



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 August 27, 1998

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 4:38 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

President Ito
Vice President Chang
Commissioner Delgado
Commissioner Phelps
Commissioner Saunders
Commissioner Treskunoff Bailey

STAFF PRESENT

Sonia Melara
Melyssa Jo Kelly
Rosario Navarrette
Leatrice Miyashiro

EXCUSED

Commissioner Marks

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

m/s/c (Treskunoff Bailey/Chang) to adopt the agenda.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

m/s/c (Treskunoff Bailey/Delgado) to adopt the minutes of July 23, 1998 with the following changes: In President's Report, add that the CEDAW task force was chaired by Vice President Chang and staffed by Ann Lehman. In Staff Report, change last sentence to read President Ito thanked Sonia Melara for working on the successful results of the budget. On Page 3, the third from the bottom paragraph, should read as follows: President Ito stated that the Commission needed more information from organizations which were recommended for less funding than requested. She recommended postponing voting to the following month's special meeting. This would give the agencies time to let the Commission know what they are going to do with the allocated funding.

m/s/c (Delgado/Phelps) to adopt the minutes of August 6, 1998.

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Ito thanked everyone as this meeting would be her last official COSW commission meeting. Juanita Miles, the new commissioner will come on board at the next Commission meeting. Ms. Ito stated that working as a Commissioner marked the first time she had worked in city government and it was a good learning experience for a

resident of San Francisco which helped her in her personal business life as well. She wished Commissioner Treskunoff Bailey, who is resigning, the best.

Commissioner Sharron Treskunoff Bailey thanked the Commission for teaching her some things and letting her voice her own opinions. She will be working for HUD (Housing and Urban Development) in a fellowship in the regional office of Policy and Management.

5. STAFF REPORT

Sonia Melara stated that although it is hard to see people leaving, she is glad that these women are moving on to bigger and better things particularly in areas where women are needed.

Ms. Melara introduced staff that were present to Juanita Miles, the new commissioner.

California Commissions for Women Convention: Ms. Melara stated that the convention was a great success with congratulatory messages pouring in to the office. The Association of California Commissions for Women was born and Ms. Melara was elected President.

Violence Against Women Strategic Plan Implementation: The implementation plan, requested at an earlier meeting, was distributed to the commissioners. They were requested to read it. If they had any questions to call Melyssa Jo Kelly.

Gender Parity Report: The semi-final report of the Gender Parity Report was also distributed. Ms. Melara requested commissioners to review it and report any changes by September 1, 1998 to Renee Williams.

Commission's Retreat Date: Commissioners were asked to select another retreat date since the Mayor's Great Sweep is scheduled on November 7, 1998. October 24, 1998 was selected. Location to be announced.

General Comments: Vice President Chang commended staff and Sonia Melara for holding the California Commissions for Women Convention. She stated that the convention idea started about a year ago in a hotel where some COSW's expressed their discontentment with the National COSW organization. Sonia Melara took the lead in getting everyone together and hosting this convention. The women now have a model to follow and were given a spark of hope for strengthening their organizations.

President Ito also thanked Sonia Melara and staff for their work on the convention.

Juanita Miles stated that she found the convention to be very comfortable for her and thanked Sharron Treskunoff Bailey for her help in getting her acquainted with the Commission. She is looking forward to working with everyone.

Sharron Treskunoff Bailey asked Sonia Melara to thank Melyssa Jo Kelly for creating a resolution for Lulann McGriff who died at the start of the convention.

Rebecca Rolfe from SFWAR (San Francisco Women Against Rape) attended the meeting and reported that SFWAR will be holding it's 25th Anniversary Celebration and proceeded to announce they will be presenting COSW with the Partnership Award. Ms. Rolfe invited everyone to attend to receive the award. On behalf of SFWAR, Ms. Rolfe thanked the commission.

President Ito stated that Rebecca Rolfe has worked hard with COSW's staff to make changes in the areas of sexual assault.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers

President Ito stated that every year in August, the Commission holds an election for president and vice president. Nominations for president opened.

Commissioner Phelps nominated Vice President Chang for president. Commissioner Delgado seconded. Vice President Chang accepted the nomination. Being that there were no other nominations, Commission Chang was elected by acclamation.

Commission Treskunoff Bailey nominated Commissioner Saunders for Vice President. Commissioner Phelps nominated Commissioner Delgado for Vice President. President Elect Chang seconded both.

Speeches were requested from both candidates. Commissioner Saunders stated that she would like to focus on African American women and AIDS as a health issue. Commissioner Delgado stated that her focus was on economic development and welfare to work to address the needs of women in poverty.

Commissioner Treskunoff Bailey recommended that a co-vice chair position be established in order to accommodate both nominations. Commissioner Phelps seconded.

Ms. Melara advised the Commission that this was not allowed by the by-laws. Therefore a change has to be made.

Discussion was held and it was decided to make the position a First Vice President and Second Vice President with both on the same level. Commissioner Delgado was named Vice President. It was decided to add the action item to change the by-laws. At that time, Commissioner Saunders will be added to the other Vice President slot. Commissioner Delgado will be First Vice President and Commissioner Saunders will be Second Vice President.

President Elect Chang took over proceedings of the meeting.

Awards of Certificate of Achievement were given to President Ito and Commissioner Treskunoff Bailey.

Approval of ordinance amending Article 1, Section 16.6-2.1 of the San Francisco Administrative Code, which lists the organization that the COSW is authorized to join, but adding to that list the National Coalition Against Sexual Assault, The California Coalition Against Sexual Assault, The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, California Alliance Against Domestic Violence and the Association of California Commission for Women.

m/s/c (Treskunoff Bailey/Phelps) to approve the above changes to the ordinance.

7. OLD BUSINESS

None.

8. REPORTS

Adult Sexual Assault Task Force

No report.

Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination of Women (CEDAW)

President Elect Chang reported that there was an article about CEDAW in the September issue of MS. magazine. The CEDAW Task Force has met twice and identified the four departments that will be reviewed for gender analysis. The four departments recommended (but not finalized) include the City Attorney's office, Human Services, Juvenile Probation and Public Works. They are working on the RFQ for the consultant position for CEDAW.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Ito stated that Riva Enteen of the National Lawyers Guild who had organized a protest at the Mayor's Summit and the Mayor's budget wanted to be added to the agenda for next month.

Commissioner Treskunoff Bailey stated that the budget that Riva Enteen was talking about were issues that she supports and commissioners need to review them very carefully because they affect women and children.

President Elect Chang added that the commission meeting time needs to be revisited at the next meeting.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 P.M. in memory of Lulann McGriff, civil rights activist.