

**Minutes of Regular Meeting  
October 1, 2008**

**I. Call to Order**

**A. Roll Call**

Chair Brooks called the meeting to order at 5:05 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)**

Monique Limon  
Brandy Armenta  
Marybeth Carty

**Second District: (No Vacancy)**

Dr. Jamie Rotnofsky  
Carol Fujimura  
Magdalena Torres

**Third District: (One Vacancy)**

Marell Brooks

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT**

Janine Blum (unexcused)

**Fourth District: (No Vacancies)**

Jennifer Dolan  
Rose Gabaldon

Phil Moore (excused)

**Fifth District: (One Vacancy)**

Theresa Fritz Sleight

Harriet Tower (excused)

**Staff:**

Amber Lloyd, EEO Assistant

**Guest Speaker:**

Joyce Lippman, Executive Director of Area Agency on Aging

**Guest:**

Lisa Walters – potential 5<sup>th</sup> District Commissioner

**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: September 3, 2008 Meeting Minutes**

**Commissioner Dolan made the motion to approve the minutes of the September meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rotnofsky. Commissioners Armenta and Torres abstained. Motion to accept amended minutes was carried. Staff will add Commissioners Armenta and Limon's names to focus groups.**

B. **Announcements:**

1. Chair Brooks stated that October is Domestic Violence Month. Barbara Engle will be speaking at an event sponsored by Domestic Violence Solutions held at the Lompoc library.
2. Commissioner Rotnofsky stated that Suicide Prevention forums will be presented by guest speakers at Santa Barbara High School on Thursday, October 2, 2008 at 7:00 pm and Alan Hancock College on Tuesday, October 7, 2008 at 7:00 pm.
3. Commissioner Limon shared that New Beginnings Open House would take place on Thursday, October 2, 2008 between 4:00-7:00 pm.

C. **Special Guest: Joyce Lippman, Executive Director of Area Agency on Aging**

Ms. Lippman informed the commissioners that the number one unmet need for elder adults is that they want to remain in their own homes. Ms. Lippman stated that the Area Agency on Aging was motivated by the Older Americans Act of 1965 and the sole goal of the agency is to help people remain safe in their own homes. Ms. Lippman stated that society should now plan to live to reach 100 years of age.

Ms. Lippman stated that 94% of convalescent homes have at least one state or federal violation and that Medicare provided healthcare to 99.9% of older Americans.

Ms. Lippman stated that seniors have the highest rate of suicide with older white males being the dominant group.

Ms. Lippman asked the CFW to assist with forwarding a survey throughout the community. The survey is regarding LGBT elder adults and the agency has received a slow response. This population has never been surveyed or studied previous to this survey.

D. **Accept Oral Report: Chair Brooks**

Chair Brooks mentioned a request from Rosalinda Figueroa, last month's guest speaker, about having a letter of support from the CFW. Commissioner Fritz Sleight stated that she does not think that is appropriate or a women's issue.

Vice Chair Carty said that we could take the information to the Board of Supervisors for support. Chair Brooks stated she would write Ms. Figueroa a letter stating that the CFW will forward the information they receive, but will not be writing a letter as a Commission.

**E. Review, Discuss & Act: CFW Resource Guides –All**

Commissioner Carty informed the commission that she has reviewed the So. County resource guides and would like to add some additional organizations and their phone numbers.

Commissioner Gabaldon said she needs some more time to review the No. County resource guides.

**Action Item: Staff Lloyd will e-mail word format of resource guides to the CFW.**

**Action Item: Commissioner Gabaldon and Vice Chair Carty will e-mail updated resource guide information to staff by October 8<sup>th</sup>.**

**F. Review, Discuss & Act: CEDAW-All**

Chair Brooks wanted the CFW to be familiar with the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). Years ago, BOS went on record supporting CEDAW. CEDAW has been before Congress in the U.S. since 1979 but has not been accepted.

**G. Review, Discuss & Act: Executive Committee- All**

Chair Brooks stated that an Executive Committee usually consists of Chair, Vice Chair and two other members. In cases of an emergency the CFW can give permission to the Executive Committee to make decisions on their behalf. Commissioners Dolan and Limon volunteered to be on the committee. Meetings would be called only in case of emergencies.

**Motion was made by Commissioner Rotnofsky to accept the nominations to the Executive Committee. Vice Chair Carty seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.**

**H. Review, Discuss & Act: CFW Annual Report-All**

Chair Brooks and Vice Chair Carty will attend and present the report at the BOS meeting on Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. Commissioners Fritz Sleight, Armenta and Limon may be able to attend.

Commissioner Fritz Sleight mentioned that her understanding of economic justice and pay parity was more as an educational tool rather than rallying or pursuing legislation for pay parity. Commissioner Fritz Sleight stated that pay parity is a “buzz” word for equal pay legislation and she did not want BOS to misunderstand the slide.

Vice Chair Carty mentioned that justice falls under a big umbrella.

Commissioner Rotnofsky stated that the issue is that men make \$1.00 vs. women making .77 cents and educating people about that research is important.

Commissioner Fritz Sleight would like the presenters of the slide pertaining to that topic to explain that it is a general issue.

Commissioner Limon said that she does not want to change the name of the focus group because everything can be misinterpreted. Commissioner Fritz Sleight stated that the focus groups should determine what legislation is supported. She did not want the Board of Supervisors seeing “pay parity” as a specific/particular issue.

Commissioner Dolan mentioned violence against women and said that when legislation arises on CFW issues, it does not mean that the CFW has taken a stance regarding that particular legislation.

Commissioner Brooks said that education and empowering women will be explained as part of the pay parity slide.

Commissioners decided that three commissioners would present five slides each.

**I. Review, Discuss & Act: Women’s Literary Festival-All**

This literary festival will celebrate its fourth year and take place on March 28, 2009 in Santa Barbara at the Double Tree Inn. The cost to attend is \$50.00 for early registration. Last year the CFW purchased scholarships to the Festival.

**Commissioner Rotnofsky made a motion that the CFW support the Literary Festival by purchasing \$300 in scholarships. Vice Chair Carty seconded the motion. Discussion followed.**

Commissioner Limon stated that the scholarships would be disbursed on a first come, first served basis. If the commissioners know of women who would like to attend but can’t afford to attend, to e-mail Commissioner Torres with the person’s pertinent information.

Commissioner Fritz Sleight wanted to know how the Women’s Literary Festival supports women. Commissioner Limon said that it empowers women by giving them exposure and access to diverse literature and helps them participate in a community event celebrating social justice. Chair Brooks mentioned that it provides exposure to ideas including diversity and social justice. Commissioner Torres said that they have speakers, breakout sessions and discussions and that it has received positive feedback in the past. Commissioner Fritz Sleight said she was wondering if the CFW’S limited funds should go to an author’s forum or if the funds could be used elsewhere where it would be more beneficial.

**A vote was taken after this discussion. Ten commissioners supported the motion. Commissioner Fritz Sleight opposed the motion. There were no abstentions. Motion was passed.**

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

1. Violence against Women and Children: Armenta, Carty, Dolan, Fujimura, Rotnofsky

Commissioner Rotnofsky stated that there are 460,000 cases of child abuse reported in California. Three out of ten women and one out of ten for men have been sexually abused. She suggested that the CFW should support agencies that would be receiving budget cuts.

Commissioner Carty stated that she would contact CALM and invite a guest speaker for the December 2008 CFW meeting.

2. Economic Justice and Pay Parity: Brooks, Fritz Sleight, Gabaldon, Limon  
Vice Chair Carty suggested a speaker on the topic be invited to speak in January 2009. Chair Brooks would like to do a forum in February 2009 and suggested that we collaborate with AAUW.

Commissioners agreed that the CALM presenter should speak at the January 2009 CFW meeting and a speaker from Economic Justice will be invited to speak at the CFW December 2008 meeting. This would give the CFW more time to prepare a forum. Vice Chair Carty stated that she will contact Women's Economic Ventures.

**Action Item: Commissioner Carty will contact Women's Economic Ventures and arrange a guest speaker for the CFW December 2008 meeting.**

3. Women and Aging: Blum, Moore, Torres, Tower  
Commissioners had nothing to report.

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

1. Legislation- Armenta, Dolan, Fujimura, Gabaldon, Moore, Torres  
Commissioners had nothing to report.
2. Public Relations-Blum, Carty, Dolan, Limon, Moore, Rotnofsky  
Commissioner Rotnofsky mentioned that the Resource Guides and forum have already been discussed.
3. Events-Blum, Carty, Gabaldon, Torres, Rotnofsky  
Commissioner Carty mentioned that the CFW could discuss this further in December and get ideas with various speakers.
4. Nominations-Armenta, Brooks, Fritz Sleight, Tower  
CFW possibly may have a new 5<sup>th</sup> District Commissioner. She will be on the BOS agenda next week.
5. By-Laws-Brooks, Fritz Sleight, Fujimura, Limon, Tower  
Commissioner Limon has forwarded her comments and edits to Commissioner Tower.

**L. Meeting with Supervisor-All**

Commissioner Dolan met with Supervisor Gray. Commissioner Gray mentioned some points of concern regarding how the CFW helps taxpayers of the County. Commissioner Dolan informed Supervisor Gray of the CFW plans for the future regarding producing literature and educating the women of the county. Supervisor Gray suggested that the

CFW should plan on using county resources efficiently. Commissioner Armenta said that some of the supervisors have sent this message in the past. Chair Brooks stated that the taxpayers have received resource guides, scholarships, forums have been televised, and CFW money has been spent efficiently. Supervisor Gray also said she was concerned with the economic health of the women in the county.

**M. Other Business- All**

Chair Brooks stated that the First Ladies Conference is approaching. EEO Staff Lloyd stated that she will contact Commissioner Blum to confirm she is able to attend the conference. If she is unable to contact Commissioner Blum she will contact Commissioner Fujimura, the prearranged alternate.

Chair Brooks mentioned that she would like to change the time for the next CFW meeting on November 5<sup>th</sup> to 4.30 – 6.00 pm for this one time only. Commissioners that are unable to attend the meeting at this time will arrive when they can.

**Commissioner Rotnofsky made the motion to change the November 5, 2008 CFW meeting to 4:30-6:00. Commissioner Fritz Sleight seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.**

**N. Agenda Items-All**

- i. Prepare for Forum
- ii. Resource Guides Updates
- iii. Guest Speaker

**III. Adjourn**

**Commissioner Armenta made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Fritz Sleight seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:08 PM.** The next scheduled meeting will be held on November 5, 2008 at the Women's Club of Solvang.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amber Lloyd