

Oakland County Board of Commissioners
Women's Advisory Commission Meeting
1200 N. Telegraph Road, Aaron Pernick Room, Pontiac MI

August 18, 2011 Minutes (draft)

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Dr. Doris Taylor at 5:25 p.m.

Women's Advisory Commission members in attendance were:

| | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Wanda Lohmeier | Sue Thomasson |
| Hirsch Srivastava | JoAnn McShane |
| Dr. Doris Taylor | Dr. Salma Ajo |
| Lee Blizman | Jeanne Towar |
| Kimberly Ann Beebe | Sandy Burgess |
| Beth Matter | Amanda Klein |

Women's Advisory Commission members absent were:

| | |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Dr. Carnigee Ala-Benee' Truesdale (excused) | |
| Rebecca Clark (excused) | Sunsaria L. Baldwin (excused) |
| Cheryl Verbeke | Janice Daniels |
| Kristine Zrinyi | Patricia Thomas |
| Michelle Styczynski | Dr. Jonice Crawford Butler (excused) |
| Mishelle Kennedy (excused) | Hon. Christine Long, Ex-Officio |
| | Hon. Marcia Gershension, Ex-Officio |

Public in attendance:

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| Hon. Shelley Taub | Stephanie Wilkins |
| Sheryl Mitchell | Deborah Macon, parliamentarian |

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Mr. Srivastava, supported by Ms. Beebe, to approve the agenda. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Approval of Minutes from July 14, 2011 meeting: Motion by Ms. McShane, supported by Mr. Srivastava, to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2011 meeting. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Public Comment: Ms. Mitchell reported that the Women Officials Network has a part-time administrator position available.

Executive Committee Report: Dr. Taylor reported that Bylaw changes were discussed. Changes have been made and the amended Bylaws emailed to every board member.

Sub-topic Study Group Reports:

Lack of education and training; Inadequate career choices & pay inequity: K-12 schools, universities, employment agencies, business organizations and owners, mentoring, pay disparities and, family court are some of the areas Ms. Beebe and Ms. Burgess are investigating. Ms. Lohmeier reported that her committee would meet immediately after this meeting.

Domestic Violence: Ms. Lohmeier reported that the committee is collecting information first from Oakland County, then HAVEN.

Break: 5:50 p.m. Reconvene 6 p.m.

Lack of Access to Health Care: Mr. Srivastava is looking into the effects of the PPAC Act on Medicaid.

Teen Risk Behaviors: No report as no group members were present.

Poverty and Homelessness: Dr. Taylor stated that 50% of homelessness in women is the result of domestic violence,

Unemployment and Limited Employability: No report.

Chair Dr. Taylor thanked each group that presented to today's meeting. She noted that the final report to the County Board of Commissioners is not due until December 2012, but we will give them an interim report December 2011.

Staff will email WAC minutes to all members of the County Board of Commissioners.

Ms. Lohmeier said that source footnotes should be included in the report to the Commissioners.

Ms. Beebe noted that "violence against women" is the terminology now being used by HAVEN.

Motion by Mr. Srivastava, supported by Ms. Lohmeier, to move on to Unfinished Business. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Unfinished Business: Ms. Lohmeier inquired about the social. After discussion, Ms. Lohmeier moved that WAC not have a social now and that one be planned for a future date. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Discussion of moving meeting start times, but no action was taken.

New Business: Discussion of whether we should consider benchmarking? Guidelines?

Ms. Beebe reported that last month's guest, Alexa Van Vliet, a student at Oakland University, was trying to get OU to authorize a full-time position for the Gay-Straight Alliance/Women's Equality and wants an endorsement from WAC. It was recommended that she go to the County Board of Commissioners, since this body is not political.

Ms. Beebe is receiving the Feminist of the Year award from Wayne County NOW at an August 22 event.

Good and Welfare:

Ms. Burgess announced Troy Chamber of Commerce' Restaurant Week. The Community Coalition for Drug and Alcohol Abuse is looking for sponsors for their October 27 dinner event.

Dr. Taylor requested that, if a WAC member cannot be present, they advise the chair of their absence.

Sheryl Mitchell noted that the County Commission recognized Women's Equality Day and that there will be a luncheon.

The next meeting of the Woman's Advisory Commission is Thursday, September 15 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in Committee Room A. The Executive Committee of the WAC will meet immediately following that meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Towar
Recording Secretary