

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

WOMEN'S ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

THURSDAY, January 26, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

*Location: Community Conference Room
West Hollywood City Hall
8300 Santa Monica Blvd.*

I. CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, the meeting was called to order by Judith Resell at 7:15 PM.

A. Councilmember Jeffrey Prang administered the oath of office to new Boardmember Stephanie Middler

B. Roll Call

Kelly Alexander	Present
Nicole C. Curran	Present
Debra Farmer	Present
Vicki Geis	Present
Lyndia Lowy, Vice Chair	Absent
Stephanie Middler	Present
Rae Mitchell	Present
Marcy Norton	Present
Judith Resell	Present
Madeleine Rackley, Chair	Present
Heidi Schroeder	Present

Staff: Lisa Belsanti and Larissa Fooks.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes of December 13, 2005 Meeting- A spelling error was noted. Nicole Curran made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, the motion was seconded by Vicki Geis and passed unanimously.

III. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

IV. COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT DISCUSSION

Cathy Berger Kaye, Project Facilitator, conducted a special discussion with the Board regarding the needs and concerns of women in West Hollywood.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Subcommittee Reports

There were no reports.

B. Board Liaison Reports

There were no reports.

C. National Women's History Month, March 2006

Updates from the various subcommittees:

Saturdays in the Park—they committee has not met. Staff was directed to provide literature for an information table.

Women's History Month Banners— Heidi Schroeder and Judith Resell reported. The honorees selected by the subcommittee were Harriet Russell Strong and Susan Sarandon. The board discussed the nominees. Nicole Curran made a motion to approve the selections made by the subcommittee; the motion was seconded by Heidi and passed unanimously.

International Women's Day--- Madeleine Rackley reported that the subcommittee discussed working with the a couple different organizations such as Madre and she suggested Girls, Inc. be considered. Information regarding past beneficiaries of the Women In Leadership Awards was distributed. Nicole Curran made a motion to in support of working with Girls, Inc. for International Women's Day and designate them as the beneficiary of the Women In Leadership Awards. The motion was seconded by Vicki Geis and passed unanimously. It was also suggested that information regarding Girl's Inc. be incorporated in to the Women's History Month Lobby Display.

Women In Leadership Awards—Madeleine Rackley reported on the selection committees. Nicole Curran expressed concerns regarding

the diversity of the honorees. It was suggested that the members of the selection committee rotate more often and that an award a category for young leaders be added. Marcy Norton made a motion to approve the honorees made by the Women In Leadership Selection Committee. The motion was seconded by Vicki Geis and passed unanimously. Marcy Norton questioned if any consideration had been given to the policy of not honoring City boardmembers or commissioners.

D. Roe V. Wade Commemorations

Marcy Norton raised the issue of the Board not being recognized at the event produced by the National Council of Jewish Women\LA despite being co-sponsors. The Board briefly discussed ways to ensure they are recognized appropriately at future sponsored events.

E. Board Retreat

The Board discussed an new date for the retreat in order for all members to attend. Saturday, April 22nd was selected. Staff distributed a questionnaire for boardmembers to complete in advance of the retreat.

F. West Hollywood Women's Heart Health Campaign

Tabled.

G. West Hollywood Pro Choice City Campaign

Tabled.

H. West Hollywood Social Marketing Campaign for Plan B

Staff reported that a Committee is in formation and a meeting will be scheduled soon.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Legislative Issues

None.

B. Co-Sponsorship of the Feminist Majority's Women's History Month Salon

The Board discussed co-sponsoring a salon on March 16th in celebration of Women's History Month featuring Suzanne Braun Levine, the editor of Ms. Magazine from 1972- 1988. Judith Resell made a motion to co-sponsor the event and the motion was seconded by Nicole Curran and passed unanimously.

C. Support for Girls, Inc.

Nicole Curran made a motion in support of Girls, Inc who has been targeted by the Pro-Life Action League due to their non-judgmental programming regarding sexual orientation issues. The motion was seconded by Marcy Norton and passed unanimously.

D. West Hollywood Townhall on Medicare Part D.

The Board briefly discussed plans for a community forum on Medicare Part D sponsored by the City. Lisa Belsanti described the basic format of the forum which will be co-sponsored by AARP. Nicole Curran made a motion to support the townhall. The motion was seconded by Vicki Geis and passed unanimously.

E. 5th Annual Women's Health Conference

The Board discussed designated representatives from the Board to attend the conference. Vicki Geis and Nicole Curran expressed interest.

F. Review of Calendar of Events

Tabled.

VII. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

Marcy Norton announced two upcoming workshop on Medicare Part D sponsored by NCJW/LA. She also urged members to contact key

Democratic leaders and urge them to filibuster the hearing of the Supreme Court nomination of Samuel Alito.

Nicole Curran announced that the Stonewall Democratic Club's annual Stoney Awards will be held on February 2nd.

VIII ITEMS FROM THE STAFF

Lisa Belsanti announced that the new show by Eve Ensler is in town and the City is looking to declare February 6th as "Even Ensler Day".

She also distributed copy of a *LA Times* article regarding state bills against abortion and suggested that members send copies to 10 people out of state.

IX ADJOURNMENT

The Women's Advisory Board adjourned at 9:25 PM to their next regular meeting at 7pm on **February 23, 2006** in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90069.