

**Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women
Retreat Minutes – December 10, 2009
Commons – Tulsa Community College – Metro Campus**

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, and ATTENDANCE

Call to Order: Mary Walker, Chairman of the Commission, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance to the Metro Campus of Tulsa Community College.

Roll Call: Kathryn Jones, Secretary, called roll and announced the presence of a quorum.

Commissioners Present: Fern Bowling, Deena Fisher, Catherine Haynes, Kathryn Jones, Rebecca Kennedy, Lou Kohlman, Valeska Littlefield, Joyce Martin, Carolyn McLarty, Bernice Mitchell, Pam Peterson, Patricia Presley, Claudean Reynolds, Nancy Rothman, Mary Walker, Adeline Yerkes

Commissioners Excused: Rita Aragon, Patty Bryant, Bob Darcy, Lee Deeney, Marilyn Harmon, Lyn Hester, Ashley Kehl, Denise Kinzie, Debbie Leftwich, Chris Morriss, Jennifer Paustenbaugh, Joyce Horton Sanders, Nancy Smith

Commissioner Absent: Valerie Thompson

Advisory Council Members Present: Kitty Asberry, Debby Boyer, Pat Martin, Laura Pitman, Heather Simon

MINUTES, FINANCIAL REPORT, and WOMEN'S HISTORY MOMENT

Minutes: The minutes of the November 19, 2009, meeting were approved as previously distributed by email and also distributed at the meeting (Bernice Mitchell, motion; Joyce Martin, second).

Financial Report: The financial report as of November 30, 2009, was approved as distributed at the meeting (Catherine Haynes, motion; Fern Bowling, second; Rep. Pam Peterson, abstention).

Women's History Moment: Adeline Yerkes discussed the work of the U. S. Preventive Services Task Force and noted that when recommendations are made by the Task Force, research is behind them (e.g., if a recommendation re/ cancer is made, the American Cancer Society has been consulted).

REPORTS by OFFICERS AND NACW REPRESENTATIVE

Chairman: The Chairman announced that she is working with Rebecca Kennedy and Jennifer Paustenbaugh on an announcement re/ the Solutions' Summit.

Vice Chairman: The Chairman announced for the Vice Chairman that the Website Committee continues working on the website.

Secretary: The Secretary announced, in her role as Chairman of the Kate Barnard Luncheon, that an email requesting nominations for the recipient of the award would be forthcoming.

Advisory Council: No report

NACW Representative: Bernice Mitchell announced that it is time for renewal of NACW membership and the NACW Conference will be held July 22-25, 2010, in Maryland.

UNFINISHED/ONGOING BUSINESS

Unfinished Business/Ongoing Business: In response to a question about the County-by-County Study, the Chairman announced that a report will be given at either the January or February meeting and that Jennifer Paustenbaugh is proceeding with the project with librarians.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Review of Policies and Procedures: An extensive discussion was held re/ language in the Policies and Procedures Manual as it pertains to Advisory Council members. Discussion also included the possibility of having 2 groups of Advisory Council members: "Honorary" and "Active;" "Advisory Council" and "Friends Circle;" or "Active" and "Inactive."

Rebecca Kennedy suggested that "Active" would consist of a 3-year appointment and if the Advisory Council member doesn't attend a minimum of 4 meetings a year, she/he would move to "Inactive" status. Lou Kohlman, chairman of the committee, noted that the Commission had actually been enacting Kennedy's suggestion but without codification and the committee can develop the appropriate language.

The Chairman of the Commission reminded commissioners that a 30 day period must pass between the proposed changes in the Policies and Procedures and a vote on it.

Website and Communications: The Chairman of the Commission reported for Lyn Hester, chairman of this committee, that she (Lyn) is working with Rebecca Kennedy specifically on Summit communications.

Legislative Coordinator: Pam Peterson reported in the absence of Patty Bryant, chairman of this committee, that Dec. 11 is the deadline for bills to be brought forth and Dec. 29 is the deadline for substantive language.

Kate Barnard: Reported earlier

Health Committee: Reported earlier

Leadership Committee: Joyce Martin, Chairman, noted that the committee continues to request names of women to receive a card in honor of their accomplishments/achievements.

Women Incarcerated Committee: Summary of comments by Rebecca Kennedy and Commission discussion:

1. The Commission will vote at today's meeting on the budget for the Summit.
2. A Complex Dialogue Summit on Women Incarcerated will be held January 26, 2010, at Oklahoma Christian University. This will be an opportunity for the OCSW to announce its Solutions' Summit.
3. The Prevention Committee met Wednesday, December 10, 2009, in Stillwater, with a very good attendance by committee members. Kennedy encouraged other committees to do the same.
4. A suggestion had been made that gubernatorial candidates be invited to the Summit and they submit a statement that could be included on the website. Kennedy discussed the micro-website and thanked Sheryl Lovelady, Advisory Council member, for her work on it.
5. A discussion was held re/ "deliverables," i.e., what do we want to come about from the Summit.
6. Each group was asked to identify what others and self can do to reduce incarceration of women.
7. Budget: Patricia Presley moved that the OCSW spend up to \$8000 during 2010 on the Summit (Deena Fisher, seconded; passed; Rep. Pam Peterson, abstention).
8. Dr. Laura Pitman thanked the Commission for its work on this issue.
9. Commissioners discussed having a poster designed re/ this issue.

OTHER BUSINESS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, and ADJOURNMENT

Other Business Unforeseen at Time of Posting: None

Announcements: The Chairman announced that each year the Tulsa Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration Society, Inc. presents the "Keeping the Dream Alive" Award to someone whose life, goals, ideals, and values align with those of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. She noted that it is a prestigious award, and she is extremely honored and humbled to have been selected as the 2010 recipient. She was enthusiastically congratulated by those present on this honor.

(Note from the Secretary: The award will be presented during its City-Wide Celebration Ceremony on Sunday, January 17, 2010, 6:00- p.m. at the Boston Avenue Methodist Church, 1301 South Boston, Tulsa (918/583)5181).

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

