



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

April 3, 2019 Monthly Meeting

### I. Call to order

- A. Roll Call:** Chair Everett called the meeting to order at 5:05 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  
Charlotte Gullap-Moore

#### **Second District (no vacancies)**

Suzanne Peck  
Anna Everett (Chair)  
Sigrid Wright

#### **Third District (no vacancies)**

Karen Steinwachs (Vice Chair)  
Marianne Partridge  
Liliana Cardenas

#### **Fourth District (2 vacancies)**

Tami Rabska

#### **Fifth District (1 Vacancy)**

Ivette Peralta

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None was made.

### CHECK-INS

1. Commissioner Weisbart shared letters that she received from Alison Hardey and LifeChronicles & Kate Carter thanking the Commission for the service awards that they received.
2. Commissioner Peck shared that she received an email from Suzanne Grimmesey expressing her thanks for the service award and the recognition that was also given to the Community Wellness team.



3. Commissioner Rabska shared that she attended the Leading with Love conference in March along with Commissioner Beard and Commissioner Juarez. The conference was very well attended and was very empowering. Commissioner Rabska met and spoke with Sandy Blair, a veteran and founder of a non-profit organization Operation WEBS (Women Empowered Build Strong). The organization builds tiny forever homes for homeless veterans adjusting back into civilian life. Ms. Blair plans to attend a future commission meeting.
4. Commissioner Wright updated the full commission on a recent meeting with various Santa Barbara County Directors. The following are highlights and follow up items from the meeting:

Key Items

- Women & Homelessness (elderly women or those who are “a breathe away from homelessness”)
- Elder Abuse/Mother Abuse
- Shift in sexism in law enforcement and the courtroom
- Negative view/stigma of Child Services departments
- Need for diapers for children

Follow Up Items

- Invitation to Director Tanja Heitman to attend future CFW meeting
  - Build into the CFW work plan an annual meeting with Santa Barbara County Directors
  - Facilitating a panel with child services departments- 2019/20 work plan
5. Commissioner Everett brought attention to Commissioner Beard’s First Quarter Report. Commissioner Everett shared that she liked the idea of implementing written quarterly reports to the County Supervisors and full commission. The commission held a short conversation and proposed the following recommendation: Commission members of each respective district meet on a quarterly basis to prepare a memorandum for their County Supervisor, and the full Commission, detailing the work they have been doing as representatives of the commission.

**ACTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Partridge and seconded by Commissioner Weisbart to accept the recommendation for the implementation of written quarterly reports. Motion passed with 11 ayes 0 nays, and 1 abstention.**

**INTRODUCTION- LILIANA CARDENAS**

The Commission welcomed Liliana Cardenas to the Commission as its newest member representing the 3<sup>rd</sup> District. Ms. Cardenas shared that she was born and raised in Santa Maria and later moved to Guadalupe. She attended college at UCSB and returned to her hometown with the intention of serving her community. Ms. Cardenas is a program advisor for the Scholarship Foundation of Santa Barbara County and is also a City Council member for the City of Guadalupe.



## **REGULAR BUSINESS**

**MINUTES:** The Minutes of March 6, 2019 were considered as follows:

**ACTION:** A motion was made by Commissioner Rabska and seconded by Commissioner Peck to approve the minutes of March 6, 2019. All approved. Motion passed.

## **BUDGET PROJECTIONS (ALL)**

The Commission held a conversation in regards to how the remainder of the budget for FY 2018-19 (approximately \$7,251.58) should be allocated. The following areas were highlighted for recommended allocation of budget funds:

- Conferences: ACCW and NACW conferences
- League of Women Voters Centennial Event Sponsorship- Soft ask of \$1,000
- Pass the Mic- \$150 additional allocation

The Commission took the following action:

**ACTION:** A motion was made by Commissioner Partridge and seconded by Commissioner Peck to allocate \$3,000 of the remaining FY 2018/19 budget for public events for the 2020 Centennial. Motion passed with 11 ayes, 0 nays, and 1 abstention.

***\*At this point Chair Everett decided to take items on the agenda out of order and moved to the Presentation (Beth Pitton-August)- Just The Beginning: A Century of Women's Political Power agenda item.***

## **PRESENTATION (BETH PITTON-AUGUST) - JUST THE BEGINNING: A CENTURY OF WOMEN'S POLITICAL POWER**

The Commission received a presentation by Beth Pitton-August. Ms. Pitton-August is currently working on a feature length documentary that will explore the past, present, and future of women's political power through the lens of the 100-year history of the League of Women Voters (LWV) and allied groups. The goal of the film is to celebrate women's political power today and inspire everyone to use their power, get involved, and make a difference on issues that they care about. Ms. Pitton-August shared that she is seeking a sponsorship from the Commission for Women in the amount of \$1,000. The Commission all agreed to have this item brought back to the next meeting in May for discussion and a vote.

## **BYLAWS-EXCUSED/UNEXCUSED ABSENCES (ALL)**

The Commission reviewed samples of bylaws language as it pertains to meeting attendance and what constitutes excused/unexcused absences from other Santa Barbara County Commissions. Some commissioners expressed that attendance may have been an issue for some members due to the



rescheduling of some meetings throughout the year. It was suggested by Chair Everett that the Commission may want to include language in the bylaws to specifically address attendance for rescheduled meetings. It was also recommended that the bylaws should be updated to clearly define what an excused absence will be (i.e. illness, work, natural disasters, etc.) and to include the appropriate amount of time the Chair should be notified by a commissioner for an absence. Adding such language for meeting attendance would help with the determination of whether or not there is a quorum of members available for meetings. This will be brought back to a future meeting for further discussion.

**OTHER ITEMS (QUESTIONS, COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS)**

Commissioner Weisbart reported that she will not be attending the regular meeting in June.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, May 1, 2019, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the City of Solvang Council Chambers (1644 Oak St.)