

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
WOMEN'S ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES

THURSDAY, April 25, 2002 at 7:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER by Judith Resell at 7:16 p.m.

A. Roll Call:

Janet Chapman	Present
Julia Gandelsman	Unexcused
Jerrie Heslov	Excused
Mina Kedar	Present
Wendy Krueger, Chair	Excused
Judy Lubin	Present
Claire Magaha	Excused
Sandi Margolis	Present
Meri McCann	Present
Judith Mayo, Vice Chair	Present
Rae Mitchell	Present
Danielle Noble	Excused
Marcy Norton, Recording Secretary	Present

STAFF: Larissa Fooks, Roz Helfand.

B. Review of the Agenda

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the February 28, 2002 meeting. Tabled

III. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Alan Weber, Senior Advisory Boardmember announced the "Step By Step By Step" program, which he is co-producing with Jerome Cleary and others, focusing on the ongoing nature of "Coming Out". Tentatively planned for 10/12/02 at Hyatt on Sunset, he is seeking help finding sources for funding.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Women In and Out of the Workplace:

Tabled.

B. City of West Hollywood Annual Kids Fair

Mina Kedar gave a report about the booth the Board sponsored for the City's annual Kid's Fair. There was a good turnout; she and Claire Magaha used boards to help teach words in four languages – Spanish, French, Russian and Hebrew. Prizes for performance were awarded, which became problematic for children and parents expecting to receive giveaways. She recommends that next year, balloons or some sort of item be given to all children who attend the event.

C. Women's History Month 2002

Members discussed their reactions to various events sponsored by the Board during the month. Sandi Margolis suggested a larger venue for "Women in Leadership" reception because we get such a good turnout. Meri McCann suggested we start much earlier in the year to plan these events, specifically with the banners (so that we might get the honorees to come and participate). Larissa Fooks reported that the "Women in Leadership" event raised \$1,000 for the Hunger Network charity. Board members will be sent questionnaires in order to provide feedback about the various events.

D. Board Retreat Follow-up: Larissa Fooks gave report, which included certain activities that members discussed getting involved with or planning, including among others:

1) Town Hall Subcommittee Report – Danielle Noble was the only Board member to attend the scheduled meeting to begin planning this event, so there was no report. Larissa Fooks advised that the needs assessment results are expected this month, and some of the results will be relevant to the Town Hall planning if the Board wants to go ahead with the idea.

2) Workplan – Larissa Fooks suggested that the results of the needs assessment survey, as well as direction from the Council, will help give the Board more focus and direction for making a workplan for the future.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Fetal Personhood

The Board considered making a recommendation to the City Council regarding proposed regulations by the Bush Administration, which would make embryos and fetuses eligible

for medical coverage. Sandi Margolis moved that the Board write a letter opposing the proposed Bush administration guideline on fetal personhood, seconded by Mina Kedar seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Judith Resell volunteered to write the letter. Meri McCann moved to have the Board recommend to the Council that it pass a resolution opposing the same guidelines, seconded by Janet Chapman the motion carried unanimously.

B. Co-Sponsorship of Women's Photography Exhibit

The Board considered co-sponsoring a photography exhibit from the Downtown Women's Center, which features the work of women who are homeless. Lisa Watson from Downtown Women's Center addressed the Board about the project "Women's Everyday Acts of Resistance: Women Speak Out" and asked for the Board's help in having the City become a partner in sponsoring the project and ongoing event showing the photographs. Discussion about the relevance/connection of this project to us as a West Hollywood Board. Janet Chapman made a motion, seconded by Sandi Margolis that a discussion of the exhibit be continued on next month's agenda. Votes: 7 in favor, 1 (Meri McCann) abstained. Members of the Board were encouraged to attend the show on Thursday, May 2, 2002, and report back to the Board.

VI. ITEMS FROM THE BOARD

- ◆ Meri McCann, as women's outreach director of Stonewall Democratic Club, announced a showing of the HBO version of the "Vagina Monologues" on 5/11/02 at June Mazer Lesbian Archives building, and encourages members to attend.
- ◆ Rae Mitchell gave an update on the Reproductive Privacy Act (SB 1301) – it has come out of committee and encouraged members to call State Sen. Sheila James Kuehl's office to express support for the bill and to write to State Assemblymember Paul Koretz as well.
- ◆ Marcy Norton reported that she had received the paperwork about heritage trees from famous women and suggested agendaizing it for further discussion about whether and when the Board might want to do a planting.
- ◆ Marcy Norton reported that she had become aware of the opportunity to become Charter Members in the National Women's History Museum in Washington, D.C. She asked to agendaize a discussion about this for the next meeting.

VII. ITEMS FROM THE STAFF

- ◆ Larissa Fooks distributed a list for members to sign up to provide food at future meetings.

- ◆ Roz Helfand announced that the Council reorganization had taken place and that Sal Guarriello is now the Mayor.
- ◆ Roz Helfand announced that Amnesty International will be sponsoring a human rights film festival in West Hollywood at the end of May and that we will be getting more information about this soon.

VIII ADJOURNMENT

The Women's Advisory Board adjourned at 8:36 p.m. to their next regular meeting at 7 pm on May 23, 2002 in the Community Conference Room at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90069.