

**VENTURA COUNTY  
COMMISSION FOR WOMEN**

**505 Poli Street    CODE: 4400  
Ventura, CA 93001**

VENTURA COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

Minutes of the Ventura County Commission for Women  
December 11, 1993

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Celeste Weingardt called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners present:

Connie Lawrason  
Sandra Cherry  
Jeannette Scovill  
June Steffey  
Mary Jones  
Lois Harrion  
Judy Bysshe  
Loma Siegel  
Celeste Weingardt

Guests of the Commission:

Bonnie Warrington  
Dana Huffman

REORDERING: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of the Minutes of November 13, 1993 was moved by Judy Bysshe and seconded by Sandra Cherry.

OLD BUSINESS

Guidelines for the VCCW Annual Reports were handed out to each member present. A copy is attached with these Minutes. Discussion followed that focused on the point that completeness is of the utmost importance. A Motion was made by Judy Bysshe and seconded by Connie Lawrason to accept the Guidelines as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Bonnie Warrington reported on a new Housing Authority program. The FAMILY SELF SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM was launched one week ago and there has been a very favorable response.

Escrow accounts that are subsidized by HUD will be set up and offered to families with young children only. They must vacate their Section 8 certificates in five (5) years. Families will have individual counselors and must currently be a Section 8 "family" to qualify.

Bonnie also passed out a new Senior Resource Directory. Extra copies are available through Ms. Warrington if needed.

- B. Dana Huffman was introduced to the Commissioners. Dana is a Special Education Teacher with the Ojai Valley Unified School District. Dana is currently working on a Child Care Project in Ojai at this time.
- C. Loma Siegel reported on a Latino outreach project from the Tres Condados Girl Scout Council.

This will be the First Annual Adult/Youth Community Coalition Conference. The Conference is to be held on Saturday, March 5, 1994, at U.C. Santa Barbara. A flyer is attached with these Minutes. Workshops will be in English and Spanish. It was suggested to invite the Santa Barbara County Commission for Women to attend and to have the VCCW participate in this project. The Motion was made by Judy Bysshe and seconded by Connie Lawrason.

D. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Celeste Weingardt reported that the PSSA have moved the VCCW office. There is now no electricity available to the typewriter and no access to the codes for the copy machine. Celeste met with Susan Lacey to discuss the location of an office for the VCCW with access for secretarial and copy services from the County to continue.

A formal thank you will be sent to Beverlee McGrath for again hosting the VCCW Holiday-Get-Together.

E. FINANCIAL REPORT

The Financial Report was postponed until the January Meeting due to Eliza Thomas' absence.

F. HEALTH COMMITTEE

Judy Bysshe reported on a discussion by Susan Hardy to the Teen Pregnancy Committee that focused on abuse and incest issues. Sixty-five (65%) percent of teen mothers have a prior history of sexual abuse. Judy will be mailing information from the Teen Pregnancy Committee to all Commissioners to disseminate.



G. EDUCATION/EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE

Aurora De La Selva reported that the planning for the PSSA Conference will be held the second Saturday in February. The Committee is still forming. This Conference will be for Oxnard and Camarillo students at the Center Point Mall. Funds are being raised and there is the possibility of busing students to the Conference.

H. LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Lois Harrion discussed the direction of this committee and requested assistance from committee members.

I. APPOINTMENTS COALITION

The Appointments Coalition will be meeting quarterly, with its first meeting in February.

J. PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Public Relations Report was postponed until January due to Rosemary Bonrich's absence. The Spring Newsletter was discussed by Chair Celeste Weingardt.

K. SALUTE TO WOMEN

L. WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT

The committee report for the Women's History will be postponed until January due to Virginia Rogalsky's absence.

M. ASSEMBLY OF REPRESENTATIVES

Jeannette Scovill reported on the creation of a master calendar for major events and meetings. This possibly will be published in the local newspapers and will encourage women's advertising. The AAUW is to be invited to the next Assembly of Representatives Meeting. The history of the Women's History Project will be presented and how to nominate candidates.

The meeting will be held Saturday, January 8, 1994 at the library in Oxnard. Please refer to the attached letter for complete information.

N. MONITOR/LIAISON COMMITTEE

Sandra Cherry reported on the meeting with Senator Newton Russell from Glendale on his past voting record.

O. WOMEN'S SHELTERS

Jeanette Scovill reported on the November tour of the Women's Shelter in Ventura. There is structure to the program, a legal advocate and counselor are provided for court appearances, and no TV or videos depicting violence are permitted. The Ventura Shelter is run by the Coalition against Violence and the Simi Shelter is run by Interface. It was suggested to possibly tour the Simi Shelter in the near future.

There is also a BATTERERS HOTLINE phone -- staffed by men. The number is 656-4861.

P. HOUSING COMMITTEE

Jeannette Scovill reported on the Housing Sustainability Conference. Involvement of the community in building is a must. Next year's conference is to be held in Saint Louis. There are two hundred (200) communities that need to be relocated from the floods in the Mississippi Valley this year. Jeannette will share the video at the January meeting.

Essential Services for Western Ventura County -- Cards for the Homeless were passed out to all Commissioners present. These cards provide information and phone numbers where food, clothing, and shelter can be obtained in Ventura County. There is space to attach three quarters for phone calls. The information for the cards was provided by Bonnie Warrington and the graphics were done by Celeste Weingardt.

Aurora will contact Oxnard or Ventura College for the printing.

The question was raised as to what will be done with these cards and also what requirements have to be met by some of the centers such as the Salvation Army Center.

Q. OTHER COMMISSIONS FOR WOMEN

Judy Bysshe discussed other Commissions work and a copy of her "gleanings" was distributed at the meeting.

It was suggested that the Commission take a proactive stand on female genital mutilation.

R. CHILD CARE COMMITTEE

June Steffey reported on two recent bills which were enacted into law relating to child care. Assembly Bill 2053 continues funding for the Trustline Registry and extends the requirement for child care providers to apply to the



registry if they are participating in publicly funded programs. This expanded funding can protect children who receive subsidized child care from providers who have criminal histories. Assembly Bill 615 prohibits smoking in either a family day care home or a child care facility.

S. NEW HORIZONS

Mary Jones reported on Moorpark College's advisory committee "New Horizons." This committee will be exploring ways to help economically disadvantaged single parents. The next meeting is scheduled for February. Mary is representing the VCCW in this position.

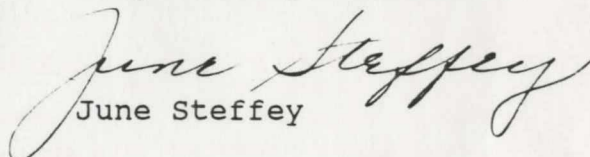
T. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Celeste Weingardt reported that the VCCW review our co-sponsorship with other agencies in January. The annual membership in ~~new~~ <sup>VCCW</sup> should continue, and a list is to be compiled of affiliations to continue lending the name and support of the Ventura County Commission for Women and to overview their focus.

Happy Holidays!

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

Respectfully submitted,

  
June Steffey