



**Commission for Women
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
April 6, 2011**

The Commission for Women convened in a regular meeting on April 6, 2011 at City Hall, 301 W. 2nd Street, Room #1101 in Austin, Texas.

Chair Angela Howard-Fredrick called the Board Meeting to order at 1:37 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Angela Howard-Fredrick, Marilyn Bostick, Julia Cuba, Veronica Garcia, and Katherine Haenschen

Staff in Attendance: Karen Sharp and Donna Burki

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Angela Howard-Fredrick asked Commission members to review minutes from the March meeting. Commissioner Haenschen moved to approve the minutes from the commission meeting held on March 2, 2011, with the change to correct the spelling of Commissioner Bostick to include the “c” in her last name in item # 5. Motion to approve minutes with change was seconded by Commissioner Cuba and minutes were approved with 5-0 vote.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Women’s Hall of Fame event

- Commissioner Haenschen said the Google doc nomination form document is almost done
- Discussion of the date for the event followed. Date and time agreed upon was September 13, 2011 from 5:30pm – 7:00pm.
- Nomination applications will be due July 15, 2011
- Honorees will be selected at the August 3, 2011 meeting
- Commissioner Haenschen will check availability of the City Hall Atrium for the event
- Commission members would like a link on Commission website for Hall of Fame nomination form; Karen Sharp will confirm if this allowed
- ACW members will also ask their Council Member to distribute applications
- ACW members will also visit other Board and Commissions during their citizen communication portion to discuss Hall of Fame event
- Veronica Garcia will check with previous member, Lori, as to status of ACW Facebook page and see if she can get added with administrator rights so she can make changes on the page

- Discussion followed about how and where to recognize honorees. Will continue discussion at May meeting
2. **Governor's Commission For Women Commission Legislative Luncheon**
 - The luncheon is on April 26 and Beverly Larkham, a former ACW member has donated one ticket
 - Question raised if there were funds to send another member; Karen Sharp confirmed they had the funds
 - Motion to use funds to send second member to luncheon by Commissioner Haenschen, seconded by Commissioner Garcia
 - Unanimous vote for funds to be used to send second member to luncheon
 - Marilyn Bostick will go on donated ticket, and Julia Cuba will be sponsored by Commission
 3. **Quality of Life Survey**
 - ACW would like to hear feedback Council member Cole had on African-American Quality of Life survey
 - A link was sent to Carla Johnson but not received by Commission members; Karen Sharp will look into
 - Members would like to reach out to other local organizations and see what kind of outcomes they had. In Austin, there was a Hispanic Quality of Life survey and members would like to see who organized this survey and ask them for information
 - Nelson Linder, with NAACP, was considered as a future speaker on this topic
 4. **Public Awareness Campaign about Women's Safety**
 - Commissioner Haenshen suggested getting involved in a public awareness campaign that will foster a public attitude that harassment and violence against women is not acceptable
 - Haenshen cited the example of New York city's "If you see something, say something" campaign which raises public awareness of violent crimes
 - Discussion followed regarding partnering with a non-profit such as the Texas Coalition on Domestic Violence
 5. **National Association of Commission for Women Annual conference**
 - Conference is July 22-25
 - Historically, one member has usually gone
 - Karen Sharp and Sandra Adame will cost conference out
 - If anyone is interested in attending, they need to contact Sandra Adame
 6. **Draft of Local Letter to Organizations**
 - Commission had previously voted on changes and Commissioner Haenshen and Skotak will move forward with changes

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:

**Dr. Chaquita Eugene spoke about her non-profit – Embrace Learning Services Inc. for Women Entrepreneurs. All board members are women.
The organization has three divisions:**

Community of Women Entrepreneurs Seminar Luncheons

- **Hold seminar luncheons four times a year which feature successful women entrepreneurs**
- **To be a speaker or on a panel, a woman must have reached the million mark in their business**
- **The next luncheon is April 7, 2011 at 11:30am held at the Sheraton at the Capital.**
- **Flyers were distributed**

Box Lunch Series

- **The series are a nuts and bolts workshop about starting a business**
- **Smaller groups – approximately 20 participants**

International Division

- **To support women interested in the import and export aspect of their business**
- **The next trip is scheduled for August with six business owners on board. They are going to South Africa**

STAFF BRIEFINGS:

ADJOURN: Commissioner Bostick moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:37pm, seconded by Commissioner Garcia. Chair Howard-Fredrick adjourned the meeting at 2:37 p.m. without objection.

