

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD**  
**WOMEN'S ADVISORY BOARD**

**MINUTES**

**THURSDAY, June 23, 2005 at 7:00 p.m.**

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

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Madeleine Rackley at 7:07 PM.

**A. Roll Call**

Kelly Alexander	Present
Nicole C. Curran	Present
Debra Farmer	Present
Lyndia Lowy	Present
Rae Mitchell	Present
Marcy Norton	Present
Judith Resell	Present
Madeleine Rackley, Chair	Present
Heidi Schroeder	Absent
Renee Dake Wilson, Vice Chair	Absent

Staff: Lisa Marie Belsanti

**II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

*Minutes of April 28, 2005: Corrections were noted:*

*VI.A.1.: Deb Farmer gave an update on the status of the Healthy Families/Healthy Kids Program. The Healthy Kids program has been so successful that enrollment for children over the age of 5 and up to 19 continues but applicants have been wait-listed. Healthy Families continues to enroll children ages 0 to 19.*

**III. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no items from the public.

## **IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **A. Subcommittee Reports**

Update reports from subcommittees.

#### **1. Status of Women in West Hollywood:**

Deb Farmer, Renee Dake Wilson and Kelly Alexander met with all City Council Offices and received great feedback on the issue of more inclusion of women on the City's Commissions and Boards.

### **B. Board Liaison Reports**

WAB liaison assigned to other City Boards and Commissions gave brief reports.

Project Area Committee: Lyndia Lowy reported on the activities of the PAC.

Senior Advisory Board: Marcy Norton reported. The SAB is working on the issue of elder abuse.

## **V. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. LEGISLATIVE ISSUES:**

Discussion of local, statewide and national legislation and policy affecting women. Legislative update report.

1. The Board discussed AB 291 (Korez), a bill concerning postpartum mood and anxiety screenings. Some objections were raised to the bill due to its adverse impact on providers. It was suggested that the Board hold off on making any decision until some pending amendments are made. Marcy Norton made a motion that the Board work with the Office of Assembly Member Paul Koretz on language changes to AB 291.
2. National Breast Cancer Coalition Legislative Priorities for 2005: The Board briefly discussed the AB 169, Gender Pay Equity (Oropeza) and it was suggested that the Board send a letter to the West Hollywood Chamber of Commerce.

Rae Mitchell made a motion to table further discussion of legislative issues. The motion was seconded by Lyndia Lowy and passed unanimously.

#### **B. California Coalition for Reproductive Freedom, CCRF**

The Board discussed supporting the CCRF, a network of independent pro-choice organizations dedicated to pursuing the availability of a full range of reproductive health services. Lyndia Lowy Made a motion recommending that the City of West Hollywood and the WAB be a part of the CCRF. The motion was seconded by Deb Farmer and passed unaniomously.

#### **C. Women's Equality Day, August 26, 2005**

The Board discussed ways to commemorate the 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women's right to vote. Ideas generated included showing the film *Iron Jawed Angels* in the park, creating a lobby display and holding a press conference. Nicole Curran make a motion to recommend that that the City Council declare August 26, 2005 as Women's Equality Day in West Hollywood and send copies of support resolutions to local schools and the West Hollywood Chamber of Commerce. The motion was seconded by Deb Farmer and passed unanimously. Marcy Norton made a motion that Board create a week-long lobby display on women's equality and host a press conference with other women's groups on August 26<sup>th</sup>. The motion was seconded by Lyndia Lowy and passed unanimously. Madeleine Rackley, Marcy Norton and Deb Farmer all volunteered to work on a subcommittee for Women's Equality Day programming.

#### **D. Election Procedure Overview**

Staff gave a brief overview of election procedures for Board officers, scheduled for the July meeting.

#### **E. Review of Calendar of Events:**

No action taken.

### **VI. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD**

Deb Farmer requested that future legislative information about pending bills include timelines.

Rae Mitchell suggested that the Board host a booth at the next health fair.

Lyndia Lowy expressed interest in running for Board Vice Chair.

Madeleine Rackley expressed interested in running for Board Chair again.

Judith Resell commented about mandatory usage of condoms by adult entertainment workers and requested that the issue be added for discussion to the Board's agenda.

Kelly Alexander spoke about hosting a townhall meeting on Social Security as it relates to women, seniors, and disabled people both over and under the age of 55. It was requested that this topic be added to the agenda for discussion next month.

It was requested that discussion of the West Hollywood Book Fair, co-sponsorship of NCJW's community forum on slavery and trafficking and the Fall election ballot initiatives be added to the Board's agenda.

## **VII ITEMS FROM THE STAFF**

Staff reported on the recent Women of the Year Awards, of which Mayor Abbe Land was a recipient.

Lisa Belsanti announced the screening of the film "Debs" as part of the City's movies in the park series, sponsored by Lesbians Inspiring Change on August 5<sup>th</sup>.

The date for the Annual Congress of Boards and Commissions will be Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9 am – 3pm.

## **VIII ADJOURNMENT**

The Women's Advisory Board adjourned at 9:20 PM to their next regular meeting at 7pm on **July 28, 2005** in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90069.