

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
May 6, 2009**

I. Call to Order

A. Roll Call

Chair Brooks called the meeting to order at 5:23 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)

Marybeth Carty

Second District: (No Vacancies)

Carol Fujimura

Gwendolyn P. Hampton

Third District: (Two Vacancies)

Marell Brooks

Fourth District: (One Vacancy)

Rose Gabaldon

Fifth District: (No Vacancies)

Lisa Walters

Harriet Tower

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Brandy Armenta (excused)

Monique Limon (excused)

Gail Teton-Landis (excused)

Jennifer Dolan (excused)

Theresa Fritz Sleight (excused)

Staff:

Shen Rajan, EEO Staff

B. Welcome and Introductions of Commissioners and Guests

Chair Brooks welcomed everyone present which was followed by a brief introduction by all.

C. Public Comment

Judith Garcia, a private citizen who had been in contact with Chair Brooks, addressed the

CFW and stated that the Resource Guide was “worthless”. She said she had attempted to get help from a majority of the facilities listed and that a majority of the agencies and organizations stated they could not assist her when called upon. Ms. Garcia posed the question to the CFW as to how a homeless and ill person could use the resource guide? Ms. Garcia stated that she knew of a person who was going to have an operation on Friday and there was nowhere for this person to go when released from the hospital. Ms. Garcia told the CFW that she spent two full days calling various places for assistance and that there were no resources to help a homeless and ill person. She stated that she wanted to attend the meeting to let the CFW know of her situation and wished to stay for the remainder of the meeting. No further discussion was conducted.

II. Regular Business

A. Approve: March 4, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Gabaldon made the motion to approve the minutes of the March meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Fujimura. Commissioners Tower and Walters abstained. Motion was carried.

B. Announcements:

1. Vice Chair Carty informed the commissioners that Girls Inc. is sponsoring their annual Take Your Daughters to Work day on May 28th.
2. Commissioner Fujimura stated that she had brought in some extra UCSB Spring Calendar of events booklets as well as the Multicultural booklets to disperse among the commissioners.
3. Commissioner Tower stated that she has resigned from the CFW as she is moving to the San Jose area to be closer to her grandkids. She said she would be joining another CFW and AAUW group up North. Commissioners stated that Commissioner Tower would be greatly missed.

C. Special Guest: Jackie Kane, Thermography Center

Chair Brooks informed the commissioners that Jackie Kane, from the Thermography Center, who was scheduled to speak at today’s CFW meeting, had called to cancel her talk as she was ill. Vice Chair Carty stated that she was familiar with the Thermography Center as they had recently spoken at another group that she was involved with and that they were a viable alternative option in dealing with breast cancer and awareness. They operate a mobile unit which has given them more visibility in the community. She stated that their services are not covered by insurance at this time. Commissioner Walters said that she would like to learn more about the services they offer. Chair Brooks said that she would reschedule with Ms. Kane for a later date.

D. Accept Oral Report-Chair Brooks

No oral report presented.

E. Review, Discuss & Act: NACW Membership-All

Chair Brooks mentioned that the CFW’s membership in NACW (National Association of Commission for Women) was up for renewal. Commissioners decided that it was a

valuable organization and that they would like to continue their membership with NACW.

Commissioner Tower made the motion to renew the membership to NACW. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Fujimura. Motion was passed unanimously.

F. Review, Discuss & Act: Panel-All

Commissioner Tower stated that the speakers at the panel all did an excellent job and the information that they provided was pertinent and valuable for women in today's economy who are in the job market. She felt that the panel was very informative and would have been very valuable if the public attendance had not been so poor. Commissioner Tower felt that the event needed to be advertised in the community where a younger audience could have been targeted.

Commissioner Walters reiterated that she too thought the panelists and the information presented was valuable. She felt that they did a wonderful job in their presentation and that the topics they covered would be beneficial for women in the current job market. Commissioner Gabaldon stated that a co-worker of hers' attended the panel and found it very beneficial. Commissioners Tower and Walters felt that putting on the panel was money well spent.

Commissioners all stated that they would like a DVD copy of the panel presentation with a cover for the DVD listing the title and the speakers. They felt it would be useful as they could use it at other programs and events in the community.

Vice Chair Carty asked Chair Brooks about the money that was generated from the Veterans Luncheon that the CFW had hosted last year. Chair Brooks stated that she had spoken to Stacy Sheperd of Friends of the CFW and was informed that Ms. Sheperd had presented a check for \$1000.00 to both, City College and Alan Hancock College and that the money would be applied towards scholarships. Commissioner Walters and Vice Chair Carty questioned the process for determining who would be eligible for the scholarships. Chair Brooks stated that she was not aware of the process that would be used to make that determination.

Action Item: Staff will get DVD copies from GATV of the taped panel and make the appropriate cover for the DVD and send it to the Commissioners.

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

All the Commissioners stated that the Service Awards presentation went very well. They felt that the turnout was good and the ceremony efficient. They all agreed that it was nice to have the trophies to present to the recipients in addition to the resolutions.

H. Review, Discuss & Act: Retreat –All

Per the commissioners' request at the previous meeting, Staff Rajan provided the commissioners with a list of various meeting place options for the upcoming CFW retreat that were available in the Solvang area. Commissioners discussed the options presented and the commissioners agreed that Pea Soup Andersen's in Buellton would be the best venue. Commissioner Tower suggested that they form a sub-committee to work on the retreat agenda.

Commissioner Walters volunteered to do the "ice breaker" at the retreat. She said that she had many ideas for the ice breaker and would like to handle that part of the retreat.

A sub-committee was formed consisting of Chair Brooks, Vice Chair Carty and Commissioner Walters. They will plan the agenda items for the retreat and will send the agenda to staff by May 15th. Chair Brooks also requested an updated version of the Public Policy Agenda for the CFW retreat.

Action Item: Staff will get copies of the new version of the Public Policy Agenda and have it for distribution at the retreat.

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

1. Violence Against Women and Children: Armenta, Carty, Fujimura, Walters
Commissioner Walters stated that she is involved with an online group on Face book whose main focus is on dealing with the issues of violence against women. She stated that they were going to hold a workshop on domestic violence and that she would report back to the group when she had more information on that.
2. Economic Justice and Pay Parity: Brooks, Fritz Sleight, Gabaldon, Limon
Commissioners stated that the recent panel put on by the CFW focused on the issues of economic justice and pay parity.
3. Women and Aging: Tower, Dolan
Commissioners had nothing to report.

J. Review, Discuss and Act: Committee Updates-All

1. Legislation: Armenta, Dolan, Fujimura, Gabaldon, Walters
Commissioner Walters stated that she had read that many anonymous donations are being made to colleges that are headed by women Presidents. She stated that the smallest donation thus far has been 1.5 million and the largest was 5 million.
2. Public Relations: Carty, Dolan, Limon
Commissioners stated that the recent panel was a public relations venue as they hoped to have the DVD available for viewing by other groups that they were involved in.
3. Events: Carty, Gabaldon, Walters
Commissioners had nothing to report.
4. Nominations: Armenta, Brooks, Fritz Sleight, Tower
Commissioners mentioned that they were informed by staff that Supervisor Wolf had appointed a new commissioner for the Second District. Chair Brooks stated that Supervisor Farr is still looking for potential candidates to fill the vacancies in the Third District.
5. By-laws: Brooks, Fritz Sleight, Fujimura, Limon, Tower
Commissioners had nothing to report.

K. Meetings with Supervisors - All

Vice Chair Carty stated that she had seen Supervisor Carbajal at various community events on an informal basis.

Commissioner Tower stated that she had been in contact with Supervisor Centeno's office to tender her resignation but that she had not heard back from him.

Continuation of item H.

The Commissioners decided that they would prefer to hold the retreat in a larger room at Pea Soup Andersen's as the room that was presented by staff was too small and the commissioners felt it would be better to have a room that would be more comfortable and one that would allow for more movement for that long period of time.

Motion was made by Chair Brooks to hold the retreat at Pea Soup Andersen's and to expend up to \$100.00 for the rental of a larger room at that facility. Motion was seconded by Vice Chair Carty. Motion was passed unanimously.

Action Item: Staff Rajan will make the arrangements for the rental of a larger room at Pea Soup and reserve it for Saturday, June 6th from 9.00 A.M. till 2.00 P.M.

L. Agenda Items for next meeting-All

CFW will nomination new officers for the next term.

CFW will elect new officers for the next term.

III. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Vice Chair Carty. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Walters. All were in favor. Motion was carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 P.M.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on June 6, 2009 at Pea Soup Andersen's in Buellton at 9.00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Shen Rajan
EEO Staff