

VENTURA COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

county of ventura

Public Social Services Agency
3161 Loma Vista Road
Ventura, CA 93003
(805) 652-6411

Commission Members:

District 1

Jean Getchell Bush
Arleen S. Rosenfield
Mary Silverman

District 2

Raymond C. Clayton
Virginia M. Connell
Louise Grethel

District 3

Alicia Ramirez-Brewer, Ed.D.
Sandra Smith Ryder

District 4

Dorothy J. Engel
Brook A. Hubbell, Ed.D.
Candace L. Matson

District 5

Tila Estrada
Martha Sheffey White

VENTURA COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN
Meeting location: 2220 Ventura Blvd.
Camarillo, California

MINUTES

Saturday, February 22, 1986

I. Call to Order

The regular monthly meeting of the Ventura County Commission for Women was called to order at 9:15 a.m. by Co-Chair Jean Bush.

II. Commissioners Present:

Jean Bush
Raymond Clayton
Ginny Connell
Dot Engel
Lillian Goldman
Arleen Rosenfield
Sandy Ryder
Martha White

Commissioners Absent:

Tila Estrada
Brook Hubbell (Excused)
Candace Matson (Excused)
Alicia Ramirez-Brewer (Excused)
Mary Silverman (Excused)

Guests: B. Ostergren, Margaret True, Pleasant Valley Hospital Auxillary; Bonnie Warrington, Lee Anderson, Margarita Corral, Diane Koranda, Friends of the Commission; Laurie Freeman, OPAL; James Demaegt, Ludi Moncada, Rosa Ramirez; Fritz Conle, UFCW Local 78-A; Judi Christensen, State Board, Women's Commission on Alcoholism, & Rainbow House.

III. The Minutes of Jan. 25, 1986 were accepted as corrected: p.4, VIII.B. Reception for Friends, Feb. 23, 1986.

IV. Financial Report - Commissioner White

As of Jan. 31, 61% of the fiscal year had elapsed with 29% of level 1 funds expended (salaries, benefits) and 27% of level 2 funds expended (services, supplies) for an organization total of 28% expended.

Commissioners Bush and Engel discussed the budget process, commission budget unit workload indicators and separate requests for project funding which will be considered by the Supervisors during the budget hearings later in the year. A request for transfer of funds within the Commission's budget to purchase computer equipment has been made.

V. Executive Secretary's Report - Correspondence - Staff

A correspondence report was distributed with discussion of a memo from Irma Mejia, Administrative Assistant, PSSA Adult & Family Services, re: allocation from County General Fund for child care services in support of employment and training services. Commission Co-Chairs Bush and Engel will attend a meeting on 3/5 with Ms. Mejia.

The complete correspondence report is available in the Commission office.

VI. Staff Report - Martha Baskerville

The following announcements were made:

- . The Board of Supervisors has approved the hiring of an Administrative Aide (Part-Time) for the Commission. Final filing date was 2/21/86.
- . The National Association of Commissions for Women (NACW) Region IX Conference is scheduled for April 12-14 in Sacramento. The Commission voted to send two delegates if the budget allows.
- . Sen. William Campbell's Conference on Women will take place on April 14 & 15 at the Anaheim Hilton & Towers. Conference information was distributed.
- . Brochures on Employer-Assisted Child care have been offered to VCEDA for their Business Outlook Conference, March 13, Westlake Plaza.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Communications - Commissioner Ryder

Ms. Ryder is in the process of formatting a computer program for the Commission's newsletter. Since it is not yet finished, a "news bulletin" re: Women's History Week and activities will be printed.

When the computer program is ready, the Commission's regular monthly meeting will be the deadline for submitting information for the next month's newsletter mailing.

B. Women's History Project - Commissioner Connell

Ms. Connell announced a Women's History Week luncheon to take place on March 6, at 12 noon, County Savings Bank, 300 Arneill Rd., Camarillo. Speaker: Jo Ellen Heil, M.A. in history with a specialization in Women in History. The program will include a tribute in memory of Erica Neville, one of the founders of and active participant in women's history activities in Ventura County.

The County Library Services Agency has published a women's history bibliography which will be available in each branch library.

(Women's History Project, cont'd.)

Marlene Alexander, Thousand Oaks, has volunteered to update the Community Resource Women list for the Conejo Valley and to promote its distribution and use in the school system. Her project can serve as a model for other communities for coming years.

The Commission approved Staff's participation in a Women's History Program at Pt. Mugu on 3/5 with the National Women's History Project.

Ms. Connell reminded everyone of women's history in the making, the March for Women's Lives, Sunday, March 16, in Los Angeles.

C. Child Care - Commissioner Engel

The United Way Board of Directors has not yet voted on the Child Care Task Force Recommendations.

Bonnie Warrington, Commission on Human Concerns, now has the job for CHC Children's Services. Her goal is to link the CHC with the Commission for Women and with United Way.

Ventura Unified School District has approved use of school site space for some child care programs. Three school sites have been identified. YMCA will be the provider.

Campfire Girls in Port Hueneme qualified for day care funding from Sen. Roberti's bill.

D. Legislation - Commissioners Connell & Rosenfield

Ms. Connell announced that the Women's History Week Resolution has passed the State Assembly. Women senators will preside over the State Senate during Women's History Week, March 2 - 8.

Ms. Rosenfield discussed SB1750 re: family law and division of property, and SB1751 re: mandatory deductions from pay checks of absent parent for child support if delinquent.

M/S/P Rosenfield, Clayton: to send a letter of support for SB 1750 and SB1751 as presently worded to Sen. Gary Hart. Commissioners Rosenfield and Bush will write the letter which will include a statement of concerns re: women's financial responsibility in division of property settlements.

VIII. Friends of the Commission - Lee Anderson, President

Friends approved Commission's requests of \$55.57 to Commissioner Matson and Commission Staff Martha Baskerville for expenses.

Ms. Anderson requested that suggestions for Awards Banquet M.C. be sent to Margarita Corral, Oxnard College. A revised timeline for the awards and banquet was suggested and copies were distributed.

IX. Unfinished Business

A. Five Year Plan

1. Housing Task Force - Commissioner Connell
The housing Task Force will meet regularly on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 7 p.m., 2220 Ventura Blvd., Camarillo. The next meeting is March 12.

The ad hoc committee on housing is disbanded. The referendum that would have ended affordable housing in Thousand Oaks failed to get on the ballot.

2. Needs of Divorced Women - Commissioner Rosenfield
The meeting of Feb. 19 will be rescheduled and notices will be sent. This task force will compile information and suggestions to be presented to the DA's office to improve services in child support enforcement.

3. Education Task Force - Commissioner Connell for Commissioner Matson
A speakers' bureau is being organized. Commissioners are asked to inform Ms. Matson of presentations they can give.

A list of proposed topics for public workshops was distributed, with a request for priority rankings.

Information on the original Breakthrough project has been received. Breakthrough provided low-cost workshops and support for women in high-stress situations. A meeting of the task force members to discuss the original project material and possibilities is scheduled for March 17, 7 p.m., 2220 Ventura Blvd., Camarillo.

Commissioners Rosenfield and Ryder are collecting information needed to provide public services announcements on KTIE-TV.

B. Request for Hearing re: Saticoy Lemon Association

After discussion, the Commission decided to sponsor a public forum on the general status of women in agriculture in Ventura County. The scope will be inclusive and will include a fact-finding process, of which the forum will be one part. Co-sponsors of the forum will be sought.

The Education Task Force will head up the efforts and will present a plan at the March Commission meeting.

- X. Presentation by Judi Christensen, a member of the Board of the California Women's Commission on Alcoholism, Rainbow House and a County Alcohol Services Program Specialist.

Ms. Christensen discussed an independent group formed to provide support for mothers of children who are victims of incest or other molestation. After providing information on some of the

ways in which the Child Protective Services system can work, and the typical procedure followed after a molestation report has been made, Ms. Christensen listed the following as Needs of Mothers of Children who have been molested:

1. A system that considers the humanity and needs of the mothers and victim's siblings.
2. A pool of advocates.
3. That they be advised of their legal rights before the court processes begin.
4. Immediate financial assistance.
5. Emergency shelter.
6. An end to case continuances and delays.
7. Child care.
8. A list of people who can help without being required to report.
9. That they be informed of the welfare of the child who is in temporary foster care.
10. Public awareness of the impact on families and children; that school officials and others be educated not just in how to turn in reports of molestation but also in how to support the victims.

Ms. Christensen suggested that legislators can be educated to write in modifications in procedures, that therapists can insist on a contract that does not require revelation of session content. She requested an evaluation of the way the process is working.

Commissioners Bush and Goldman will request a discussion meeting with Children's Protective Services.

XI. Announcements

Commissioner Mary Silverman is planning to move from the area. Her leaving will create a vacancy in District I (Supervisor Lacey). Vacancies also exist in Districts 2 (Supervisor Jones) and 5 (Supervisor Flynn). Because so much of the Commission's Five Year Plan is concerned with providing public information in various forms, additional expertise in communications/public relations is needed.

- XII. The meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m. The next regular monthly meeting is Saturday, March 15, 1986, at 9 a.m., 2220 Ventura Blvd., Camarillo.

Commission Staff
Martha Baskerville
2/27/86