

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
March 4, 2009**

I. Call to Order

A. Roll Call

Chair Brooks called the meeting to order at 5:15 PM. The meeting was held at the Women's Club in Solvang and was wheel chair accessible. Roll call followed and it was determined that a quorum was present.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

First District: (No Vacancies)

Monique Limon
Marybeth Carty

Second District: (No Vacancies)

Carol Fujimura
Gwendolyn P. Hampton

Third District: (Two Vacancies)

Marell Brooks

Fourth District: (One Vacancy)

Jennifer Dolan
Rose Gabaldon

Fifth District: (No Vacancies)

Staff:

Amber Wonderly, EEO Assistant
Shen Rajan, EEO Staff

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Brandy Armenta (excused)

Dr. Jamie Rotnofsky (excused)

Theresa Fritz Sleight (excused)

Lisa Walters (excused)

Harriet Tower (excused)

B. Welcome and Introductions of Commissioners and Guests

Chair Brooks welcomed everyone present which was followed by a brief introduction by all. Chair Brooks and the Commissioners extended a warm welcome to new Second District Commissioner Gwendolyn Hampton. Commissioner Hampton stated that she was very excited to be on the Commission for Women and was looking forward to helping with the Commissions' goals and community outreach. Commissioner Hampton stated that she has been involved in community service for many years. She is currently

involved with the Peace of Wisdom ministry which she developed and uses that as a platform for community outreach and education. She has also been with the African American film heritage for many years which uses film to bring people together and generate dialogue.

C. Public Comment

No members of the public were present.

II. Regular Business

A. Approve: February 4, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Dolan made the motion to approve the minutes of the February meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Limon. Commissioners Gabaldon, Carty, Fujimura and Hampton abstained. Motion was carried.

B. Announcements:

1. Commissioner Dolan informed the commissioners that the League of Women Voters is sponsoring a panel discussion on health care and how to access the various programs available on March 12 at 7.00 p.m. at the Betteravia Center in Santa Maria.
2. Vice Chair Carty mentioned that WEV was hosting a workshop at UCSB on March 8th in conjunction with International Women's Day.
3. Vice Chair Carty stated that there was a Women's Expo at the Fairgrounds in Ventura that would take place the weekend of March 13-15 and that there would be 50 speakers addressing a variety of topics.
4. Vice Chair Carty said that Girls Inc. of Carpinteria would be honoring Second District's Supervisor Wolf at a luncheon on March 23 at 11.30-1.30 p.m. at their 2nd Annual Women of Inspiration Day.
5. Commissioner Fujimura stated that there would be a workshop on Immigration Issues on March 10 at Antioch University.
6. Commissioner Fujimura stated that the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee was going to be presenting a financial workshop targeted towards women on March 19 at 7.00 p.m. at Antioch University. Commissioner Fujimura stated that the workshop sounded very similar to the one that the CFW was planning.
7. Chair Brooks said that the San Luis Obispo Commission for Women was also doing an all day Saturday workshop on Women and Work Issues which was similar to the CFW and the one presented by the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee.

8. Chair Brooks stated that the Women's Literary Festival was coming up on March 28 at Fess Parker's in Santa Barbara. The CFW was providing six scholarships for anyone interested in attending but could not afford it.

9. Chair Brooks stated that the AAUW's Girls Conference was on March 7th.

C. Accept Oral Report: Chair Brooks

No oral report.

D. Review, Discuss & Act: Set Agenda for Forum –All

Commissioner Dolan circulated the template used by the League of Women Voters that will be amended for the members of the panels of the CFW's upcoming panel in April.

Commissioner Dolan will be the moderator for the panel.

Commissioner Dolan will finalize the information on the speaker from Alan Hancock College. She was sure they would be able to provide a speaker.

Commissioner Gabaldon stated that Nasra Kwentus, who works for the Workman Investment Act, will not be a speaker on the panel as her supervisor was not in favor of that as there could be a conflict in serving only women. She felt that the agency could not be discriminatory. Chair Brooks stated that although the panel was geared towards women it was not meant to be discriminatory as it was open to all and everyone was welcome to attend.

Commissioner Gabaldon stated that Commissioner Fritz Sleight is working on lining up another speaker and that she would make it a point to connect with Commissioner Fritz Sleight tomorrow at a community event that they were both going to be attending. They would try to get a speaker or a contact at the event.

Chair Brooks said that if needed, she could contact San Luis Obispo County and see if she could line up a speaker from their forum.

Vice-Chair Carty stated that she may be able to ask Lisa Holden, Executive Director for the Non-Profit Support Center in Goleta, to speak at the panel. She mentioned that her emphasis could be on re-entry in the marketplace in today's down economy. Non-profits could be a viable career choice with the inherent changes in that sector of employment. They will be needing strong CEO's and Executive Directors to lead them.

Panel will be televised and put on public access.

Spanish translation was provided at the previous forum in 2006. Commissioners felt it would be beneficial to provide a translator for this panel as well. Translator in 2006 was a volunteer and not paid for her services so a volunteer would be best for this panel as well.

Commissioner Gabaldon will contact Sara Belen from Pueblo to see if she will volunteer to translate.

Commissioner Dolan will send speaker information to staff by March 9 so that the flyer can be finalized.

Commissioners determined that questions may be presented verbally or via written format. Cards for the questions will be provided at the panel. They felt it would be best to incorporate both ways to incorporate the comfort level of all present.

Action Item: EEO Staff will research if County can provide headsets for translation.

Action Item: EEO Staff will include Spanish translator information in flyer.

Action Item: EEO Staff will have flyers ready in time for the Service Awards

Action Item: EEO Staff will send out press releases for the panel.

E. Review, Discuss & Act: Service Awards-All

Commissioner Dolan stated that she has been able to clear her schedule and will be able to attend the Service Awards.

Service Award Presenters:

Commissioner Limon- First District.

Commissioner Rotnofsky - Second District.

Chair Brooks - Third District.

Commissioner Dolan - Fourth District.

Commissioner Tower – Fifth District.

Chair Brooks will follow up with Stacy Shepard regarding provisions for the reception.

Staff informed the Commissioners that the glass trophies have been ordered.

Staff stated that letters were mailed to the award recipients a week ago.

Each presenter will contact the organizations and reconfirm the invitation.

Action Item: EEO Staff will provide paper goods for the Service Awards ceremony.

Action Item: EEO Staff will email Vice-Chair Carty the write-up on the Service Award recipients.

F. Review, Discuss & Act: Women's Economic Justice- All

Staff Lloyd stated that the information on WEJ was forwarded to County Counsel and they had determined that the issues presented were not considered a lobbying event.

Commissioner Dolan made the motion to donate \$250.00 to WEJ to provide transportation to their forum in Oxnard. Chair Carty seconded the motion. Motion was passed with no abstentions.

G. Review, Discuss & Act: Focus Group Updates-All

1. Violence Against Women - Armenta, Carty, Fujimura, Dolan, Walters, Rotnofsky
Commissioners had nothing to report.
Commissioner Dolan requested that she be moved to the focus group on aging since that group had only one commissioner on it.
2. Economic Justice and Pay Parity – Brooks, Fritz Sleight, Gabaldon, Limon
Chair Brooks was optimistic that the Paycheck Equity Act would pass as it was following the Lilly Ledbetter Act.
3. Women and Aging - Tower
Commissioner Dolan mentioned that she lives close to a Senior Center which recently had an event and the safety of seniors in cars was checked carefully.
Chair Brooks said that the Area Agency on Aging had also put out some information pertaining to seniors.
4. Nominations-Armenta, Brooks, Fritz Sleight, Tower
Chair Brooks stated that Supervisor Farr is considering two recommendations for the CFW. She hopes to appoint them in time for the retreat in June.
5. By-Laws-Brooks, Fritz Sleight, Fujimura, Limon, Tower
Commissioners had nothing to report.

H. Review, Discuss & Act: Committee Updates –All

1. Legislation: Armenta, Dolan, Fujimura, Gabaldon, Walters
Commissioners had no report.
2. Public Relations – Carty, Dolan, Limon, Rotnofsky
Commissioners had nothing to report
3. Events: Carty, Gabaldon, Rotnofsky, Walters
Vice Chair Carty inquired about the revenue from the CFW luncheon for veterans. Chair Brooks said she would get the specifics from Stacy Shepard.
4. Nominations: Armenta, Brooks, Fritz Sleight, Tower
Commissioners had nothing to report.

I. Meetings with Supervisors - All

Vice Chair Carty stated that she had received a phone call from Mr. Eric Friedman with the First District informing her that her term was up. Staff Wonderly said she would look into the terms and dates and clarify the issue.

J. Other Business-All

No other business was discussed

K. Agenda Items for next meeting - All

- i. Panel
- ii. Retreat

Locations for the retreat in June were discussed as Sr. Alicia is no longer at St. Vincent's. Commissioner Fujimura said that the recreation center in Nipomo could be an option. Vice-Chair Carty mentioned that she could check if the Women's Center in Carpinteria was available on that date if commissioners did not mind driving to Carpinteria. Commissioner Gabaldon stated that she would prefer to keep the location at a central location as she did not want to drive that far. Matter was tabled for the next meeting.

III. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Vice Chair Carty. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gabaldon. All were in favor. Motion was carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on April 1, 2009 at the Women's Club of Solvang.

Respectfully submitted,
Shen Rajan
EEO Staff