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**SANTA MONICA COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN**  
**Regular MEETING**

**Approved MINUTES**

**November 10, 2004 – 7:00 pm**

Ken Edwards Center, 1527 Fourth Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401

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**Mission Statement**

The purpose of the Santa Monica Commission on the Status of Women is to enhance the status of women in our community. The Commission will promote these goals through investigation, advocacy, and policy development on issues relevant to women and girls, and by creating leadership and career advancement opportunities for women and girls in our community.

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A regular meeting of the Santa Monica Commission On the Status of Women was held on Wednesday, November 10, 2004, to discuss the following business:

**1. Call to Order** - Chair Skulski called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm.

**2. Inspiration – Women’s History**

Chair Skulski distributed articles of interest to COSW and reviewed mail.

**3. Roll Call**

**Commissioners Present:**

Chair Skulski  
Vice Chair Hayes-Raitt (arrived at 8 pm)  
Commissioner Cook  
Commissioner Lipton  
Commissioner Riel  
Commissioner Starr  
Commissioner Stegemoeller

**Commissioners Absent:**

Commissioner Evans

**Also Present:**

Michael Feinstein, City Councilmember  
Julia Simon, Young Leader  
Janet Hand, Human Services Division  
Libby Carlson, Community & Cultural Services Administration Division

Janet Hand administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Commissioner Sher.

**4. Approval of Minutes from October 13, 2004**

Commissioner Starr moved to approve the minutes of October 13, 2004, as written. Commissioner Stegemoeller seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote in the absence of Vice Chair Hayes-Raitt and Commissioner Evans. Abstain: Commissioner Sher.

## 5. Public Input

Rosemary Regello, a member of the public, introduced herself to the Commission.

Chair Skulski moved to address item 9C before item 6. Commissioner Sher seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote in the absence of Vice Chair Hayes-Raitt and Commissioner Evans.

## 9. C. Discussion and Possible Action On the City's Response to Complaints of Discrimination at SAMOSHEL

Janet Hand gave an update on recent developments made toward resolution of complaints brought against the Salvation Army and SAMOSHEL by residents of the facility, including the new appointment of Major Calvin Prouty as supervisor. Discussion followed. Chair Skulski asked staff to report back to the Commission on the outcome.

Rosemary Regello reported on the situation and expressed her concerns regarding the discrimination portion of the complaint.

Commissioner Riel volunteered to act as liaison on this issue. Commissioner Cook suggested starting by getting information from Ms. Regello. Commissioner Stegemoeller asked staff to look into the City Attorney's timeline for their investigation.

## 6. Announcements and Correspondence

Councilmember Feinstein said goodbye to the Commission, thanking them for their hard work and support.

Janet Hand stated that Anna Baum, a member of the public, is working to establish a women's center/community meeting place in Los Angeles and has invited the Commission to attend a planning meeting on November 20. Chair Skulski expressed interest and requested more information.

Chair Skulski reported that the Women's Advisory Board of West Hollywood is interested in partnering on a V-Day Event for February 14, 2005. Discussion on this issue moved to item 8.D.

## 7. Committee/Liaison Reports

**A. Child Care and Early Education Task Force** - No report

**B. Association of California Commissions for Women** - Chair Skulski reported on the recent ACCW meeting, including membership outreach efforts and upcoming projects.

Based on discussion held at the ACCW meeting, Chair Skulski proposed establishing a recruiting network among the City's boards and commissions,

including the possibility of holding a recruiting event. Discussion followed.

Chair Skulski motioned to form an ad-hoc Commission Recruiting Network and Event Committee. Commissioner Riel seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote in the absence of Commissioner Evans.

Chair Skulski, Vice Chair Hayes-Raitt and Commissioner Lipton volunteered for the committee.

**C. Westside Domestic Violence Network** – No report.

**D. Vacancy Nominating Committee** - Chair Skulski requested that staff put together an orientation packet for new commissioners.

**8. Old Business - Continued Discussion & Possible (Further) Action On:**

**A. The Report On the Status of Women and Girls In Santa Monica, including the Presentation of the Report to the City Council** - Janet Hand stated that the staff report to Council for their December 14 meeting has been completed and the Commissioners will receive a copy when the City Council agenda has been posted, approximately one week before the meeting date. Chair Skulski distributed copies of the recommendations stemming from the report. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Stegemoeller presented an article regarding the City's new homeless tracking system, and asked staff to look into the availability of the data for Report purposes.

**B. Work/Life Survey** - Commissioners reported on their survey promotion efforts and reviewed responses received to-date. Commissioner Cook suggested the survey deadline be extended to November 30.

**C. Young Leadership Project** - Julia Simon reported on buddy pairings/meetings that have been established thus far. Ms. Simon also asked for more contact names and information, and gave an update on current ideas for final presentations in March.

**D. Public Information Materials, Including the Domestic Violence and COSW Brochures, and COSW web page** - Commissioner Lipton distributed a proposed update to the COSW webpage. Discussion regarding potential changes followed, including the development of a disclaimer for non-City web links. Commissioner Hayes-Raitt suggested adding links to a page for the history of COSW and current publications to the site.

Chair Skulski stated that the West Hollywood Women's Advisory Board is interested in partnering on a V-Day event. After discussion, Vice Chair Hayes-Raitt suggested the group present an idea to the Commission at its December

meeting.

**E. Commission's recommendations to the City Council on the FY 05-06 City budget** - Commissioner Stegemoeller reported that the committee is working to meet with staff to discuss this project. Discussion followed.

**F. Young Leader's Oral History Project** - Discussed under item 8.C.

**9. New Business:**

**B. Discussion of & Possible Action on Use of Activity Planning Template for Projects** – This item was continued to the next meeting.

**10. Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm.