

**Minutes of Regular Meeting
February 6, 2008**

I. Call to Order

A. Roll Call

Chair Brooks called the meeting to order at 5:10 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)

Sr. Alicia Martin

Third District: (One Vacancy)

Marell Brooks

Janine Blum (arrived late)

Fourth District: (No Vacancies)

Jennifer Dolan

Phil Moore

Fifth District: (One Vacancy)

Harriet Tower

Theresa Fritz Sleight

Staff:

Amber Lloyd, EEO Assistant

Guests:

Stacy Shepherd, Friends of the CFW President

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Brandy Armenta (excused)

Monique Limon (excused)

Dr. Jamie Rotnofsky (excused)

Magdalena Torres (excused)

Rose Gabaldon (excused)

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

No public comment.

II. Regular Business

A. Approve: January 2008 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Dolan made the motion to approve the minutes of the January meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Carty. Commissioners Martin and Moore abstained. Motion was carried.

B. Announcements:

1. Chair Brooks announced the Santa Maria Women's Network has nominated Commissioner Tower for the Woman of the Year Award.

2. Chair Brooks announced the Women's Literary Festival is this upcoming Saturday. The CFW is a sponsor and has donated 3 scholarships. For those on a fixed income, tickets are available half price by contacting Chair Brooks.

3. Commissioner Tower announced the AAUW will be presenting the Santa Maria Author's Forum on March 29, 2008 at the Radisson Hotel. Tickets are \$28 and the reservation deadline is March 19.

4. Commissioner Martin announced St. Vincent's fundraiser, Be Their Valentine. The event will raise money for Casa Alegra. Tickets are \$25 for the event being held this Friday, 5:30-7:30pm.

5. Commissioner Carty announced the Go Red for Women Fundraiser is coming up. The event is to raise awareness for heart disease and stroke prevention.

C. Special Guest: Stacy Shepherd, Friends of the CFW President

Ms. Shepherd introduced herself and the Friends of the CFW. Ms. Shepherd discussed the research she has conducted regarding veterans exiting the military. Women veterans have a higher percentage of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) than men and are typically under diagnosed. Women veterans are also 3-4 times more likely to be homeless than the average woman. Men are 2-3 times more likely to become homeless than the average man. Ms. Shepherd suggested if the CFW wanted to narrow the veteran legislation issue down, the CFW should focus on PTSD and education to prevent homelessness.

The event on April 26th will be held at and catered by the Santa Barbara Veteran's Building. Ms. Shepherd requested a committee be formed with Friends of the CFW and the CFW to help plan this event. Chair Brooks, Commissioners Dolan and Carty volunteered. The committee will meet on Monday at 1:00, location to be determined.

Ms. Shephard stated the event can be held from 11:30-2:30, not including set up or clean up times. Lunch can be served at noon and a silent auction will take place. Ms. Shephard

was able to get art work donated for the event. She will check if alcohol may be served and email EEO Staff Lloyd by tomorrow. Ms. Shepherd is trying to get underwriting for the event and does not want to charge more than \$25 a ticket. Commissioner Martin suggested having a company buy a table for the veterans. Ms. Shepherd stated it would be best to wait on deciding if all veterans should be guests of honor until she knows more about the underwriting. Collaborating and obtaining co-sponsors were other options presented. Ms. Shepherd has received offers for 20 donations from Cisco.

Ms. Shepherd stated she previously wanted to have Patrick, a local chef from Side Street Café, be silently auctioned off at the April 26th event. Ms. Shepherd stated she was trying to couple the auction with a wine maker, such as Rick Longoria. Ms. Shepherd decided it would be a better idea to hold a cocktail party at Susan Rose's house as the duo can possibly attract people willing to pay \$100-150 a ticket. The event can be held anytime after March.

D. Accept Oral Report: Chair – Brooks

Chair Brooks had nothing to report.

E. Review, Discuss & Act: Resource Guides-All

EEO Staff Lloyd stated the CFW needs to move forward with the resource guides in order for them to be ready for upcoming events.

Action Item: Commissioners will send EEO Staff Lloyd finalized corrections by tomorrow.

Commissioner Dolan moved to approve the resource guides with the submitted changes. Commissioner Tower seconded. The motion was carried.

F. Review, Discuss & Act: AAUW Presentation-All

Chair Brooks stated the AAUW Presentation will be one week from this Saturday on February 16. Commissioners Tower and Dolan and Chair Brooks will be there to present. If any other CFW member is able to attend, they will contact Chair Brooks.

G. Review, Discuss & Act: CFW Friends Fundraiser-All

Chair Brooks announced Ms. Shepherd has placed the deposit for the Veteran's Building. Friends of the CFW have about \$1000 from past events.

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

EEO Staff Lloyd stated the service award recipient letters were sent out to the organizations yesterday. EEO Staff Lloyd asked for a volunteer from each district to follow up with the organizations to confirm their presence at the event.

EEO Staff Lloyd discussed the Women's History Month Resolution presentation on March 4th. Commissioners Limon, Tower, Carty, and Chair Brooks will be there. Commissioner Dolan may possibly attend.

Action Item: Commissioners Carty, Martin, Blum, and Tower will follow up with their respective district's service award recipients to

ensure a representative(s) will be in attendance to receive the award. Commissioner Gabaldon will contact the YELL Conference Coordinator while Commissioner Dolan will arrange for conference attendees to be present.

I. Review, Discuss & Act: Cal Safe Letter-All

Commissioner Gabaldon was not present to discuss the matter.

Commissioner Dolan made a motion to continue the item to the March agenda. Commissioner Martin seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

J. Review, Discuss & Act: Legislation and Public Policy Updates

1. Violence against Women: Homeless Women in Santa Barbara-Martin, Rotnofsky

Commissioner Martin discussed the Board of Supervisor's meeting held the previous day. Funding for agencies serving the homeless were going to be cut. The funding is now secured. More women and children are becoming homeless. St. Vincent's had a wait list of 50 women and children while they only have vacancy for 2. Commissioner Martin suggested the CFW continue to inform the BOS regarding this matter.

2. Women Veterans- Armenta, Dolan, Limon, Torres

Commissioners had nothing to report.

3. Women in Prison/Girls in Juvenile Systems-Chair Brooks, Blum, Rotnofsky, Torres, Tower

Chair Brooks stated she spoke with Devorah Elizalde who works out of the Carpinteria Girls Inc. Ms. Elizalde conducts an after school program for girls that were in the juvenile system. Ms. Elizalde put Chair Brooks in touch with Serita Brown, Probation Officer. Ms. Brown has a 10-minute slide show she would like to present to the CFW.

Action Item: EEO Staff will add Ms. Brown to the March agenda as a guest speaker.

K. Review, Discuss & Act: Committee Updates-All

1. Public Relations-Chair Brooks, Armenta, Limon, Rotnofsky, Torres

Commissioner Tower volunteered to write a press release regarding the CFW Service Awards. She will send in the release to the EEO office for review and editing, if necessary. EEO Staff Lloyd will post the event on the CFW website.

2. Events-Blum, Martin, Rotnofsky, Torres, Tower

Commissioners had nothing further to report.

3. Nominations-Armenta, Torres

No commissioner was present to report.

L. Meeting with Supervisor-All

Commissioner Blum announced she spoke with Supervisor Firestone regarding activities related to veterans that the CFW is involved with. Supervisor Firestone is very pleased. Commissioner Tower reported Jack Boyson from Supervisor Centeno's office has recently resigned. She has been in contact with Gil Armijo.

M. Other Business- All

Chair Brooks announced the Women's Economic Justice Project will be held in Oxnard this year. Last year very few Santa Barbara women attended due to transportation. Chair Brooks stated she would like to assist the WEJP with this event. The event is on March 8th. Chair Brooks suggested that the CFW discuss some options to support this event next month.

L. Agenda Items-All

- i. Guest Speaker-Serita Brown, Probation Officer
- ii. Cal Safe Letter
- iii. Women's Economic Justice Project
- iv. CFW Service Awards

III. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Dolan. Seconded by Commissioner Martin. There was no discussion. Motion was carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:34 PM. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on March 5, 2008 at the Women's Club in Solvang.

Respectfully submitted,
Amber Lloyd