



**Commission for the Prevention of
Violence Against Women**

MINUTES

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, November 4, 2009

6:45 p.m.

City Council Chambers

809 Center Street

Minutes approved as submitted at December 2, 2009 meeting.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:47 pm by Chair Zook.

Roll Call: Present: Chair Zook, Commissioners Christie, King, Polanco, Tobisch, Watkins
Staff: Police Dept Liaison Sgts. Baker and Richard; CPVAW Coordinator Agnone
Absent with notification: Commissioner Campbell

Presentations – Rita Martinico, Director of Youth Development Services and Adam Harrison of Walnut Avenue Women’s Center’s Youth Development Program presented information and material on the “Street Team” outreach program. They have been working with the Catalyst during teen dances/concert in the past years and recently began working at the Veteran’s Hall as well. They noted that this program began with funding provided by CPVAW two years ago. Commissioners thanked Rita and Adam for their time and this information.

Statements of Disqualification: None

Oral Communications – Chip, Executive Director for the Downtown Association, invited Commissioners to the Downtown Tuesday events. He also is interested in promoting the Safe Place Network program and will work with Coordinator Agnone in that regard.

Announcements - No action may be taken

Announcements by Chair:

Chair Zook directed Commissioners to the Invitation to Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project 2009 event on Monday, November 23 at 10 a.m. at Scotts Valley Community Center. This event unveils the Celebration of Findings and announces the 2009 Community Heroes (which include Leonie Sherman, CPVAW self-defense instructor).

Other Commission Member Announcements:

Commissioner King informed Commissioners that a meeting is scheduled tonight at 6:30 called “Unity in our Community”. Sharon hopes to hear more information of future projects and plans.

Commissioner Christie congratulated the Santa Cruz Neighbors for being honored as the Organization of the Year by the Santa Cruz Chamber of Commerce.

Staff Announcements:

Coordinator Agnone reported on a variety of items including a letter from Ofelia Gomez, a flyer for a support group at Walnut Avenue Women’s Center: Seeking Safety Group for Women, information on Domestic Violence Awareness month, and reminder to complete the ethics training.

The Chair may announce and set time limits at the beginning of each agenda item.

CPVAW Meeting of November 4, 2009

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of September 2, 2009 meeting (note: no meeting in October)

Recommendation --- Approve, by motion, the minutes from the monthly meeting of September 2, 2009 as submitted. **Commissioner Tobisch moved, seconded by Commissioner Watkins, to approve the September 2, 2009 minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (Commissioner Campbell absent).**

General Business

- Community Rally to Take Back the Night and Stop Violence Against Women
Recommendation --- Hear request from community members to schedule rally to take back the night and stop violence against women and take action as needed. **Victoria Downing, April Burns, and Isabel Rosenberg spoke to Commissioners regarding the concern of the recent assaults and an idea to provide a voice to the community in response. Commissioner Christie moved, seconded by Commissioner King, to convene an ad hoc committee to finalize plans with community members regarding a march against violence in November. The motion passed unanimously (Commissioner Campbell absent). Commissioners Zook, Christie, and Watkins volunteered to work on that ad hoc committee.**
- Reports regarding Domestic Violence from SCPD
Recommendation --- Accept, by motion, monthly report on Domestic Violence statistics from SCPD. **Commissioner King moved, seconded by Commissioner Tobisch, to accept the domestic violence statistic report as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (Commissioner Campbell absent).**
- Quarterly Sexual Assault Statistics Reports from CPVAW Police Committee and Coordinator
Recommendation --- Accept, by motion, the sexual assault statistical report prepared by CPVAW Police Committee and Coordinator and take action as necessary. **Coordinator Agnone distributed reports for 2008 and 2009 to Commissioners. She thanked CPVAW Police Committee members for their time which facilitated the completion of this data. She will be meeting with SCPD Records staff to complete various missing pieces and coordinate the process used to receive reports in a manner that avoids delays when possible. She informed members that the 2009 data which covers up to July indicates an increase from 2008. The CPVAW Police Committee will review this looking for trends and recommendations. Commissioner Watkins moved, seconded by Commissioner Christie, to accept the sexual assault statistical reports as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (Commissioner Campbell absent).**
- Self-defense/Safety Skills Classes Funding
Recommendation --- Hear funding status from CPVAW Coordinator and take action as needed. **Coordinator Agnone was pleased to report that SC City Schools approved additional funding of \$6,850 which provides full funding for this academic year. Commissioners expressed their appreciation. No action taken.**
- Resource Card for Community
That the Commission for the Prevention of Violence Against Women consider making a resource card that includes non-crisis resource contacts. Designed as a business card, or bookmark, this resource card would serve homeless women as well as a wider population. **No action taken.**

CPVAW Meeting of November 4, 2009

6. Engaging the Bystander Workshops

Recommendation --- That CPVAW hear information from Engaging the Bystander ad hoc committee and take action as necessary.

Commissioner Tobisch reported that the ad hoc committee met and has some interesting and compelling plans. It is hoped that final plans will be presented no later than February with the goal to have the workshops in April and/or May.

No action taken.

Information Items (no action shall be taken on these items)

October – Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Copies of op-ed pieces from Register Pajaronian and Santa Cruz Sentinel for Domestic Violence Awareness Month. **Copies of Mary Lou Goeke's columns from the Register Pajaronian will be available in the near future on the United Way's website.**

SC Neighbors' Night Out Block Party events

This was a great success with 23 neighborhood block parties. Leonie Sherman was invited to speak which was well-received and it is hoped that this can be expanded. **The SC Neighbors' Block Parties were successful and Leonie's presentation/discussion was appreciated.**

Santa Cruz City Schools: Teen Representative and Distribution of curriculum materials to Language Arts Departments

Commissioner King reported that she and Coordinator Agnone met with Mary Anne James, Curriculum Director of Santa Cruz City Schools, regarding the Language Arts curriculum. Ideas for follow-up and implementation were discussed.

Coordinator Agnone reported that Eileen Brown, Director of Student Services, will work on the process for distributing information to the schools regarding the Teen Rep. Credits toward school requirements will be given to those students who are selected by the CPVAW Chair. January will be the most likely time that applications will be received.

Safe Place Network Pilot Program with the Catalyst

Hear information from CPVAW Coordinator regarding launch of pilot program with the Catalyst as an active participating business in the Safe Place Network Program. **Coordinator Agnone reported that Eddy Dees, Catalyst Manager, noted that there have been no problems regarding the program and no incidents to report from their business. They are distributing coasters in the main room during shows. He also requested postings for the restrooms.**

Brochures in Medical Facilities

Hear information from CPVAW Coordinator regarding launch of brochures and Safe Place Network program resource cards program to Palo Alto medical offices. These medical offices join Dominican Foundations launch of this program. **Coordinator Agnone reported that displays will be distributed by the end of November to various offices of the Palo Alto Medical Center. She thanked Cheryl Blisovich, CPVAW volunteer, for her work on organizing all the materials.**

Committee Reports (no action shall be taken on these items)

Ad hoc Committees

CURRENT:

Stakeholder Round Table Discussion for Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Service Providers:

Campbell, Tobisch **No new information.**

Engage the Bystander ad hoc committee: Tobisch, Watkins, Polanco **Discussed during agenda #6.**

Resource card/support group for homeless women ad hoc committee: Zook, King, Polanco **Meeting to be scheduled**

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Gender and Women's rights quarterly discussions ad hoc committee: Polanco, Tobisch. **No new information.**

Standing Committee

Police Committee: met September 14, 2009. Throughout October, committee members have met to read redacted reports and complete spreadsheets for sexual assault statistics. As of November, all reports received have been read and data gleaned. Data up to July 2009 has been received. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 30, 2009 at 4:45 pm @ CPVAW office

County Domestic Violence Commission.

The November meeting is scheduled on Nov. 4 which is the same night as the CPVAW meeting. CPVAW Coordinator will request information and provide update to CPVAW members in December.

Items Initiated by Members for Future Agendas

Representative from SART program - Christie

Adjournment The Commission for the Prevention of Violence Against Women adjourned at 8:30 pm from the regular meeting of Wednesday, November 4, 2009 to the next meeting to be scheduled on December 2, 2009 at 6:45 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 809 Center Street, Santa Cruz.

Appeals - Any person who believes that a final action of this advisory body has been taken in error may appeal that decision to the City Council. Appeals must be in writing, setting forth the nature of the action and the basis upon which the action is considered to be in error, and addressed to the City Council in care of the City Clerk.

Additional Information

Visit the City's Web Site at www.ci.santa-cruz.ca.us with links including City Advisory Body Meeting Agendas and Minutes, advisory body information and the Santa Cruz Municipal Code.

A copy of the full Commission agenda, agenda reports and attachments which are included in the meeting packet is available for review at the Central Library on Church Street no later than three days prior to the meeting date.

The City of Santa Cruz does not discriminate against persons with disabilities. Out of consideration for people with chemical sensitivities, we ask that you attend fragrance free. If you wish to attend this public meeting and will require assistance such as an interpreter for American Sign Language, Spanish, or other special equipment, please call the Commission for the Prevention of Violence Against Women at (831) 420-5363 at least seven days in advance so that we can arrange for such assistance. The Cal-Relay system number: 1-800-735-2922.

Any writing related to an agenda item for the open session of this meeting distributed to the Commission of the Prevention of Violence Against Women less than 72 hours before this meeting is available for inspection at the Commission office at 809 Center Street, Room 10. These writings will also be available for review at the Commission for the Prevention of Violence Against Women meeting in the Council Chambers.