

**Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 25, 2007, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
State Capitol Building, Room 104**

The Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women met in Room 104 of the State Capitol on January 25, 2007. Chair Jennifer Paustenbaugh called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Bob Darcy, Marilyn Ehlers, Vicki French, Catherine Haynes, Lyn Hester, Kathryn Jones, Denise Kinzie, Lou Kohlman, Debbe Leftwich, Joyce Martin, Pat Martin, Bernice Mitchell, Chris Morriss, Jilda Motley, Anita Norman, Jennifer Paustenbaugh, Patricia Presley, Claudean Reynolds, Marlene Smith, Ginny Wilson

Commissioners Excused: Betty Boyd, Sally Frasier, Rebecca Kennedy, Lou Kerr, Margaret Swimmer, Rowena Ogden, Valerie Thompson, Christie Woodson

Commissioners Absent: Janelle Walker

Advisory Council Members Present: Rita Aragon, Gloria Birdine, Fern Bowling, Marilyn Capps, Glenda Carlile, Deena Fisher, Kathy Huston, Donna Lawrence, Greta Shepherd Stewart, Leslie Thomas, Jean Warner, Latasha Wilson (Staff)

Visitors Present: Sarah Harrod, Rachel Mayberry, Liliana Rogers, Anna Sigurdottir, Adeline Yerkes

Women's History Moment: Glenda Carlile discussed Oklahoma women in "Athletes, Astronauts and Ambassadors", the third book in her trilogy of histories of Oklahoma women, endorsed by the Oklahoma Centennial Commission.

Roll Call: Secretary Kohlman called the roll and noted that twenty (20) Commissioners, twelve (11) Advisory Council members, and four (5) guests were present. The Commissioners present constituted a quorum.

Minutes of December 14, 2006 Meeting: The Minutes were approved as amended. Bob Darcy moved and Marlene Smith seconded the motion.

Guest presentation: Liliana Rogers and Leslie Thomas from the Heart Association spoke about the "Go Red for Women" campaign. Heart disease in women presents with different symptoms than it does in men. Women are often reluctant to go to the doctor, are unaware they may have a heart problem, or do not know either their own risk or how to avoid heart problems. The Heart Association campaign is focused on giving women tools to aid healthy behavior, understand their bodies, and get the care they need. February is Women's Heart Month. The "Go Red for Women" campaign kicks off on February 2 with a press conference. This is a national spotlight day. Major buildings, including the Empire State Building and the Oklahoma Capitol Dome, will "go red". All

women – and men – are encouraged to wear red on that day. There will be women’s heart health programs throughout the month. During the month of February the Museum of Art in Oklahoma City will become the “Museum of Heart” and is hosting many of the events. The Heart Association will have a luncheon on May 4, beginning at 10:00 a.m., at the Express Events Center, with proceeds to go to women’s heart health education. There will also be other events, including a Heart Walk.

Reports:

Chair: Chair Paustenbaugh distributed a draft press release for the Hall of Fame. The office will distribute the final release early next week. The nine inductees are Sherri Coale, Ginny Creveling, Dr. Joe Anna Hibler, Maxine Horner, Dr. Kay Martin, Terry Neese, Dr. Carolyn Taylor, and Della Warrior. Claudia Tarrington will be inducted posthumously. The Chair thanked Rebecca Kennedy, Debbe Leftwich, Bernice Mitchell, and Jilda Motley who served on the nominating committee.

On January 24, the Chair made a presentation to the House budget subcommittee reviewing the Commission’s budget. She provided Commission members with a summary of her presentation. The meeting went well. Subcommittee members have questions about the Summit, and other Commission events. Commissioners agreed to focus on evaluated goals and outcomes in planning and carrying out events and projects. Commissioners Motley, Darcy and Kohlman, and Advisory Council member Lawrence agreed to draft an all-purpose internal Commission event evaluation to adapt as necessary. The Senate hearing was rescheduled on short notice, and the Commission was represented at that hearing by Marilyn Capps. The Chair will make follow-up visits for subcommittee members. Senate: Randy Brogdon- Co-Chair, Mary Easley- Co-Chair, Roger Ballenger, Don Barrington, Brian Bingman, Harry Coates, Tom Ivester, Constance Johnson. House: Guy Liebmann- Chair, Scott Martin- Vice-Chair, Lisa Billy, Mike Brown, Rex Duncan, Mike Jackson, Charles Joyner, Al Lindley, Steve Martin, Jerry McPeak, Eric Proctor, R.C. Pruitt, Mike Thompson, Dale Turner, John Wright.

The Kate Barnard Luncheon program and biographical booklet used a design for the Commission name which was contributed by a volunteer graphic designer, Kathy Lee Davis. The Chair distributed samples of this design, which would be suitable as a Commission logo, for Commission consideration. The chair asked staff member Latasha Wilson to do an inventory of existing letterhead, envelopes, etc. and to get an estimate on the cost to print new letterhead, envelopes and commission business cards so we can make a determination at our February meeting whether we want to adopt the new logo and if so, whether we want to incur printing costs. Bernice Mitchell and the Chair thanked Advisory Council member Fern Bowling, who has made extraordinary efforts in support of the Commission, particularly through her work with Career Tech.

The Chair discussed participation in the women’s health advisory committee, the ad hoc committee for allocating funds, the archives committee, and the website committee. It is almost time for the Nominating Committee to begin working on the upcoming year’s slate of officers. The Nominating Committee includes Anita Norman, Mary Walker, and Pat Martin. Please approach these people with any suggestions or requests.

The Chair has contacted Speaker Cargill's appointments director. The Speaker has three Commission appointments which expired this past summer, currently held by Betty Boyd, Rowena Ogden, and Marlene Smith.

The Chair thanks the Women in Leadership Committee, particularly Chris Morriss and Fern Bowling, for the excellent Kate Barnard Luncheon held this morning at the Capitol.

The NACW meeting is July 11-15 in Louisville, Kentucky. The Chair distributed material and urged Commissioners to attend.

Financial Report: Marilyn Capps presented the financial report as of January 23, 2007. She explained the new budget report format. The Commission has an uncommitted budget balance of \$8,864.76. Any unexpended funds will carry over into the next fiscal year. The project budget shows funds Commissioners have voted to expend on projects. Ms. Capps noted that, although Commissioners voted to expend \$250 for NACW membership, the budget reflects this year's cost of only \$150 because the charge is based on a reduced OCSW budget.

Vice Chair: The Vice-Chair's report was given as a Hall of Fame report.

Secretary: No report.

Advisory Council Chair: Advisory Council Chair Jilda Motley presented the nomination of Jan Peery, Oklahoma City YWCA, to the Advisory Council. Lou Kohlman nominated Ms. Peery. Jilda Motley moved Jan Peery be accepted. Patricia Presley and Bob Darcy simultaneously seconded the nomination. The motion passed without opposition. Chair Motley also formally thanked staff member Latasha Wilson for her hard work on Advisory Council matters.

Unfinished Business:

Topical Committee Reports:

Women Incarcerated Committee: Chair Patricia Presley reported on the Alternatives to Incarceration Summit, which took place on January 12. The meeting was cancelled in mid-morning due to weather. Commissioner Presley stated that, even though the program was brief, a large amount of good information and materials were available. She particularly described a trial program taking place in Bexar County, Texas. Commissioner Presley also attended a meeting on the Oklahoma Commission of Children and Youth on January 24, and distributed information from that meeting. There was an overview of the information and material which will be presented to legislators this Session. Among other things of interest to this Commission, the meeting discussed the huge burden on caregivers of children whose mothers are incarcerated. Thirty-six percent of incarcerated women report that their children are being cared for by a family member who had previously abused them. No entity is charged with the responsibility of coordinating the range of services for incarceration and family. The Department of Rehabilitative Services will soon have an early childhood program for incarcerated women in place.

Women's Health Committee: Bernice Mitchell gave the report. On December 18th Commissioner Mitchell hosted a conference call on the NACW Healthy Bones Project initiative, joined by Anita Norman and Jennifer Paustenbaugh. Representatives of six states participated in the call, along with the Proctor & Gamble representative heading that project. The purpose of the conference call was to disseminate information about women's bone health and share various participants' program experiences. Participants had prepared responses to six questions, based on events and outreach they had done, and shared the results. This was followed by open discussion and suggestions. Our Commissioners described our recent Women's Health Forum, and our plan for a statewide expansion of that program. Our Commissioners noted that we have partnered with, among other organizations, the Oklahoma Department of Health, Department of Mental Health, Center for Disease Control, and Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation.

Women in Leadership: Chair Chris Morriss gave the report. Working with Senator Leftwich, the Committee will soon try to identify a filed bill or resolution which the Commission can support, possibly having to do with the children of incarcerated women or another area of Commission interest. Chair Morriss thanked everyone who helped with the Kate Barnard luncheon, particularly Fern Bowling, Career Tech, Jean Warner, Latasha Wilson, Pat Martin, Lou Kohlman, Kathryn Jones, and Jennifer Paustenbaugh for acting as mistress of ceremonies, as well as Glenda Carlile for portraying Kate Barnard. The speaker, Dr. Anne Morgan, was well received, and the food was good as well. The event ran slightly over budget. In new business, the Committee neglected to give Dr. Morgan a speakers' thank-you gift. She suggested perhaps the Commission could, perhaps individually, donate a sum to the Oklahoma Women's Foundation as a thank-you gift. Commissioners agreed to have a money tree at the February meeting for that purpose, and the Chair will send an official letter of thanks as well. Pat Martin noted that we budgeted \$100 for flowers this Session. This will buy us three months of flowers. The Commission may wish to give the flowers in February, skip separately bought flowers in March, and perhaps skip another month. We will also provide a form for each delivery, noting that the Commission is meeting on that day. The Committee notes that the Commission meeting schedule should be sent to legislators.

Projects:

Hall of Fame: The Chair passed around a sign-up list for persons interested in hosting nominees during the events. Vice-Chair Catherine Haynes gave a report. The Hall of Fame committee had a meeting this morning. Facilities reservations are ready. Flowers are ordered, Aunt Pittypat's will be catering, and OPM has advised us to continue to use Dale Rogers for the awards. A string quartet will play during the reception. The committee will meet again in February.

SWIPS conference: Commissioner Pat Martin reported that she is discussing the commitment deadline with Brother Rogers of SWIPS.

OCSW Archives: Chair Paustenbaugh described the efforts to locate Commission archival material. Currently it is scattered throughout the state; Chair Paustenbaugh has arranged for materials to be temporarily stored at OSU. Commissioners discussed the archives and historical Commission records and potential locations for storage. Any plan will include digital preservation as well as paper archives.

OCSW Website: Chair Paustenbaugh urged interested Commissioners to participate in the website renovation. Latasha Wilson noted that OPM cooperates with us on changes to the website but they take time.

Announcements: Jean Warner announced 2007 Women's Legislative Day at the Capitol, March 7. She also noted that *The Oklahoman* contacted her about highlighting women in a special issue, and she suggested they should include Oklahoma women. She asked Commissioners to help with this effort. Jilda Motley asked the office to forward 2007 Women's Legislative Day information to Commissioners. Bob Darcy announced a project which will gather data on women's policies in Oklahoma. He, Jean Warner and Jennifer Paustenbaugh have discussed this. He has students who will compile the information, but is interested in input on what they should look for. This includes county and multi-county systems like hospitals, county health departments, shelters and drug courts. He urged Commissioners to help in this decision-making process as they prepare to gather information. Commissioner Reynolds thanked Commissioners for their condolences and thoughts in the past month.

Next meeting: February 22, 2007, 1:30 p.m., at Room 108 of the State Capitol.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.