

# VENTURA COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

# county of ventura

Public Social Services Agency  
505 Poli Street  
Ventura, CA 93001  
(805) 652-7611

## Commission Members:

### District 1

Lauren Anderson  
Karen Flock  
Arleen S. Reetz

### District 2

Miriam Albert  
Zora Kirby  
Susan H. Witting

### District 3

Lillian Goldman  
Sandra Smith Ryder

### District 4

Dorothy J. Engel  
Brook A. Hubbell, Ed.D.  
Bonnie M. Warrington

### District 5

Tila Estrada  
Jean Harris  
Martha Sheffey White

## VENTURA COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

### MONTHLY MEETING

November 21, 1987

### MINUTES

- I. The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Brook Hubbell at 9:00 a.m.

II. Commissioners Present:

Lauren Anderson, Ventura  
Dot Engel, Thousand Oaks  
Lillian Goldman, Camarillo  
Jean Harris, Oxnard  
Brook Hubbell, Simi Valley  
Zora Kirby, Thousand Oaks  
Sandra Ryder, Camarillo  
Bonnie Warrington, Simi Valley  
Susan Witting, Thousand Oaks

Commissioners Absent:

Miriam Albert, Thousand Oaks  
(excused)  
Tila Estrada, Oxnard  
Karen Flock, Ventura (excused)  
Martha White, Oxnard (excused)

Staff Present:

Martha Baskerville, Admin. Aide  
Linda Henry, Secretary

Guests:

Ruth Irussi, PSSA GAIN  
Judy Johnson, Port Hueneme Cultural Center  
Pat Mason

- III. The Minutes of October 17, 1987 were approved as submitted.

- IV. Judy Johnson, Port Hueneme Cultural Center, announced a performance of "Past The Morning Star", a retrospective of women in American history on Sunday, December 13, 3 p.m., at the Cultural Center, 575 E. Surfside Drive, Port Hueneme. Tickets are \$10 per person or \$8 per person for groups of 10 or more. Call 488-4439.

- V. Financial Report - Martha Baskerville  
As of November 6, 1987, with 38% of the fiscal year elapsed, 21% of level 1000 funds (salaries & benefits) have been expended and 24% of level 2000 funds (services and supplies) have been expended for an organization total of 22% expended.

Staff reported the receipt of a \$150 donation to the Commission in the name of Dr. Priscilla Partridge de Garcia.

- VI. Correspondence Report - Martha Baskerville

A copy of the complete correspondence report is available in the Commission office.



A letter of resignation was received from Commissioner Arleen Reetz. The Commission accepted with regret, noting Ms. Reetz' interest and commitment to the Commission during her tenure.

The Commission will respond to Supervisor Schaefer's request for information on the financial success of the awards banquet as soon as that information is available from the Friends of the Commission.

The commission authorized letters of thanks to the County Supervisors for their participation in the program at the awards banquet.

In response to a request from the State CSW, the Commission will plan to participate in a women's history program in March in Sacramento.

VII. Staff Report - Martha Baskerville

The commission office has received an evaluation copy of Ashton-Tate's Byline desktop publishing software program.

Staff is working on a complete compilation of all policy statements adopted by the Commission since its inception in 1981.

VIII. Ruth Irussi, PSSA program manager for GAIN, presented information on Ventura County's progress in establishing programs providing services through Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN), California's welfare reform program. The program is mandatory (with certain exemptions) for AFDC recipients. The goal is to take people from being welfare dependent to being economically self-sufficient through such programs as job club and job search, education and training. They provide other services to remove hindrances to success, i.e., access to child care while the recipient is going through the other programs. Recipients begin in GAIN in the Job Club and Job Search, a 3 week program. If no suitable employment is found in that time, further assessment is done regarding education and training needs.

55% - 60% of clients need basic education. Classes are contracted through school districts' Adult Education departments. 20% of the clients in basic education do not speak English. On-the-job training and in-class job training is contracted through the Private Industry Council (PIC) and the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA). From September 1986 to October 1987, 4,626 clients enrolled in GAIN. 795 have been placed in unsubsidized jobs. Child care is contracted through Child Development Resources (CDR) and is not a problem for parents while in GAIN programs. However, once they are employed and no longer being subsidized, they may lose their child care slot. Child care



can again become a great problem because of the lack of good care available and its high cost. A side issue created by the placement of children of GAIN clients is the displacement of others' children, i.e., child care slots allocated under contract to CDR are no longer available to the general public. More advocates for developing additional child care are needed.

IX. A report from the Friends on the awards banquet is not yet available.

X. Task Force Reports

A. Education

1. "Salute To Women"

Positive comments on the awards banquet were reported and Commissioners agreed that the banquet was a very successful event, - very well organized. Compliments go to the Friends for their thorough arrangements and thanks for their time and efforts. Some items were listed for future discussion and review during the banquet evaluation.

A joint meeting to evaluate the 1987 awards banquet will be held. The final date and location will be announced.

The date of February 2 was selected to continue the dialogue begun last January on the roles and relationship of the Commission and the Friends. Location to be announced.

2. Community Unity and Awareness Day

There were 82 community organizations represented as co-sponsors. Two hundred people attended. Twelve attended the pay equity seminar. A display table was set up with information on the commission and pay equity. Participants termed the event a success in terms of communications and information shared.

3. Women's History Project - Martha Baskerville

The 1988 Women's History luncheon will be Saturday, March 19. Tentative location is the Holiday Inn in Ventura. Tentative speaker is Dr. Sally Roesch Wagner. Arrangements will be confirmed as soon as possible. Community organizations will be enlisted as luncheon co-sponsors. The Erica Neville Memorial Alice Paul Award for Women's History will be presented at the luncheon. Nominations for the award will be solicited during December and January.

4. Women In Agriculture - No Report



B. Child Care Task Force - Brook Hubbell

Commissioner Dot Engel is the new coordinator of the project on employer assisted child care. The November 4 workshop was attended by 8 community business leaders who expressed interest in going forward with the plan to contact other business people about employer assisted child care. The transparencies and presentation book used by Brook Hubbell can be made available for presentation to employers.

Dot Engel reported that the League of Women Voters is starting a 2 year study on the child care issue to enable them to take a position on child care legislation.

Bonnie Warrington reported that the Livingston Nurses Association is planning to start in-home sick child care (for mildly ill children) after the first of the year.

C. Family Law Task Force

The Family Law Forum has been rescheduled and will now take place on Saturday, February 6. Staff will confirm site arrangements during the coming week.

A proposed budget was submitted. Costs were estimated at \$500.

M/S/P to request an estimated \$500 from the Friends to fund the Family Law Forum, with bills to be presented to the Friends for payment as necessary.

M/S/P; Witting, Anderson: to sponsor a survey/questionnaire seeking comments, suggestions, and recommendations for the family law department of the Superior Court.

Commissioner Witting will develop the survey.

D. Housing Task Force - A written report was submitted on this Task Force's 1987-88 goal priorities:

1. Presentations to City Councils and Planning Commissions working on the General Plan (Thousand Oaks is in process) regarding affordable housing needs
2. Facilities development (or provision) of "second stage" housing

Through Networking, work to establish a countywide Housing Trust Fund; continue liaison with Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation and Networking for Housing (include religious group out of Project Understanding office)

Move to establish a "Blue Ribbon" committee to increase resources for affordable housing

3. See if there is any way we can assist the Area Housing Authority to obtain ownership of the Meiners Oaks project  
Support and encourage options and opportunities for available housing for lower income women and children and families

#### XI. Committee Reports

##### A. Legislative Analysis Committee - Jean Harris

Commissioner Miriam Albert will be the new chair of this committee.

Ms. Harris reported on two initiatives which will be on the June 1988 ballot: (1) a campaign finance reform initiative which would set limits for contributions to and spending by candidates; (2) the Government Spending Limitation and Accountability Act, not to be confused with the Gann Spending Limit Improvement and Enforcement Act of 1988. More information will be provided to Commissioners.

The Commission congratulated Jean Harris on her recent re-election to the Oxnard Elementary School District Board of Trustees.

##### B. Legislative Roundtable - Dot Engel

The next meeting of the Legislative Roundtable will be in late January, 1988. Commissioner Jean Harris will speak on "Legislative Interviews and How to Influence Legislators."\*

\*The date has since been set for January 26, 5:30 p.m. at the Camarillo Library.

The National Issues Forum will be held on Tuesday, January 19, 7:00 p.m., Thousand Oaks Library. Topics are: The Trade Gap, The Superpowers, Freedom of Speech.

##### C. Communications - Zora Kirby

Commissioner Kirby is planning a video on the Commission for Women with a combination of film clips, interviews and voice overs. Filming will begin after the first of the year.

#### XII. Unfinished Business

Commissioner Witting offered to serve as Executive Secretary. Her offer was gratefully accepted. Therefore, no nominating committee was established.



XIII. New Business

1. A Bylaws committee of Sandy Ryder, Bonnie Warrington and Dot Engel will draft a bylaws revision to expand the Executive Committee with the purpose of having it serve as a steering committee in order to streamline monthly meetings, and to make one executive committee position be the liaison to the Friends. Sandy Ryder will chair the committee.
2. M/S/P, Warrington, Kirby: to request funds from the Friends for a plaque in honor of Arleen Reetz's term as co-chair.
3. The meeting schedule for 1988 was adopted as follows:

January 23 (4th Saturday)	July 16
February 20	August 20
March 19	September 17
April 16	October 15
May 21	November 19
June 18	No meeting in December

All meetings except for January 23 are on the 3rd Saturday of each month and are scheduled for 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Locations will be arranged and announced.

4. The January 23 meeting will be followed by a pot luck luncheon. Location to be announced.

XIV. The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.