

Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women – Minutes – May 28, 2009 Regular Meeting

The Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women met Thursday, May 28, 2009, in room B84 of the Jim Thorpe Building.

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chris Morriss, Chair.

Commissioners Present: Patty Bryant, Bob Darcy, Lyn Hester, Kathryn Jones, Rebecca Kennedy, Denise Kenzie, Debbe Leftwich, Valeska Littlefield, Joyce Martin, Pat Martin, Chris Morriss, Jilda Motley, Jennifer Paustenbaugh, Patricia Presley, Claudean Reynolds, Nancy Rothman, and Mary Walker.

Commissioners Excused: Fern Bowling, Lee Denney, Sally Frasier, Lou Kerr, Lou Kohlman, Bernice Mitchell, Anita Norman, and Pam Peterson.

Commissioners Absent: Toni Calvey, Vicki French, Catherine Haynes, and Valerie Thompson.

Advisory Council Members Present: Deena Fisher, Penny Painter, Heather Simon, Leslie Thomas, Mariah Thompson, Leslie Thomas, Adeline Yerkes, and Tya Smith (staff).

Visitors Present: Dr. Mary Lou Baker

Women's Health Moment: Adeline Yerkes, Advisory Council member and co-chair of the Women's Health Committee, introduced Dr. Mary Zoe Baker, an endocrinologist, who presented information on osteoporosis.

Roll Call: Kathryn Jones, substituting as secretary for Lou Kohlman, announced that the sign in sheet would serve as the roll call record for the meeting.

Minutes of the April 23, 2009 Meeting: The minutes will stand with the following correction: Dustin rather than Dusty where occurring in the minutes.

Financial Report: Marilyn Capps reported that the Commission has \$28,877 in 199 General Revenue, \$17,542 in 19811 General Revenue Carryover (to be used for one-time expenditures); and \$15,460 in the Revolving Fund (also to be used for one-time expenditures). The 7% budget reduction for FY 10 will be \$2,174 setting the General Revenue allocation for the commission at \$28,877 exclusive of any carryover in 199 General Revenue and Revolving Funds.

Reports:

Chair: The Chair noted that she has been talking to appointing authorities re/ appointments which need to be made by them including three by the governor, two by the speaker, and four by the president pro tempore; thanked commissioners and advisory council members for their support of HB 1729; appointed the chair of the nominating committee, Jennifer Paustenbaugh, to be in charge of the election of officers at the June 25, 2009 retreat; and noted that progress on the website continues.

Vice Chair: No report

Secretary: No report

Advisory Council Chair: Jilda Motley noted that she is not actively seeking reappointment and will continue as an active member of the Advisory Council. She was thanked for her years of service and leadership positions on the Commission. Rebecca Kennedy proposed Sheryl Lovelady, President of Lovelady and Associates, a media and public policy consulting firm, for membership on the Advisory Council (Motion, Rebecca Kennedy; Second, Kathryn Jones; Action, Passed)

NACW Representative: Tya Smith called attention to a handout from Bernice Mitchell re/ the NACW in the agenda materials and noted that she will present a lengthier report in June.

Unfinished Business

OSU Project – A revised handout on the “Proposed Partnership between the Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women and The OSU Library’s Oklahoma Oral History Research Program and the Women’s Archives” was distributed by Jennifer Paustenbaugh. A motion was made by Bob Darcy to spend up to \$2500 on the project; seconded by Mary Walker; passed (Debbe Leftwich abstained).

County-by-County Project – Bob Darcy reported that they’re still waiting on some data from the OSBI and have information from all but 11 counties.

NEW Leadership Grant Proposal – Kathy Jones reported the task force had met and had the following recommendations to report:

1. The Commission develop a list of activities, etc. to be sponsored within a budget year by the Commission and “key” the Commission’s budget to those activities.
2. Because of the precarious nature of state funding in general and the Commission’s in particular, the Commission not give any money to NEW Leadership for this fiscal year.
3. Accept Lou Kohlman’s offer to explore avenues re/ starting a 501C3 Friends and/or Foundation organization.

Several members volunteered to assist with fundraising for NEW Leadership independent of the OCSW.

Commissioner Biography Status: Kathy Jones encouraged members who had not yet done so to return their bios to her so they could be prepared for inclusion on the website

Topical Committees:

Leadership – No report

Health – Adeline Yerkes, Co-Chair of the Women’s Health Committee, announced that forums on women’s health issues will be held Sept. 28 in Seminole and Oct. 20 in Woodward. Commissioner Kennedy and Advisory Council Member Deena Fisher are assisting with the logistics for the forums.

Women Incarcerated – Rebecca Kennedy, Co Chair, summarized the discussion held at the committee meeting earlier that day and presented a visual presentation re/ women and incarceration.

New Business

Staff Support – Rebecca Kennedy distributed copies of a proposed annual budget for the Commission which focused on additional staff support which would enable the commission to carry out its legislative mission. Members agreed to continue discussion re/ her proposal.

Announcements

The retreat will be held Thursday, June 25, at OSU. Additional information will follow.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

