

Item 4 A

Minutes
Commission For Women
March 14, 1992
Radisson Suites Hotel, Oxnard, California

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Stacey B. MacDonald called the meeting to order at 9:18 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners present were: MacDonald, Breyman, Thomas, Jones, Rogalsky, McGrath, de la Selva, Harriion and Maurer. Commissioner Lawrason arrived at 9:55 a.m., Commissioner McVerry arrived at 10:25 a.m. and Commissioner Bysshe arrived at 10:30 a.m. Commissioner Harris-Murray was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bonnie Warrington indicated that she was no longer receiving copies of the Commission's Minutes and Agendas and requested that she be placed on the mailing list. Chairperson MacDonald indicated that as determined by the Commission in a previous action only non-profit and other governmental agencies were receiving minutes and agendas as a result of budget constraints.

CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Breyman to approve the Consent Calendar as presented, there being no objection, it was so ordered.

- A. Approve Minutes of February 9, 1992
- B. Approve subsidiary ledger dated February 8, 1992.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Chairperson's Report - Stacey B. MacDonald

- 1. New Commission Administration Aide Lynn Sovich was introduced and it was noted that she would begin her employ on March 24, 1992.
- 2. The proposed \$15 Agenda and Minute Subscription Fee process was reviewed and it was hoped that it would be implemented before the end of April. Commission Treasurer Thomas inquired about the collection process and the allocation of the funds once received.
- 3. The resignation of Commissioner Helen Spencer from District 1 was announced.
- 4. The March 7, Cal Lutheran Creative Options Women's Political Appointments Coalition Workshop was reviewed and it was noted that the same presentation would be made at Camarillo Women's Day on April 9, 1992.

E. Program Committee - Carol Ann Breyman

Women's History Project Luncheon

This item was taken out of order as Commissioner Breyman may have to attend to matters dealing with the Luncheon. Commissioner Breyman reviewed the activities leading up to today's Women's History Project Luncheon and expressed her appreciation to the Commission for its support and assistance in organizing the event. She indicated that a final written report would be prepared and submitted for approval at the next meeting. Erica Neville Memorial Alice Paul Awards: Diane Zeamba, Community Activist; Diane Dowler and Geraldine Wilson, Educators.

She also noted that correspondence had been received from De Anza Middle School requesting support of its quilt project in support of Women's History. Commissioner Thomas requested that it be placed on the April Agenda for action and discussion. Commissioner Breyman also noted that the Program Committee had voted to recognize Bonnie Warrington's contributions to the Commission by purchasing a corsage and refunding her ticket purchase for the Luncheon with the proceeds.

B. Women's Political Appointments Coalition - Jeannette Scovill

Commissioner Scovill reviewed the workshop planned for May 9, 1992 at the Government Center and noted that Carol Whiteside, Assistant Secretary of Intergovernmental Relations in Governor Wilson's office had been confirmed as the keynote speaker. She noted that the event is being co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters in Ventura County.

C. Finance Committee Report - Eliza Thomas

Commissioner Thomas reported on the balances in the Women's Activity Fund \$4,912.04 noting that several unpaid expenses for the Women's History Project remained outstanding. She noted that the Commission essentially had three working accounts: Women's Activity Fund administered by the Commission's Finance Committee and held in a private bank account; Commission Trust Account administered by the County of Ventura and included as a line item in the Commission's Budget; and, the Commission's Budget administered by the County.

D. Health Care Committee Report - Eliza Thomas

Commissioner Thomas explained that a survey is being prepared by the Committee and is presently in draft form to aid in determining the needs and issues of women in Ventura County. She noted that it would be presented to the Commission at a later date for approval and further action. She also indicated that the Oxnard Clinic may not have access to St. John's Medical Center in the future. It was determined that the Committee would review and prepare a report for action by the Commission and possible submittal to the Board of Supervisors with a recommendation.

Chairperson MacDonald reviewed a pilot project being examined by persons in her community which would deal with teenage girls at high risk for pregnancy.

F. Women's Shelters Reports - Beverly McGrath

Commissioner McGrath stated that she is continuing to collect supplies such as shampoo, lotion etc., for the shelters and expressed appreciation to the Commissioners for their personal contributions. She also noted that she had forwarded correspondence as approved by the Commission to the Governor regarding the clemency for battered women incarcerated for killing abusive spouses.

G. Legislative Report - Beverly McGrath

Commissioner McGrath reported on Assembly Bills 371 and 2220 and indicated that she would continue to monitor their progress. She expressed concern about AB 371 and noted that AB 2220 regarding spousal rape also needs to be examined closely before a position is taken.

H. Housing - Jeannette Scovill

Commissioner Scovill reviewed the CDBG program administered by the County of Ventura and provided information regarding environmental planning guidelines that are becoming highly acclaimed.

I. Child Care

No report was available.

J. Survey/Birth Control - Beverly McGrath

Commissioner McGrath indicated that based on the feedback of the Commission she did not feel this was an issue she wanted to pursue at this time.

K. Executive Board Meeting - Connie Lawrason

Commissioner Lawrason indicated that the Executive Board (Commissioners Thomas, Lawrason, McVerry and Scovill were present, Chair MacDonald was out-of-town) had met and determined that a survey of women's issues needs to be conducted and that the Executive Board needs to begin meeting again two weeks before every meeting to establish the Agenda for the meetings. She also indicated that a resource center proposed by Supervisor Howard had been discussed and that it was the consensus of the Board that a retreat date needs to be set to conduct an orientation for new Commissioners and to establish better focus on the role of the Commission. She also noted that new bylaws should be distributed.

It was also recommended that the minutes of the Commission and its committees should be presented to the Board of Supervisors.

Chairperson MacDonald indicated that the minutes and agendas are routinely distributed to the Board of Supervisors at the same time they are provided to the Commissioners. She also noted that when submitted by the Committee Chair's minutes of committee meetings are also distributed in the Agenda packets which the Commissioners and the Board receives.

DISCUSSION

1. Annual Commission For Women Conference

Commissioner Thomas inquired about the annual conference that is typically held in March and wondered if the Commission would be sending anyone. Chairperson MacDonald indicated that it was her understanding that the conference was held every two years and that it wouldn't be held until 1993.

It was moved by Commissioner de la Selva, seconded by Commissioner Breyman to determine that a subsequent need existed as a matter of time constraints and to place attendance at the Conference on this Agenda. The roll call vote was unanimous.

It was moved by Commissioner de la Selva, seconded by Commissioner Breyman to authorize expenses from the conference and travel line item in the Commission's County Budget for two Commissioner's to attend the conference. The Commissioner's attending would be determined by the Executive Board upon confirmation of the conference.

Bonnie Warrington volunteered to speak with Pat Towner, Executive Director of the California Commission on the Status of Women and relay the information to Commissioner Thomas regarding the Conference.

2. Commission Budget

General discussion surrounding the upcoming budget cycle and the Commission was held. Questions were raised about whether or not the Commission should be under PSSA or under the Board of Supervisors given it was an appointive Commission by the Board. It was also suggested that a liaison for the Commission from the County may be helpful.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

STACEY B. MacDONALD, Chairperson