

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

WOMEN'S ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

THURSDAY, February 24, 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 Vice Chairperson Renee Dake Wilson at 7:00 PM.

B. Roll Call

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

Staff: Lisa Marie Belsanti

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes of January 24, 2005:

The minutes were amended to reflect the following

"I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Boardmember Heidi Schroeder at 7:08 pm."

"IV. A (1. a) Saturday's In the Park

Heidi Schroeder, Madeleine Rackley , Judtih Resell and Rene Dake Wilson volunteered to attend and represent the Board."

Lyndia Lowy made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Heidi Schroeder and passed unanimously.

III. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Sara Demeestere , resident and applicant for the Women's Advisory Board introduced herself to the Board.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Subcommittee Reports:

Update reports on current Board projects.

1. Women's History Month 2005

The Board discussed the status of subcommittee meetings.

1. Saturdays in the Park

Heidi Schroeder, Renee Dake Wilson, Rae Mitchell and Judith Resell will be there.

2. Women's History Month Banner Project

Staff reported that the design for the banners have been finalized; just waiting the final text for the Bookmarks.

3. International Women's Day

Staff gave an update on plans for the press conference. Jamie Skaluba from Amnesty International's Stop Violence Against Women Campaign has confirmed. It was also proposed that the press conference be an opportunity for the City to kick-off upcoming programming for Spring about women's health and safety, including Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

4. Women in Leadership Awards & Reception

All honorees have accepted and will attend the event. The Sub-committee will determine who will introduce each honoree

5. Women's History Month Lobby Display

Nicole Curran and Larrissa Fooks are working on the lobby display. A project description for the art project with Rosewood Elementary was distributed to the Board. Gayle Gale was selected to be the "artist-in-residence" and she is proposing to do art books with the children using the theme of women's history month.

2. Status of Women in West Hollywood

Madeleine Rackley gave a brief update. She recommended postponing the televised meeting to the Board until June in order to present the final report on the findings of the Subcommittee.

3. V-Day 2005

The benefit production of Eve Ensler's *Vagina Monologues* will be at 8pm, doors opening at 7pm. The hard work of Sarah Dodge on behalf of the Board was acknowledged.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Femme Film Festival

Mais Jasser, festival producer, gave a presentation to the Board about the film festival featuring works by women filmmakers. The film festival is planned for June 2 and 3rd at the Pacific Design Center. She requested that the WAB become a co sponsor and help promote the event. Renee Dake Wilson made a motion for the WAB to co-sponsor the Femme Film Festival. The motion was seconded by Judith Resell and passed unanimously.

B. Legislative Issues

The Board discussed several legislative items affecting women.

1. Weldon Amendment

Rene Dake Wilson made a motion in support of recommending the City Council pass a resolution in opposing the Weldon Amendment. The motion was seconded by Lyndia Lowy and passed unanimously.

2. The Child Custody Protection Act

No action taken. More information was requested.

3. The Prevention First Act

Lyndia Lowy made a motion in support of recommending the City Council pass a resolution in support of the Prevention First Act. The motion was seconded by Judith Resell and passed unanimously.

4. Reauthorization of the violence Against Women Act, VAWA Renee Dake Wilson made a motion in support of recommending the City Council pass a resolution in support of the reauthorization of VAWA and that the Board consider further investigation on the funding of the VAWA. The motion was seconded by Lyndia Lowy and passed unanimously.

C. Review of Calendar of Events:

Staff provided information regarding the City's Annual Kid's Fair. Renee Dake Wilson, Heidi Schroeder, Rae Mitchell and Madeleine Rackley volunteered to work on a project for the event.

Madeleine Rackley, Nicole Curran and Heidi Schroeder will prepare to speak at the March 21st Council meeting.

The WAB also decided to do a special presentation at the April 18th City Council Reorganization meeting for the new mayor. Renee Dake Wilson made a motion to designate Nicole Curran to write a letter of support in Abbe Land being appointed Mayor, and that the Board make a special presentation to the incoming mayor. The motion was seconded by Lyndia Lowy and passed unanimously.

D. Board and Commission Liaisons:

The Board discussed having various members designated to attend the meetings of other Commissions and Advisory Boards.

Nicole Curran, Lesbian and Gay Advisory Board
Lyndia Lowy, Russian Advisory Board
Judith Resell, Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission

Staff was asked to prepare a list of the Boards and Commissions and their meeting times.

VI. CHAIRS MEETING REPORT

Renee Dake Wilson reported. The new Library/West Hollywood Park plan was presented at the meeting. The Senior Advisory Board is focusing on the Social Security reform. She suggested that the WAB look into how the proposal affects women.

VII. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

None.

VIII ITEMS FROM THE STAFF

Deb Farmer wants to bring an update regarding Health families and prenatal care for discussion under legislative items.

Rae Mitchell commented about the Senior Talk Line Program and the LIFE event.

Lyndia Lowy announced the upcoming West Hollywood Chorale Concerts on March 11 and 12th.

IX ADJOURNMENT

The Women's Advisory Board adjourned at 8:20 PM to their next regular meeting at 7pm on **March 31, 2005** in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90069.