

County of Riverside  
Commission for Women  
4080 Lemon Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Conference Room C  
Riverside, CA 92501

Minutes for the July 19, 2007, Annual Retreat  
(As corrected at the August 23, 2007 monthly meeting)

Meeting began at 9:10 a.m.

In Attendance:

Lori Stone, Vice Chair – District 3  
Lisa M. Piña, Secretary – District 2  
Eileen Fry-Bowers – District 1  
Cherie Curzon – District 1  
Carol Lynn Anderson – District 2  
Elizabeth Hamerschlag - District 3  
Coby Webb – District 4  
Fonda McGensy – District 5  
Ennette Nusbaum – District 5  
Jana Roush – CEO Liaison

Absent:

Christine Murphy, Chair – District 4

Guests:

None

Minutes:

The Minutes of May 24, 2007, were not presented for approval and the Unofficial Notes of June 14, 2007, were not available for approval.

Actions taken:

- First Vote to approve the 2008 Slate of Officers  
Discussion: Open Vote  
Result: Not Approved
  
- To take emergency action to take nominations from the floor.  
Motion: Eileen Fry Bowers  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Lori Stone  
Discussion: None  
Result: Approved
  
- Second Vote to approve the 2008 Slate of Officers  
Discussion: Secret Ballot  
Result: Approved

- To sponsor public hearings to establish the Commission's public policy agenda and start collecting data to create a report on the status of the women of Riverside County target publication date of 2010.  
 Motion: Eileen Fry-Bowers  
 2<sup>nd</sup>: Carol Lynn Anderson  
 Discussion: None  
 Result: Approved
  
- To amend the nomination process of the Commission's bylaws.  
 Motion: Eileen Fry-Bowers  
 2<sup>nd</sup>: Ennette Nusbaum  
 Discussion: None  
 Result: Approved
  
- To amend the bylaws to include the officer position of Treasurer and to include the specific duties of the Treasurer  
 Motion: Eileen Fry-Bowers  
 2<sup>nd</sup>: Lori Stone  
 Discussion: None  
 Result: Approved
  
- To award a certificate of endorsement and/or support of an event or issue when approved by the Commission.  
 Motion: Lori Stone  
 2<sup>nd</sup>: Coby Webb  
 Discussion: None  
 Result: Approved
  
- To have the Commission select an Outstanding Woman of the Year as an annual event and present an award at the Spring Open House.  
 Motion: Lori Stone  
 2<sup>nd</sup>: Coby Webb  
 Discussion: None  
 Result: Approved

#### 2008 Slate of Officers:

- The first open floor vote on the 2008 Slate of Officers was not approved. The Commission relied on Roberts Rules of Order, in accordance with the Commission by-laws, to quickly approve an emergency action to take nominations from the floor and after an open nomination process, the new proposed Slate of Officers for 2008 included Lori Stone for Chair; Lisa Piña for Vice Chair; and Cherie Curzon for Secretary and Carol Lynn Anderson for Secretary. It should be noted that in the open nomination process, Eileen Fry-Bowers was nominated for Chair, but declined; Fonda McGensy was nominated for Vice Chair, but declined; and Carol Lynn Anderson had been nominated for Secretary, and accepted, but Cherie Curzon won the vote.
- The second vote was by secret ballot which resulted in an approval of the new 2008 Slate of Officers.

## Legislation:

### Legislative Event:

- Eileen Fry-Bowers provided the Commissioners with a copy of the "Public Policy Agenda and Proposals to the Governor and State Legislature (for the) 2007-2008 Session" published by the California Commission on the Status of Women.
- Eileen provided the Commissioners with September 13, 2006, public release from the Commission on the Status of Women concerning the "California Commission on the Status of Women Holds Public Hearings on Issues Confronting Women and Girls." Eileen stated that the September 20, 2006, event was a forum for smaller organizations to have an influence on legislation and suggested that Riverside County do the same for the Board of Supervisors. Eileen further suggested that the Commission partner with other stakeholders (such as First 5) to develop a 3 to 5 year study on the status of women and children in Riverside County. The Commission ultimately approved the motion to establish a process by which to accomplish the study.
- The Commission re-established the Legislation subcommittee. The subcommittee includes the following Commission members: Eileen Fry-Bowers as Chair; Carol Lynn Anderson; Cherie Curzon. The Chair will update the Commission at each meeting.

### Commission Bylaws:

- Eileen advised that the Commission needed to amend the bylaws, in particular in the area of the nomination process, to ensure that the process always remains in compliance with the Brown Act.

### Treasurer:

- Lori Stone recommended that the Commission approve a new officer position of Treasurer. Lori stated that she wants the new position to manage the budgets for each of the events the Commission is either hosting or sponsoring.
- Lisa Piña stated she supported the new officer position so long as the duties of the Treasurer did not in any way conflict with the County Executive Office relative to the budget and financial management their office is charged with managing.
- Eileen advised that the bylaws would need to be amended to include the Treasurer position.

### Brown Act:

- Eileen provided the Commission members with a summary of the Brown Act.
- Eileen advised the Commission that violations of the Brown Act are considered misdemeanors resulting in significant fines and that the Commissioners could be held personally liable for violations. Eileen advised that the overarching theme of the Brown Act is openness in local government. Any communications between a quorum of commission members that results in "collective concurrence" is a violation of the Brown Act. Eileen advised that discussion of issues requiring a vote must take place in an open, public session..
- Eileen explained that the Brown Act allows tapes of public meetings to be destroyed after 30 days and recommended that the Commission destroy tapes after 30 days to facilitate storage.

## Finance:

- Lori suggested that the Commission consider fundraising efforts to establish scholarships for deserving people. The Commission did not approve such an effort.

## Public Relations/Marketing:

### Commission Logo:

- Lori handed out proposed graphics for a logo. The Commission reviewed the graphics and by consensus approved a diamond shaped graphic. Lori stated she would work with the graphics arts illustrator to improve the design and bring proofs back to the Commission at its August meeting.

### Commission Brochure:

- Lisa advised she would provide the new logo to the County printing office to include with the new brochure. The Commission members suggested that some of the pictures from the Commission website be used on the brochure.

### Website:

- Lori stated that before the end of the retreat, each Commissioner present would be photographed and that those photos would be included on the Commission's website. Lori also requested that the Commissioners update their biographies found on the website.

### Subcommittee:

- In addition to the Legislative subcommittee, the Commission also re-established the PR/Marketing Committee. The PR/Marketing subcommittee includes: Ennette Nusbaum as Chair; Elizabeth Hamerschlag; Cherie Curzon; Fonda McGensy; Carol Lynn Anderson; and Jana Roush.

## Events:

### Events to Endorse and Support:

- After some discussion, the Commission approved the concept of a more formal acknowledgement of our endorsement or support of an event or issue. Lori advised that this item will be on the agenda for the next Commission meeting to establish the criteria to be met by an organization or event to be issued a certificate of support and/or endorsement by the Commission.

### Annual Luncheon:

- Lori requested that the Commissioners begin to think about a topic for the 2008 annual luncheon.

### Outstanding Woman of the Year:

- Lori suggested that the Commission support acknowledging an Outstanding Woman of the Year and the Commission agreed to develop a nomination form and criteria of selection. The award would be presented at the Spring Open House. The Commission agreed to post the information on the website and to create and publish a formal press release.

### Open House:

- The Commission decided on hosting a West-end and an East-end Open House each year. The West-end Open House will be held at the County Administrative Center on the week that property taxes are due in April. The East-end Open House will be coordinated by Coby and Chris.

### Monthly Speakers:

- Lori suggested that the Commission develop a brochure and appreciation packet for each of our monthly speakers. Lori stated that the packet would include our

business cards and a letter of appreciation. Lori stated that this task would be given to the PR/Marketing subcommittee for further development.

- Lori stated that she would draft a letter for the Commissioners to send to their respective Board members to request additional funding for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Luncheon & Symposium.
- Lori requested that the Commissioners start thinking about guest speakers for next year.

Subcommittee:

- In addition to the Legislative and PR/Marketing subcommittees, the Commission also re-established the Events subcommittee. The Events subcommittee includes: Cherie Curzon as Chair; Lisa Piña; Coby Webb; Chris Murphy; and Carol Lynn Anderson.

Commission Photographs:

- Each Commissioner present was photographed individually and as a group for posting on the Commission's website.

Open Discussion and Chair Comments:

- Eileen suggested that the Commission's Chair modify the agenda to be more specific in order to be more in compliance to the Brown Act.
- Coby reported that the Sheriff's Department approved a Bloodhound Unit and placed Coby in charge of developing the 2 Deputy Sheriff staff that will be assigned to the Unit.
- Cherie announced that the YWCA Women of Achievement dinner will be held at the Riverside Convention Center on September 20, 2007.

Adjournment:

The Retreat adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Next Meeting:

- Commission Meeting, Thursday, August 23, 2007, 9:00 a.m., County Administrative Center, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Annex.