

**Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women
Regular Meeting Minutes – September 24, 2009
Room 512A -- Oklahoma State Capitol – Oklahoma City, OK**

The Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women met Thursday, September 24, 2009, in room 512A of the Oklahoma State Capitol in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Mary Walker, Chair.

Roll Call: Roll was called by Kathryn Jones, Secretary.

Commissioners Present: Rita Aragon, Patty Bryant, Bob Darcy, Deena Fisher, Lyn Hester, Marilyn Harmon, Kathryn Jones, Ashley Kehl, Rebecca Kennedy, Lou Kohlman, Valeska Littlefield, Joyce Martin, Bernice Mitchell, Pam Peterson, Patricia Presley, Claudean Reynolds, Nancy Rothman, Joyce Horton Sanders, Mary Walker, Adeline Yerkes

Commissioners Excused: Fern Bowling, Lee Denney, Catherine Haynes, Denise Kinzie, Debbe Leftwich, Carolyn McLarty, Chris Morriss, Jennifer Paustenbaugh, Nancy Smith, Valerie Thompson

Commissioners Absent: None

Advisory Council Members Present: Kitty Asberry, Kate Blalack, Laura Pittman, Heather Simon, Tya Smith (staff), Latasha Wilson

Guests: Millie Liggins, guest of Patty Bryant

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the August 27, 2009 meeting were approved (motion, Bob Darcy; second, Patty Bryant).

Announcement from the Chair: The Chair announced that the meeting would be divided into two parts: 1:30-2:30: Business of the Commission and 2:30-3:30: Working session re/ the Solutions' Summit

Financial Report: The Chair noted that a report was included in the agenda packet and that Marilyn Capps had attended the Advisory Council meeting preceding the Commission meeting, but had had to return to her office. She also announced that the Commission's budget is due Oct. 1 and committee chairs should forward their budget request to her in time for her to forward it to Marilyn Capps. The report was accepted (motion, Adeline Yerkes; second, Valeska Littlefield).

Women's History Moment: Adeline Yerkes announced that a forum on Osteoporosis and Bone Health and co-sponsored by the Commission was to be held that evening at Seminole State College and the Commission would also cosponsor a forum, October 20, at Northwestern Oklahoma State University at Woodward. She also distributed a pamphlet, "Act Now – A Parent's Guide to Girls' Bone Health."

Reports:

Chair: Previously made

Vice Chair: None

Secretary: The Secretary requested that as Commissioners and Advisory Council members become aware of honors received by members of those bodies to share that information with her for inclusion in the Annual Report.

Recognitions to date include:

Debbe Leftwich (Commissioner): 1 of 50 women to be recognized, Oct. 1, by *The Journal Record*

Rita Aragon (Commissioner) – 2008 “Woman of the Year,” *The Journal Record*

Rita Aragon (Commissioner) – Front-page, feature article in *The Journal Record*

Gail Stricklin (Advisory Council) – 1 of 5 recipients, Mona Lambird Spotlight Award, OBA Women in Law

Penny Painter (Advisory Council) -- Penny Painter Day, Sept. 11, Tulsa

Advisory Council: Joyce Martin noted that the Advisory Council had met earlier that day and that members want to be involved in the Commission’s activities.

NAWC Representative: Bernice Mitchell reported on a teleconference sponsored by the U. S. Department of Labor, a webinar sponsored by the Jewish Women International National Alliance to End Domestic Violence, and distributed information re/ the NACW’s webinar, “Strategies for Thriving Women’s Commissions”.

Announcements:

“Stop Child Trafficking Now” – Pam Peterson shared information about a walk to be held that Saturday in Tulsa. The purpose of the walk is to highlight the problem of sex trafficking in Oklahoma (#4 in the nation).

“Oklahoma Women’s County Status Report (Draft Sept. 2009)” - Bob Darcy distributed copies of this report and suggested the Commission distribute a press release re/ its relevance to women in Oklahoma politics.

Committee Reports:

Web and Communications: The Chair announced that progress is being made on the website and it is to “go live,” Oct. 1. Lyn Hester announced that a press release of officers and new members had been released.

Financial & Personnel Committee: The Chair announced that Debbe Leftwich, chair of this committee, was unable to attend today’s meeting.

Policies and Procedures: Lou Kohlman requested suggestions for updates to the P and P.

Legislative Coordinator: Patty Bryant announced the legislative deadlines for the upcoming session.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to the Solutions Summit.

Rebecca Kennedy distributed handouts and noted the importance of partners – e.g., organizations, appointing authorities, government agencies – who will work with the OCSW on this effort. She also reviewed the procedure for the subcommittees’ meetings which were held later in the meeting. Each subcommittee was directed to select a Secretary and a Communications Specialist.

Lou Kohlman introduced Terri White, Commissioner, Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, who discussed “Smart on Crime.”

After Commissioner White’s presentation, the subcommittees on Prevention, “Smart on Crime” Intervention and Redirection, and Recidivism Reduction met.

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

