



SANTA MONICA COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Regular Meeting
APPROVED MINUTES

July 12, 2006 – 7:00 pm

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

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.

A regular meeting of the Santa Monica Commission on the Status of Women was held on Wednesday, July 12, 2006, to discuss the following business:

1. **Call to Order** - Chair Skulski called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

2. Roll Call

Present:

Chair Skulski
Vice Chair Lipton
Commissioner Jara
Commissioner Rowan
Commissioner Starr

Absent:

Commissioner Stegemoeller
Commissioner Cook
Commissioner Riel
Commissioner Heller

Also Present:

Danielle Noble, Human Services Division
Jessie Gonzalez, Human Services Division

3. Approval of Minutes from June 14, 2006 Meeting

Commissioner Jara moved to accept the minutes from June 14, 2006 as written. Commissioner Starr seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote in the absence of Commissioner Stegemoeller, Commissioner Cook, Commissioner Riel and Commissioner Heller. Abstain: Vice Chair Lipton.

4. **Public Input:** None

5. Announcements and Correspondence

a) **Candidate Workshop, July 17** - Seats are open on City Council, Rent Control Board, Board of Education and The College Board of Trustees. The filing period is 7/11/06-8/11/06.

b) ACCW Planning Retreat, August 4-5 –

Vice Chair Lipton moved to approve attendance at the ACCW Planning Retreat in Palm Springs, including two nights lodging and associated travel and meals costs. Commissioner Jara seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote in the absence of Commissioner Stegemoeller, Commissioner Cook, Commissioner Riel and Commissioner Heller.

c) Miscellaneous Announcements and Correspondence –

- 1) Chair Skulski announced Santa Monica Evaluation of Homeless Services meeting to be held July 24 and 26.
- 2) Commissioner Jara announced Building Culture of Peace in honor of Eddie Lopez, Saturday, July 29 from 11:00-3:00 including a tree planting ceremony.
- 3) Commissioner Jara announced St. Anne's church will conduct prayer vigils every other Thursday starting July 20 at Virginia Ave. Park.

6. Committee / Liaison Reports

- a) **Child Care and Early Education Task Force** –No report.
- b) **Association of California Commissions for Women (ACCW)** – No report.
- c) **Westside Domestic Violence Network** – No report.
- d) **Public Relations Liaisons** – No report.

7. New Business:

a) Election of Officers:

Chair

Commissioner Jara nominated Vice Chair Lipton as Chair. Commissioner Rowan seconded the nomination.

Vice Chair Lipton was elected as Chair for FY 06-07 by a ballot vote.

Vice Chair

Vice Chair Lipton nominated Commissioner Rowan as Vice Chair. Commissioner Jara seconded the nomination.

Commissioner Rowan was elected as Vice Chair for FY 06-07 by a ballot vote.

The newly-elected chair, Commissioner Lipton, asked the previous year's chair, Commissioner Skulski, to continue to chair the meeting.

- b) **Tobacco Policy** – Miwa Kozuki of Healthier Solutions made a brief presentation to the Commission regarding Santa Monica's outdoor tobacco policy in light of a item

on the July 25 City Council agenda regarding expanding Santa Monica's outdoor tobacco policy to provide the public greater protection from secondhand smoke.

Commissioner Skulski moved that the COSW draft and send a letter to City Council in support of expanding Santa Monica's current outdoor tobacco policy to further protect women and children from the risks of secondhand smoke. The motion carried by voice vote in the absence of Commissioner Stegemoeller, Commissioner Cook, Commissioner Riel and Commissioner Heller.

Esther Schiller and Marlene Gomez of Smoke free Air for Everyone /S.A.F.E. made a brief presentation to the Commission regarding drifting tobacco smoke in multi-unit housing. S.A.F.E. asked the commission to write a letter to City Council asking them to examine the issue of drifting tobacco smoke in multi-unit housing and if possible, recommend elements of the proposed ordinance for their consideration.

Vice Chair Lipton moved to add the discussion of and possible action on the issue of drifting tobacco in multi-unit housing to the list of potential topics for the COSW's annual retreat. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jara. The motion carried by voice vote in the absence of Commissioner Stegemoeller, Commissioner Cook, Commissioner Riel and Commissioner Heller.

- c) **Commissioner Vacancy** – As of July 1, the COSW has one vacancy. Commissioner Alesia Cook has completed her term and indicated that she will not serve another. Chair Skulski, Commissioner Rowan, Commissioner Jara and Commissioner Starr will serve on the ad-hoc vacancy committee. The ad-hoc vacancy committee will make a recommendation regarding filling the current vacancy at the COSW's August retreat.

8. Old Business

- a) **FY 06-07 Retreat Agenda** – City staff passed out a form that will be used to gather data to prepare for the retreat and plan the retreat agenda. The form should be completed and returned by August 1.
- b) **Emeritus Vacancy.** – Chair Skulski reported that Darlene Evans has been appointed as the COSW Commissioner Emeritus.
- c) **Governor's Conference for Women and Families** – Chair Skulski reported that a table for 12 has been purchased for the Governor's conference.
- d) **FY 05-06 COSW Budget Update** – City staff distributed the final accounting of the COSW's 2005-2006 expenditures. Postage charges which were mistakenly charged to the COSW have been reversed. The Governor's and First Ladies Conference originally charged to FY05-06 has been reclassified and moved to FY06-07 because the event will take place in FY06-07.
- e) **F. National Association of Commissions for Women's *Global Women Leaders Forum*, Des Moines, IA, September 12-15**

Commissioner Jara moved to table discussion of the National Association of Commissions for Women's *Global Women Leaders Forum*. Vice Chair Lipton seconded the motion. The

motion carried by voice vote in the absence of Commissioner Stegemoeller, Commissioner Cook, Commissioner Riel and Commissioner Heller.

- f) **SJR. No. 20 Women’s Equality Day** – Commission members reviewed and discussed the article titled “We’ve Come A Long Way Baby, or have we?” written by Commissioner Heller in support of Women’s Equality Day, August 26.

Commissioner Starr moved to change the tag line “We’ve come a long way baby”, The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jara and carried by voice vote in the absence of Commissioner Stegemoeller, Commissioner Cook, Commissioner Riel and Commissioner Heller.

Chair Skulski moved to forward the article to Commissioner Riel for editing and subsequent submission to local media outlets. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jara. The motion carried by voice vote in the absence of Commissioner Stegemoeller, Commissioner Cook, Commissioner Riel and Commissioner Heller.

- d) **Clean Money Campaigning for the City** – Chair Skulski reported that the City Council has not taken action yet on a “Clean Money Initiative”. Action will be taken upon receipt of reports and feasibility studies. The item may be on the November ballot.
- e) **Pico Neighborhood Initiative** – Commissioner Jara reported that there will be a meeting on Monday, July 24 at Virginia Avenue Park to address the issues surrounding the violence in the Pico Neighborhood.

Public Comment:

Irma Carranza from the Pico Neighborhood Association (PNA) expressed urgency in creating a COSW liaison to the PNA.

Ana G. Jara asked that the issue of the escalating violence in the Pico neighborhood be placed on the COSW’s retreat agenda.

- f) **Hosting an upcoming Association of California Commissions on Women (ACCW) convention.** - No report
- g) **“Safe At Home” Legislation** - No report
- h) **Affordable Housing Issues for Women** – No report
- i) **Young Leaders’ Projects** –No report
- j) **Analysis of Gender Data from City and Grantees**–No report
- k) **Salary Analysis project** – No report

9. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

