

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 9, 2005

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women was held on Monday, May 9, 2005 in Room 830, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California.

President Davalos called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. The following Commissioners were present for roll call:

President Davalos
Vice President Lesser
Treasurer Duba
Commissioner Gravely
Commissioner Jernigan
Commissioner Mummey
Commissioner Rodriguez

Introduction of the audience followed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Vice President Lesser, seconded by Commissioner Gravely, and unanimously carried, the minutes of April 25, 2005 were approved with the following correction: Under the Nominating Committee Report, add Commissioner Gravely to the names of Commissioners serving on the committee.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Davalos reported that she attended the Harriet Buhai Family Law Center Theater Benefit on Saturday, May 7, 2005. This event raised over \$250,000 for legal and other assistance for women.

(Commissioner Perkins joined the meeting.)

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Duba reported on the expenditures for the month of April, 2005. The beginning balance for April 2005 was \$21,122.32; expenditures were \$315.00; income was \$233.57; and the ending balance was \$21,040.89. The monthly spending allowance for May, 2005 is \$10,520.45.

STAFF REPORT

Staff reported that at tomorrow's Board of Supervisors meeting Supervisor Yaroslavsky will present a scroll to Cynthia Toussaint, founder of "For Grace," and will be recommending Elise ZeBrack for appointment to the Commission for Women.

REPORT FROM NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR ON RECOMMENDED SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2005-06

Commissioner Rodriguez reported on the recommended slate of officers for 2005-06. On motion of Commissioner Mummey, seconded by Treasurer Duba, and unanimously carried, the Nominating Committee's recommended slate of officers was accepted as follows:

Karin Davalos – President
Charlotte Lesser – Vice President
Reiko Duba – Treasurer

President Davalos thanked the Committee for their work and declared the committee dissolved. Staff announced that the election of Commission Officers is scheduled for June 13, 2005.

APPROVE CHANGES TO COMMITTEE STRUCTURE CHART

On motion of Commissioner Perkins, seconded by Vice President Lesser, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved changes to the Finance Committee and Special Event Subcommittees on the Committee Structure Chart.

SET ITEM PRESENTATION ON LEGISLATION AFFECTING WOMEN IN THE COUNTY

Jay Day, District Director for Assemblywoman Betty Karnette, 54th Assembly District, reviewed legislation impacting women in Los Angeles County. He first explained that the women's caucus of the State Assembly and State Senate consists of 37 women. Noting an expected decline in the number of women elected to the state legislature, he pointed out the need to recruit women to serve in state office.

He went on highlight SB 617, legislation designed to create a commission to establish standards for women's prisons. Emphasizing the need to improve conditions for women in prison, he reported that 10,800 female offenders currently serve sentences in 4 prisons and that 65% of those report being victims of crime and 39% report being raped prior to entering prison. Commissioners then discussed how they could address this issue at the County level.

President Davalos thanked Mr. Day for his informative presentation.

Commissioner Rodriguez requested staff to arrange a presentation on drug abuse prevention by the Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Commission.

APPROVE PURCHASE OF TICKETS TO WOMEN'S APPOINTMENT COLLABORATION WORKSHOP

On motion of Commissioner Perkins, seconded by Vice President Lesser, and unanimously carried, the Commission purchased up to 2 tickets at \$55 each to the

Los Angeles Women's Appointment Collaboration Get Appointed Workshop on May 21, 2005 at the Marvin Braude Constituent Center in Van Nuys. After Commissioner Perkins expressed interested in attending, Commissioners requested her to report back on the Collaboration's actions and activities.

APPROVE PURCHASE OF TICKET TO WOMEN AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE BRUNCH

(Commissioner Creary joined the meeting.)

On motion of Commissioner Perkins, seconded by Commissioner Mummey, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the purchase of up to two tickets at \$100 each to the Women Against Gun Violence Tenth Annual Courageous Leadership Awards Brunch on Sunday, May 22, 2005 at the Luxe Hotel Bel Air.

After Commissioner Creary expressed interest in attending, Commissioners requested that she report back on the event and the organization's activities.

Commissioner Perkins requested staff to report back on an action taken by the Commission in 2002 regarding sustaining non-financial support for several organizations.

APPROVE PURCHASE OF TICKETS TO AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION 2005 LUNCHEON

On motion of Vice President Lesser, seconded by Commissioner Creary, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the purchase of up to two tickets at \$150 each to the American Heart Association 2005 Go Red for Women Luncheon on May 19, 2005 at the Century Plaza Hotel. Commissioner Perkins indicated her interest in attending and agreed to provide a report on the event.

Health Committee: Commissioner Creary commented on a *Los Angeles Times* article concerning the effects on the community of the closure of the King Drew Trauma Center. Also, on May 7, 2005 she attended Councilman Martin Ludlow's 10th District Senior Health Festival at the Los Angeles Convention Center. She further reported on the City of Los Angeles brochure on service providers and on the city's 311 phone information service.

Domestic Violence Subcommittee: Commissioner Rodriguez reported on follow-up with county departments on responses to the domestic violence survey and announced the next subcommittee meeting on June 13, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 830.

Legislative Committee: Commissioner Jernigan spoke on the opportunity for a Commissioner to serve on the Women's Health Policy Council of the Office of Women's Health. Vice President Lesser indicated she would look into this. Commissioner Jernigan also reported she was working with labor unions and AARP on proposed changes to social security and Medicare.

Media Committee: Commissioner Perkins spoke on the Committee's work and commented on the process for the Committee's proposal to produce a video.

Older Women's Committee: Commissioner Mummey announced that Commissioners could contact her for information on obtaining *The Teenage Survival Guide* and a new jury pamphlet.

Finance Committee: President Davalos reported that the committee met this morning and discussed the feasibility of producing a video on the Commission. After noting that such a significant project would require further development, she emphasized that the Finance Committee recommended that it was too soon to undertake such a project by the Awards Reception on June 6th.

Awards Luncheon Subcommittee: President Davalos reported on sponsorship and planning for the Awards Reception on June 6, 2005.

5k Run/Walk Subcommittee: Vice President Lesser reported on planning for this year's race and announced the next subcommittee meeting on June 27, 2005 at 12:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was none.

<u>REPORT OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>	
<u>COMMISSIONER ATTENDING</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION OF EVENT(S)</u>
Commissioner Perkins	Attended the Leadership California Awards Luncheon featuring Christie Hefner.
Vice President Lesser	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attended the Richstone-Child Abuse Prevention Pier to Pier Walk. 2. For Teach for America she visited a classroom and is planning a field trip for students from a local middle school to sites in Downtown Los Angeles. 3. Attended the Manhattan Beach Neighborhood Watch, including an overview of emergency preparedness for various disasters. 4. Attended the American Heart Association Friends and Family meeting in preparation for the Heart Walk. 5. Attended a meeting with the South Bay Youth Project regarding 2 fundraisers to bring families together for a good time without alcohol. 6. Attended a luncheon for Reef Check, a group that protects the coral reefs throughout the world.
Commissioner Creary	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On May 2, 2005 she attended the weSpark Foundation Fundraiser at the Henry Ford Theater in Hollywood with proceeds to support various cancer programs in the San Fernando Valley. 2. On May 14, 2005 she attended the Victoria Rowell Foundation for Foster Care Youth – Annual Fundraiser Tea at the Century Plaza Hotel. 3. Announced an Autism Conference at 51st and Vermont Avenue.
Commissioner Rodriguez	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On April 21, 2005 she attended a Violence Intervention Program Advisory Meeting at L.A. County/USC Medical Center. 2. On May 28, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. she will attend an ICAN/Domestic Violence Task Force meeting at the Edmund Edelman Court. 3. Also on May 28, 2005 she will attend an ICAN Operations meeting at the Hall of Administration.

MATTERS NOT POSTED ON THE AGENDA: Commissioner Creary requested that the Commission invite Project Angel Food to speak to the Commission. Commissioner Jernigan requested staff to invite Assemblywoman Carol Liu to speak to the Commission on Assembly Bill 22.

Commissioner Jernigan requested that the Commission adjourn the meeting in memory of labor leader Miguel Contreras, who passed away last week.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, President Davalos adjourned the meeting in memory of former Supervisor Deane Dana and labor leader Miguel Contreras.

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSIONERS

Karin Davalos, President
Charlotte Lesser, Vice President
Reiko Duba, Treasurer
Ruth Creary, Ph.D
Wadie Gravely
Ruth Jernigan
Janet Mummey, Esq.
Barbara Perkins
Olivia Rodriguez

EXCUSED

Yolanda Becerra-Jones
Bonnie Lewis

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Executive Office Staff: Khanh Nguyen, Steve Erickson, Nyla Jefferson

GUESTS

Mercedes Calzadillas, Office of Affirmative Action Compliance
Jay Day, Office of Assemblywoman Betty Karnette