingardt referred to handouts in our mailing, including the newsletter. Commissioner Cherry reported that some 1200 women attended Creative Options March 5.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Thomas reports \$5,751.32 in the Women's Activity Fund. Bills for the Women's History Luncheon have not been paid.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Commissioner Thomas reported on an April 5-7 conference on ovarian cancer in Maryland.

Commissioner Bysshe and Commissioner Weingardt reported on the Teen Pregnancy Task Force: The all-day March 4 workshop was well-attended. The group will convene for another all-day meeting on March 25. (Note the meeting date has been moved to April 8)

Attending for the Commission on March 25 will be Commissioners Thomas, Huffman and Steffey. Commissioner Bysshe will send packets to have Commissioners prepared for the day.

EDUCATION

Commissioner DeLaSelva will have E cards (where to go for help) available by the luncheon this afternoon.

POLITICAL APPOINTMENTS COALITION

Commissioner Rogalsky reported on meetings to solicit more talent for the Talent Bank. Her Committee meets quarterly, with different people monitoring their respective Supervisorial Districts. Next meeting - May 4.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Commissioner Boncich sent out press releases for the luncheon. She asked that other Commissioners monitor their community newspaper and clip articles on Commission for PR committee.

The Newsletter, two pages, was available for Creative Options.

WOMEN'S HISTORY

Commissioner Weingardt thanked the Committee for their work, especially Commissioner Rogalsky, whose work we especially appreciate. She noted a need to rethink the program; expenses exceed revenue, and with no additional income to cover costs.

ASSEMBLY OF REPRESENTATIVES

Commissioner Scovill thanked Commissioner Steffey for finding a volunteer, Melissa Hall, to do a data base for the Calendar of Women's events and directory of women's services and organizations in the County. Commissioner Scovill will convey the information to the press for publication.

LEGISLATIVE MONITOR

Commissioner McGrath reported on legislative priorities. This year there are 14 bills on domestic violence. Five years ago we were lucky to get one. Most significant are SB 1144 and AB 569.

There are 24 bills dealing with child care, adolescent parenting and education. Most significant are Friedman AB801 Vasconcellos AB 2947.

Six deal with child support.

HOUSING LIAISON

Commissioner Scovill announced that Network for Housing meets next month.

Bonnie Warrington reported that people who need relief need to get to the Disaster Centers before FEMA closes off assistance.

CHILD CARE LIAISON

Commissioner Steffey handed out information regarding uninsured pregnant women. Help is available. Tipper Gore states that 1 million teenagers become pregnant each year. Commissioner Steffey handed out material on political priorities and health care, and what may be cut in order to fund other health needs - - children?

Bonnie Warrington noted that mammograms are not now provided by Medicare.

Commissioner Weingardt asked the Health Committee to provide an overview on Health Care Reform.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. Commissioner Steffey is waiting on a packet of information from the County.

Commissioner Weingardt thanked Commissioner Steffey for the extensive material she brought to the meeting.

Commissioner Weingardt announced that Commissioner Huffman will replace her as commission co-liaison on Child Care.

OTHER CFW'S LIAISONS

Commissioner Bysshe handed out Gleanings. She noted especially an Initiative Measure for California: "Prostitution Prohibition", HR 289 "Sexual Harassment Act of 1993", and a resolution calling for the President to designate 1994-5 as "Year of the Girl Child."

Commissioner Steffey will research the Federal issues on prostitution.

Commissioner Thomas urged that one of us attend National Commission For Women Conference on July 14-17 in Topeka, Kansas.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Weingardt will meet with Joan Provence in Supervisor Lacey's office about co-sponsorship of a Family Law forum in Ventura-Oxnard this spring. Commissioner Rogalsky and Bonnie Warrington volunteered to assist, as will Commissioner Thomas.

COMMENTS:

Commissioner Rogalsky welcomed Commissioner Boncich's daughter Katie.

Commissioner Weingardt noted Board of Supervisors proclamation for Women's History Month.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:00.

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