



Minutes of the Regular Meeting Commission for Women (CFW)

December 5, 2018 Monthly Meeting

I. Call to order

A. Roll Call: Chair Everett called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m. The meeting was held at the City of Solvang, City Hall/Council Chambers, 1644 Oak Street, Solvang, and was wheelchair accessible. Roll call followed, and it was determined that a quorum was present.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

First District (no vacancies)

None

Second District (no vacancies)

Suzanne Peck

Anna Everett (Chair)

Sigrid Wright

Third District (no vacancies)

Tracy Beard

Marianne Partridge

Karen Steinwachs (Vice Chair)

Fourth District (2 vacancies)

Tami Rabska

Fifth District (2 vacancies)

None

Public Comment – None

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT (EXCUSED)

Victoria Juarez (D1)

Charlotte Gullap-Moore (D1)

Judi Weisbart (D1)

Ivette Peralta (D5)

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT (UN-EXCUSED)

Jaime Marks (D5)

VISITOR PRESENTATION: Diane Adam and Emily Smith of Touchstone, a Central Coast Women’s Collective, shared information on their upcoming inaugural women’s conference titled, “Leading with Love.” The conference takes place on March 9th at the Radisson Hotel in Santa Maria and will serve 300 women at every age and stage of life in communities from Santa Maria, San Luis Obispo and throughout Santa Barbara county. “Leading with Love” is intended to redefine how women can work together to build supportive networks to benefit one another. The Commission for Women has been invited to participate as a Sponsoring Group at this event; additionally, commissioners are asked to help by getting the word out including on social media. For more information regarding this conference please visit their website at: www.touchstonecc.com.



Action: A motion was made by Commissioner Rabska and seconded by Commissioner Beard to recommend a \$1000 sponsorship contribution for the “Leading with Love” conference, and all approved.

Regular Business:

November 7, 2018 Minutes: Commissioner Peck made the motion to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wright and approved by all with the change of the spelling of the college name from Alan Handcock to Allan Hancock.

Chair’s website message: Chair Everett requested that this item be moved to the January 2019 meeting agenda.

2018-19 Community Service Awards: Chair Everett requested that Commissioners give great thought to individuals and non-profit organization nominees from each of the five districts for the annual Community Service Awards Ceremony to be held in March 2019.

Action: It was agreed that commissioners from each of the five supervisorial districts will present a list of the names of individuals and/or group award recognition nominations at the January 2019 meeting after sharing their recommendations with their respective District Supervisors.

Women’s Leadership Events: Chair Everett reported that the Commission for Women plans to meet with the Santa Barbara County Executive Leadership in the first quarter of 2019. She stated that this will be an opportunity to find out what all departments are doing and to share the Commission’s projects and vision for the coming year. Commissioner Everett proposed March (Women’s History Month) for this meeting. It is expected to be a midday meeting with lunch provided.

Action: Staff Administrator Natasha Garduno to suggest dates following the Department Director’s meeting for when CFW’s Leadership meeting will take place, and preferably in March.

Summary of City of SB Women’s Summit: Commissioner Beard reported that there were approximately 125 people in attendance at the City of Santa Barbara Women’s Summit. Chair Everett stated that the Summit took the format of a panel featuring local community women including Supervisors Wolf and Hartmann. Panelists were given three minutes each to present, and forty-five minute break-out sessions ensued on several topics. Chair Everett and Beard stated that women reported back on what was shared at their break-out sessions which included topics on civic community engagement, birthing options for low-income women, bullying and ending sexual assault, among others.

Action: Chair Everett to contact City of Santa Barbara Mayor Cathy Murillo to obtain a complete list on the names of breakout sessions, a summary on actual discussions that occurred and to find out the next steps.



2019 National Women’s Wave: Commissioner Beard presented the 2019 National Women’s Wave as an informational item. She said that although this event will take place in Washington, D.C., New York and Los Angeles on January 19th, cities all over the nation are invited to register for a march in their area through the website, and that although marches are expected to take place in Ventura and Santa Maria, the Commission for Women may want to consider partnering with another organization for a possible march in Santa Barbara. After discussion, the Commission did not feel that the tone of the National Women’s Wave materials reflected our politically neutral tone, nor did we feel that co-organizing a march was in our scope.

Voices of Women: National Listening Sessions Initiative: Commissioner Beard mentioned that the National Association of Commissions for Women (NACW) designed a nationwide survey inviting women from all over the county to participate directly through their website. As there was a need for more clarity on this topic, such as what is the survey going to be used for, determining the Commission’s collaborative effort with the NACW would be revisited next month.

Action: Commissioner Beard to follow up with the NACW to bring more clarity on this initiative to the Commission for Women at the meeting on January 10th.

2020 Countywide Events for the 100th Anniversary of Women’s Suffrage: Commissioner Beard provided an example of a power point template that can be modified for the planning of this event to jump start the project.

Action: It was agreed that commissioners will come prepared with ideas for the 2020 Countywide 100th Anniversary of Women’s Suffrage at the next meeting.

Other Items (Questions, Comments & Announcements): Margs Fitzwilliam interim staff assistant announced that this was her last day supporting the Commission for Women, and that Natasha Garduno will be back in the office next week to resume Ms. Garduno’s role as the Commission’s Administrative Staff member.

Action: Commissioners surprised Margs Fitzwilliam with a card and token gift of appreciation for all her dedication and hard work as Interim Administrative Staff following the retirement of prior Administrative Staff member, Susan Foley. Ms. Fitzwilliam’s capable and reliable service was invaluable especially as the Commission made the official transition of its oversight and administration to the auspices of the Human Services Department that commenced last July for FY 2018-19.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 10, 2019, from 5 to 7 p.m.