

**Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 29, 2007, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
Room 512-A, State Capitol Building**

The Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women met in Room 512-A of the State Capitol Building on March 29, 2007. Chair Jennifer Paustenbaugh called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

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

Commissioners Excused: Marilyn Ehlers, Sally Frasier, Vicki French, Rebecca Kennedy, Lou Kerr, Pat Martin, Margaret Swimmer, Valerie Thompson

Commissioners Absent: Betty Boyd, Rowena Ogden, Marlene Smith, Janelle Walker, Christie Woodson

Advisory Council Members Present: Gloria Birdine, Fern Bowling, Marilyn Capps, Glenda Carlile, Linda Dodson, Deena Fisher, Linda Parker, Jan Peery, Greta Shepherd Stewart, Leslie Thomas, Jean Warner, Adeline Yerkes, Latasha Wilson (Staff)

Visitors Present: Rachel Mayberry, Lindsay Bartgis, Bridget Davis, Leah Puttkammer, Sarah Howard, Whitney Pruitt, Kelly Morris, Liliana Rogers

Women's History Moment: Advisory Council member Deena Fisher told Commissioners about First Lady Mary Todd Lincoln, presenting an explanation of Lincoln's redecorating, hospitality, and emotional reactions as First Lady, and her actions as a widow, which helps to restore her reputation.

Roll Call: Secretary Lou Kohlman called the roll and noted that seventeen (17) Commissioners, twelve (12) Advisory Council members, and eight guests were present. The Commissioners present constituted a quorum.

Minutes of February 22, 2007 Meeting: The Minutes were approved as amended, with Bob Darcy moving and second by Jilda Motley.

Reports

Chair: Chair Paustenbaugh talked to Susan Hardy Brooks at the Citizens Policy Center about the project the Commission agreed to help with in 2006. The CPC requests that a Commissioner serve on an advisory board for that project, looking at issues that affect women's economic health, with a narrow focus on particular issues. The Chair asks

Commissioners to express interest in being on this board. The commitment is for two upcoming meetings and to provide input to the report.

At the last meeting, we tabled some proposals for funding until this meeting. This included attendance for Commissioners at the SWIPS conference in Tampa, Florida. Several Commissioners who have attended previous SWIPS conferences cannot attend this meeting this year. The Chair urges us to keep in mind the potential attendance for the NACW annual meeting this year, although the conference falls within the next fiscal year. Several Commissioners expressed interest in attending the NACW conference. Bob Darcy moved the Commission allocate \$1300 to cover registration for four individuals. There was no second. The NACW discussion was tabled until the May meeting. The Chair called for expressions of interest in the SWIPS conference. One Commissioner expressed interest in attending the conference. Lyn Hester moved that the Commission not allocate funds for the SWIPS conference, and Patricia Presley seconded the motion, which passed without opposition.

NACW representative report: Our NACW representative, Bernice Mitchell, gave the report. The NACW recently did a workshop at the United Nations which was well received, and may result in a partnership between the UN, the NACW, and representatives from Senegal. Commissioner Mitchell thanked the Commissioners for authorizing her attendance at a rare but necessary NACW meeting in April. The NACW conducts most business using technology but is legally required to have a physical meeting during the year. The national conference is in Louisville, Kentucky, from July 11 through July 14. Registration is \$325 per person and is due on June 9. Our Commission has submitted a proposal to do a presentation on archival information and we appear to be on the schedule.

Financial Report: Marilyn Capps presented the financial report as of March 28, 2007. The Commission has voted to authorize funds for several projects, including upcoming projects. The projected balance of uncommitted funds is \$8,864.76. The actual expenditures to date are \$10,281.68, with a balance of \$21,537.32.

Vice Chair: No report.

Secretary: No report.

Advisory Council Chair: No report.

Nominating Committee: Anita Norman put forward the nominations for Chris Morriss, Chair, Mary Walker, Vice Chair, and Lou Kohlman, Secretary. The Chair announced the slate and called for nominations from the floor.

Unfinished Business

Hall of Fame Schedule:

Latasha Wilson went through the Hall of Fame schedule with Commissioners. Each inductee had twelve floor and 35 gallery tickets. Several people were expected to

arrive without tickets; we will try to accommodate extra seating in the Gallery after 3:45 p.m. Legislators and elected officials were invited; those who replied are listed, and a section on the House floor is reserved for them and for those who failed to respond but do attend. The maximum seating on the Floor, excluding inductees and presenters, is 150 persons. Ms. Wilson will give Commissioners relevant lists to assist in their Hall of Fame duties.

The Chair thanked Ms. Wilson and the Commissioners for all the work on this Hall of Fame.

Topical Committee Reports: No Topical Committee reports were presented at this meeting.

Projects: No projects other than the Hall of Fame were discussed at this meeting.

Announcements: Adeline Yerkes distributed Women's Health Calendars to Commissioners. The Chair announced that she and Chris Morriss will put together a committee to plan the Retreat, on June 14 in Ponca City at the Marland Mansion. Patricia Presley announced that the next Alternatives to Incarceration Meeting will be held May 4. The Chair announced that Women's History Month Oklahoman supplements, which were organized by the Commission and put together by Commissioners, will be available. Jean Warner and the Oklahoma Women's Foundation were also instrumental in this.

Next meeting: Thursday, April 26, 2007, 1:30 p.m., at Room 412C of the State Capitol.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.