

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

MINUTES

February 26, 2004

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Judith Resell at 7:15 p.m.

A. Oath of Office to New Boardmember

Councilmmber Abbe Land swore in newly appointed Advisory Board member Renee Dake Wilson.

B. Roll Call

Janet Chapman	Absent
Debra Farmer	Present
Mary O'Gorman	Present
Lyndia Lowy	Present
Rae Mitchell	Present
Marcy Norton	Present
Judith Resell, Chair	Present
Heidi Kim Schroeder, Vice Chair	Present
Renee Dake Wilson	Present

Staff: Lisa Belsanti & Larissa Fooks

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mary O'Gorman made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Lyndia Lowy, the motion passed unanimously.

III. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Councilember Land addressed the Board and thanked them for their work.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

B. Women's History Month:

The Board reviewed the programming schedule for Women's History Month and discussed final details for the various events.

Kick-Off Reception & Banner Unveiling

Invitations have been sent to boards and commissioners, social service agencies and community members to attend the kick-off. Staff reported that an additional banner was being prepared to honor Jodie Curlee, the City's first social services administrator who had recently died.

International Women's Day

(his item was taken out of order)

Kay Buck, Executive Director, Coalition to Abolish Slavery, spoke to the Board about the work of the organization. The Subcommittee scheduled a meeting for March 2nd at 4pm to finish planning the press conference event. Alexander Faynerman from the Russian Advisory Board distributed a resolution that the Board has passed in support of participating in Women's History Month and working with CAST.

Women in Leadership Awards

The list of honorees was confirmed. Ruth Linden, Jamie Adler, Mary Sweeney, Vickie Shemaria, Nan Washburn and Laura Frakes.

Additional event

Former WAB member Wendy Krueger organized an event with author Hellie Lee.

C. V-Day

1. Updates about the Vagina Monologues performance scheduled for March 5th were shared.

2. Sexual Assault Awareness Campaign

Mary O-Gorman reported. The Sub-committees met and discussed the language for the poster and outreach card. There will be a kick-off for the campaign sometime in April.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Legislative Updates:

1. Support for Family PACT:

Deb Farmer provided an update on the Governor's Budget and its impact on Family PACT.

2. Freedom of Choice Act

Review of proposed federal legislation by Senator Barbara Boxer to protect women's reproductive Rights.

3. Healthy Mothers and Healthy Babies Access to Care Act

Review of the federal bill blocking injured patients' access to the courts and limiting their compensation. Deb Farmer shared information about conflicting views from amongst women's health providers about the real impact and value of the legislation.

B. City of West Hollywood Kids Fair

The Board briefly discussed sponsoring a booth for this year's event. Staff will forward the exact date of the event to the Board.

C. National Women's Health Month.

The Board discussed ways to participate in National Women's Health Week and National Women's Health Month. Topics discussed included working on Artists for a New South Africa's program to aiding women and children affected by AIDS, information was distributed about the American Cancer Society's campaign about women and heart disease and the Campaign for Microbicides.

D. Amnesty International's Violence Against Women Campaign

Staff suggested inviting a representative from Amnesty International to attend a meeting to discuss their Violence Against Women Campaign and ways the Board can support their efforts.

NOW Campaign Calling for the Firing of University of Colorado Football Coaches:

The Board briefly discussed the campaign by the National Organization of Women calling for the firing of two football coaches from the University of Colorado's football program charged with sexual harassment, rape and cover-ups. It was suggested that comprehensive recommendations related to sexual assault be developed rather than responding to individual incidents.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

Renee Dake Wilson introduced herself.

Lyndia Lowy requested the issue of women in the CA prison system be added to the agenda.

VII. ITEMS FROM STAFF

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Women's Advisory Board adjourned at 9:30 p.m. to the next regular meeting of the Women's Advisory Board at 7 p.m. on March 25, 2004 in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA 90069.