



Minutes of the Regular Meeting- Commission for Women (CFW)

February 6, 2019 Monthly Meeting

I. Call to order

- A. **Roll Call:** Chair Everett called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. The meeting was held at the The City of Solvang, City Hall/Council Chambers, 1644 Oak St., Solvang, CA 93463 and was wheelchair accessible. Roll call followed, and it was determined that a quorum was present.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

First District (no vacancies)

Victoria Juarez
Judi Weisbart

Second District (no vacancies)

Suzanne Peck
Anna Everett (Chair)
Sigrid Wright

Third District (no vacancies)

Karen Steinwachs (Vice Chair)
Marianne Partridge

Fourth District (2 vacancies)

Tami Rabska

Fifth District (2 vacancies)

Ivette Peralta

PUBLIC COMMENT

None was made.

CHECK-INS

Commissioner Peck shared that Second District Commission representatives had a very positive first meeting with Supervisor Gregg Hart. The work plan was reviewed, and he was informed what the commission has done and what the current priorities are. He was very encouraging, positive and seems to be concerned about mutual issues. Second District Commissioners plan to meet with Supervisor Hart every other month to update him on commission issues.



Commissioner Steinwachs shared that the Women Winemakers Dinner will be held on Friday, March 8th from 5:30-9:30 p.m. in Solvang. More information can be found at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/women-winemakers-dinner-2019-tickets-55490912814>

REGULAR BUSINESS

MINUTES: The Minutes of January 10, 2019 were considered as follows:

ACTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Steinwachs and seconded by Commissioner Weisbart to approve the minutes of January 10, 2019. All approved. Motion passed.

COMMISSION FOR WOMEN TERM LIMITS

Chair Everett shared with the Commission that this agenda item developed over the course of the last couple of weeks. This discussion is being held to determine whether or not the Commission would like to change its term limits. A request to do so has been brought by Commissioner Tracy Beard who has served her two full terms and is currently no longer able to be appointed for an additional term in her current district. Commissioner Beard also is currently serving as the 2019 President of the Association of California Commissions for Women.

The Commission held a lengthy conversation regarding this matter. A few commissioners were in favor of changing the term limits due to some of the following factors:

- Many other County commissions do not have term limits
- Tracy Beard is one of the most reliable, dependable, and committed members on the commission
- Commissions lose their organizational memory when they impose term limits on members.

Some commissioners who were against changing the term limits highlighted the following:

- Not having term limits can lead to a stagnancy on the commission
- Term limits provide a mechanism that puts protections in place when the commission may or may not have an issue that needs to be addressed.
- This commission can instead create a term extension for special circumstances (i.e. Commissioner Beard's current situation of serving on both the County and State Commissions for Women).
- Term limits allow other individuals in the community an opportunity to serve.

The Commissioners were all in favor unanimously of extending an additional year for Commissioner Beard to continue serving for the 2019 calendar year pending approval by Supervisor Hartmann.

This item was again revisited when Supervisor Hartmann arrived to the meeting. The following was the final decision made by the Commission and Supervisor Hartmann: Supervisor Hartmann will discuss with Supervisor Lavagnino the appointment of Tracy Beard to the Commission for Women as a



5th District Representative. This would allow for Tracy Beard to continue serving on the commission in a regular term capacity while also allowing for Supervisor Hartmann to appoint someone new to represent her district.

****At this point Chair Everett decided to take items on the agenda out of order and moved to the Balanced Gender Representation on County Appointed Boards agenda item.***

BALANCED GENDER REPRESENTATION ON COUNTY APPOINTED BOARDS:

Supervisor Hartmann was present for this item as the Commission wanted to receive her input and guidance on the matter. Supervisor Hartmann shared that it was brought to her attention by Gina Fischer that the Commission was primarily interested in Special Districts which she thought was extraordinary. Supervisor Hartmann shared that there are over 53 Special Districts in Santa Barbara County and they range from Cemetery Districts to Water/Waste Water Districts. The Commission should look at dependent as well as independent Special Districts within the County and the composition of women on those boards, in which some have members who have been serving for decades. The Commission can also work with the Clerk of the Board to see what vacancies there are, and encourage women to apply and be appointed by the Board of Supervisors.

The commission shared with Supervisor Hartmann that they had made multiple requests in the past with the Clerk of the Board to create an easily accessible website page containing a master list of board/commission vacancies. The current way to view vacancies is tedious and requires individuals to look at each board/commission site separately to find if they are any vacancies. The commission also noticed that the website information for the boards/commissions has not been maintained properly and may not even reflect the correct information.

Additional recommendations by Supervisor Hartmann:

- Consult Series done by John Oliver on Special Districts on YouTube.
- Consult the CALAFCO website located at <https://calafco.org/resources/special-districts-and-lafoo/whats-so-special-about-special-districts> to view “What’s So Special About Special Districts?”

2018-19 COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS NOMINATIONS

Natasha Garduno updated the Commission on the following for the Community Service Awards at the March 19th Board of Supervisors meeting:

- The resolutions will be presented as the first departmental calendar item. It is recommended that commissioners ask those attending to arrive at 9 a.m. due to the fact that the administrative items could be moved through within the first 30-45 min of the meeting.
- The Chair of the Board of Supervisors did approve a short reception following the award presentations. Judi Weisbart will be coordinating the catering of the food.



Please email Resolution language by March 1, 2019.



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LEADING WITH LOVE CONFERENCE

Natasha Garduno reported that there were still empty seats for the CFW sponsored table for the Leading with Love conference. Commissioners Peralta, Wright, and Rabska said they would check in with a few women who may be interested in attending and would forward the contact information for the attendees.

TABLED AGENDA ITEMS

The following agenda items were tabled to the next meeting that will be held on March 6, 2019:

- California Legislative Women's Issues
- Lideres Campesinas Video
- Veterans Stand Down Documentary
- 2020 Countywide 100th Anniversary Women's Suffrage Update

OTHER ITEMS (QUESTIONS, COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS)

Additional agenda items requested for the March 6, 2019 meeting:

- Bylaws-Excused/Unexcused Meeting Absences
- Budget Projections

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, March 6, 2019, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the City of Solvang Council Chambers (1644 Oak St.)

*Chair Everett took agenda items out of order to enable Supervisor Hartmann to weigh in, and to provide feedback and guidance on the important matter of gender balance on county commissions and boards.