



City & County of San Francisco
Commission on the Status of Women

25 Van Ness, Room 130, San Francisco, CA 94102

(415) 252-2570 FAX (415) 252-2575

Sonia Melara, Executive Director

MINUTES
May 28, 1998

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 4:39 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

President Ito
Vice President Chang
Commissioner Delgado
Commissioner Marks
Commissioner Saunders
Commissioner Treskunoff

STAFF PRESENT

Sonia Melara
Rosario Navarrette
Melyssa Jo Kelly
Leatrice Miyashiro

EXCUSED

Commissioner Phelps

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

m/s/c (Marks/Chang) to adopt the agenda with changes to move presentation from Jennifer Hudson of the Housing Authority to follow the adoption of the minutes. Also to move Old Business action items to follow this presentation.

m/s/c (Delgado/Marks) to adopt the minutes of April 23, 1998 as written.

4. *Special Presentation by Jennifer Hudson on Domestic Violence at the Housing Authority*

Ms. Hudson made a presentation regarding her work on Domestic Violence cases at the San Francisco Housing Authority. In her job, she tries to link women with outside services in San Francisco. Unfortunately she is the only one doing this work at the San Francisco Housing Authority. She is in the process of meeting with key services in the community to develop additional resources.

Sonia Melara suggested she contact Melyssa Jo Kelly of COSW staff as a resource.

President Ito thanked Jennifer Hudson for attending and making the presentation.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

Discussion of and possible action re: a position on decriminalizing prostitution.

Commissioner Chang moved to support decriminalization of sex workers and recommend that the authorities with jurisdiction in this matter investigate its applicability to San Francisco.

Rachel West of the U.S. Prostitutes Collective, Steven York of Civil Rights League and Daisy Anarchy of the Exotic Dancer's Alliance and COYOTE spoke on behalf of decriminalization and thanked the Commission for its support.

Sara Miller and Laura DesertRain also spoke in support of decriminalization and problems of prostitution.

Motion (Chang/Marks) move to support the decriminalization of sex workers and recommend that the authorities with jurisdiction in this matter investigate its applicability to San Francisco.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: Ayes: Treskunoff Bailey, Chang, Delgado, Ito, Marks.

NOTE: Commissioner Saunders arrives at 5:08 P.M.

Adult Sexual Assault Task Force Work Plan

Sonia Melara introduced this item by explaining that the work plans outline the directions for the task forces. The idea is to work toward an end product.

Rosario Navarrette gave an overview of the Adult Sexual Assault Task Force. She explained the goals for the Task Force for the next fiscal year and the work plan. For the following year, the Task Force will formally establish the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART). San Francisco's model includes a community advocacy component which makes San Francisco unique in its approach. Additionally, the mission statement, protocols and strategic plan will be completed by the year 2,000. Implementation of the SART model will have been successfully operating.

Vice President Chang stated that Rosario Navarrette has been working with this task force for three years and commended her for bringing together many divergent organizations.

Ms. Navarrette commented that the Commissions support is really appreciated. Sonia Melara noted that while the staff will continue to take a lead, members of the task force would like a commissioner to attend their meetings to represent the commission whenever possible.

President Ito thanked Ms. Navarrette for her leadership.

m/s/c (Chang/Delgado) to adopt the Adult Sexual Assault Task Force Work Plan.

Task Force on the Sexual Assault of Girls and Young Women Work Plan

Rosario Navarrette reported that this task force has been developing its membership of young women and girls. The task force was able to procure \$3,000 from the Mayor's Office of Children, Youth and Families through a collaboration with the YWCA. The young women have suggested a variety of incentives to recruit and retain young women on the task force. The group has completed their own recruitment flyers and also want to hold focus groups. The work plan calls for members to prepare a report on the issue of sexual assault and present the report to the Commission for approval by April 1999. Thereafter it will be presented to the Board of Supervisors with recommendations on services to girls and young women. By the year 2,000, the implementation phase will follow and the task force will decide where they want to be.

NOTE: Vice President Chang leaves at 5:25 P.M.

m/s/c (Delgado/Marks) to accept the Task Force on Sexual Assault of Girls and Young Women Work Plan.

6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Ito reported that the Women's Summit has formed a group to put together a report. They have already picked a date for next year's Summit – April 15, 1999. Vice President Chang suggested that the Commission send a letter to the Mayor asking him to let the Commission plan the Summit next year and suggest to him how valuable the Commission's input could be. The Commission should be the lead agency for the conference.

President Ito participated in the Alumnae Resources Luncheon which traditionally honored women over 70.

The Pacific and Asian Women Bay Area Coalition (PAWBAC) held their awards event where Vice President Chang was honored. President Ito thanked Sonia Melara and Ann Lehman for attending.

7. STAFF REPORT

Sonia reported highlights of her staff report.

The Mayor's office has proposed the following: \$250,000 for additional program funding, \$100,000 for the implementation of CEDAW and \$85,000 for the program

needs assessment. This is the proposed budget that needs to be approved by the Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Barbara Kaufman was extremely helpful in the budget process.

The State Task Force on Commissions will be holding a meeting on the upcoming Saturday at the Cathedral Hill Hotel to discuss the August Convention.

On May 1st, Ms. Melara participated in a discussion with Leadership California, NWPC, CEWAER and the State Commission regarding the development of a collaborative to insure women's appointments in the next administration and across the state. We're going to be presenting the "How To Get That Appointment" workshop at a later date this year and will be able to include additional information to this effort.

NOTE: Commissioner Delgado leaves at 5:43 P.M.

NOTE: Commissioner Treskunoff Bailey and Saunders leaves at 5:45 P.M.

8. REPORTS

Young Women's Conference Update

Rosario Navarrette reported on the Young Women's Conference. Over 250 young women attended with 50 adults. It was very much the young women's conference. The Commission helped with the registration and found them a location to hold the conference. The young women are already planning next year's conference.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:46 P.M.