

VENTURA COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

county of ventura

Public Social Services Agency
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Commission Members:

District 1

Lauren Anderson
Karen Flock
Katie Reeder

District 2

Diane Doria
Anita Garaway
Susan H. Witting

District 3

Laura Espinosa
Naomi Kohl
Kathy Long

District 4

Dorothy J. Engel
Teresa Godinez

District 5

Jean Harris
Eliza Thomas

Commission Staff

Bonnie M. Warrington
Tiffney B. Lewis

VENTURA COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

MINUTES

February 20, 1988

- I. The regular monthly meeting was called to order at 9:10 by co-chair Brook Hubbell.
- II. Commissioners Present:
Miriam Albert, Thousand Oaks
Lauren Anderson, Ventura
Dot Engel, Th. Oaks
Karen Flock, Ventura
Lillian Goldman, Camarillo
Jean Harris, Oxnard
Brook Hubbell, Simi Valley
Zora Kirby, Th. Oaks
Sandra Ryder, Camarillo
Bonnie Warrington, Simi Valley
Martha White, Oxnard
- Commissioners Absent:
Tila Estrada, Oxnard
Susan Witting, Th. Oaks, excused
- Guests:
Kay Burton, AARP
Beverly Edmon, WILPF
Bertha Felix-Mata, Clinicas del Camino Real
- Staff:
Martha Baskerville, Linda Henry
- III. The Minutes of Jan. 23, 1988 were approved with the following additions to page 3, Section IX.B. Child Care Task Force: Commissioner Engel attended two meetings on behalf of the child care task force: 1.) a hearing for the Select Committee on Child Care, called by Assemblymember Jack O'Connell, Dec. 9, 1987, in Oxnard; and 2.) a child care seminar offering program models for employers, sponsored by the Valley Industry & Commerce Association, Jan. 15, 1988 in Universal City.
- IV. Public Comment
Bertha Felix-Mata, representing the Clinicas del Camino Real, spoke about a health education conference to focus on women's health issues, with a particular focus on women who are farm workers. The conference will be presented in Spanish and is scheduled for May 21 at the Saticoy Elementary School. Ms. Felix-Mata asked for an endorsement of the conference by the Commission and for assistance or support in any way that is appropriate for the Commission. The request for endorsement will appear on the Commission's March 19 meeting agenda.

Kay Burton, representing the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), spoke on the work of her organization and on some of the issues addressed by them. AARP is an advocacy organization which educates and studies the issues affecting older people. The Women's Initiative is the major effort of AARP to strengthen and enlarge the leadership roles held by women, to address the special health, financial, and social needs of mid-life and older women; to create additional opportunities for women to realize their full potential; and to focus attention on the contributions women are making to society. Ms. Burton suggests the Commission could begin to address the issues of women and aging by looking into existing programs and services for older women in Ventura County.

- V. Financial Report - Karen Flock
As of Jan. 29, 1988, 61% of the fiscal year had elapsed with 36% of level 1000 funds expended (salaries & benefits) and 43% of level 2000 funds expended (services and supplies).
- VI. Correspondence - A copy of the full correspondence report is available in the Commission office.
- VII. Staff Report - Martha Baskerville
Ms. Baskerville reported on information received re: the Region IX NACW Conference scheduled for March 4-6 in San Francisco, and requested approval of a written summary of activities prepared by her to submit to the conference planners.
- VIII. Friends of the Commission
Co-chair Sandra Ryder reported on the Friends' Feb. 16 meeting which she and co-chair Hubbell attended. At that meeting, the four board members present voted not to support a 1988 Salute to Women awards banquet. They approved up to \$2250 for seed money should the Commission members decide to go ahead with the awards banquet. The position statement prepared by the co-chairs after the Jan. 23 meeting, at the request of the Commission, and approved prior to the Friends meeting, was rejected by the Friends board.

M/S/P, Engel, Harris: to attempt to initiate a more personal discussion of the situation between the Commission and the Friends, with discussions to take place between individual commissioners and Friends directors.

M/S/P, Engel, Anderson: to establish a committee to explore alternative plans for presenting "Salute to Women" awards, and options for fundraising.

Committee members are: Commissioners Engel, Albert, Flock and Kirby.

IX. Task Force Reports

A. Education

1. The Women in Agriculture forum committee will meet on 2/23.

2. Women's History Project

Staff reported on the successful collaboration with the Ventura County Historical Society to submit information on Candelaria Valenzuela, last of the Sespe Chumash, to the State Commission on the Status of Women for inclusion in their March 1 celebration of Women's History Month. A picture of Candelaria and a short narrative about her will be part of a display in the State Capitol in Sacramento. Press releases about the State Commission's program and about Candelaria have been sent out to local media.

The Commission expressed its appreciation to the Historical Society and especially to Alberta Word for her research and to Patricia Clark Callachor, editor of the Historical Society's "The Quarterly", for the narrative.

Commissioner Anderson reported that the selection of recipients for the Erica Neville Memorial Alice Paul Awards for women's history activities will be selected on Feb. 21.*

*NOTE: The recipients for the awards have since been announced. They are Sandy Hindy, Westlake Village, Community Activist, and Wilma Rosenberg, 2nd grade teacher at Meadows Elementary School in Thousand Oaks, Educator.

The awards will be presented at the March 19 luncheon, 12 noon, Holiday Inn, Ventura.

Staff reviewed plans for the luncheon. Seating will be at tables for eight people, with reserved seating only for special guests. All other seating is open seating, first come-first seated.

B. Child Care Task Force - Dot Engel

Commissioner Engel reported on the federal Act for Better Child Care Services, known as the ABC bill. It is HR3660 in the House and SB1885 in the Senate.

California SB210 (Watson) addresses licensing for child care providers.

Ms. Engel reported that many activities focusing on child care are taking place. The League of Women Voters (LWV) is currently conducting a study on child care issues which will enable them to take positions on legislation. As part of a LWV Day on April 7, Joy Picus, L.A. City Council, will speak on "Child Care in California." On Feb. 27, the Ventura County LWV will sponsor a panel of speakers on "The Child Care Dilemma," this event to take place in Santa Paula.

C. Family Law Task Force - Zora Kirby

The Commission commended the members of this task force for the highly successful Family Law Forum held earlier this month.

Ms. Kirby reported a totally positive response to the forum, both in person from the participants and in written comments on the evaluation form.

Expenses for the forum were under the committee's estimated budget but above the \$200 approved by the Friends.

M/S/P, Warrington, Albert: to submit a request for reimbursement for all forum expenses to the Friends.

For the Communications committee, Ms. Kirby reported that the videotapes of the forum presentations are currently being reviewed and edited. If the quality of the tapes is high, the committee hopes to make the tapes available for use by other community organizations.

- D. Housing Task Force - Karen Flock
The Housing Task Force members will tour affordable housing projects in Ventura County on March 3.

Referring to action taken by the Commission at its January meeting to send a letter to Riverbend Farms on behalf of the families still living at Sespe Ranch, Ms. Flock reported that the 40-50 families still living on the ranch will be allowed to remain in their current housing through June. This will allow the children involved to complete their school year.

Many Mansions will celebrate the opening of Sky Line Development, a new affordable housing project, on March 2.

X. Committee Reports

A. Legislative Analysis - Miriam Albert

In the interests of time, Ms. Albert deferred her presentation of information on the Gann Amendment and campaign financing issues until the March 19 meeting.

B. Legislative Roundtable - Dot Engel

Notes from the Jan. 26 Roundtable meeting will be sent with the next meeting notice. The speaker at the Jan. 26 meeting was Commissioner Jean Harris who discussed how to influence legislators. The next meeting will be March 23, 5:30 p.m. in the Government Center. Speaker: Penny Bohannon, county legislative analyst.

XI. Unfinished Business

A. Discussion of a bylaws amendment was held over to the March meeting.

B. It was decided not to pursue the option of establishing a trust fund.

XII. New Business

A. Fiscal Year 88-89 Budget

M/S/P, Warrington, Albert: to request Increment II funds for three educational forums to be held in 1988-89, to be budgeted at \$500 each.

M/S/P, to resubmit the '87-'88 Increment II requests for funds to allow attendance by Commissioners at Conferences and Conventions (\$400) and for funds to reimburse Commissioners for mileage expenses (\$1,400).

The total amount to be requested in Increment II is \$3,300.

B. Pay Equity Project - Lauren Anderson

M/S/P, Anderson, Warrington: to establish a joint task force on pay equity with the Women's Equity Coalition.

This new pay equity project will continue to function as a part of the Commission's Education Task Force.

XIII. The meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m. The next meeting will be Saturday, March 19, at 9 a.m. at the Ventura Holiday Inn, Buenaventura Room.