**San Luis Obispo County Commission on the Status of Women**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

A meeting of the San Luis Obispo County Commission on the Status of Women was held on

March 2, 2021. This meeting was held by Zoom, and Paulla Ufferheide, Chair called the meeting

to order at 5:32 pm.

**Members of the Commission Present or Absent**:

**Roll Call**



|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Commissioner (Initials)** | District | Present | Excused | Absent |
| Nancy Fiske | 1 | X |  |  |
| Meghan Madsen | 1 | X |  |  |
| Maria Escobedo | 1 | X |  |  |
| Paulla Ufferheide | 2 | X |  |  |
| Dixie Walker | 2 | X |  |  |
| OPEN SEAT | 2 |  |  |  |
| Beverly Abrah Younger | 3 | X |  |  |
| Andrea Chmelik | 3 | X |  |  |
| OPEN SEAT | 3 |  |  |  |
| Kathy Veder | 4 | X |  |  |
| Stacy Meko | 4 | X |  |  |
| Deb Geaslen | 4 | X |  |  |
| Franny Arenas – Formal appointment scheduled for 3/16/2021 | 5 |  |  |  |
| Shirley Summers | 5 | X |  |  |
| OPEN SEAT | 5 |  |  |  |

**Guests/Introductions/Announcements**

Fanny Arenas – District 5 Appointment

Fanny is currently on the March 16, 2021 Board of Supervisor’s Agenda scheduled to be appointed.

**Public Comment Period**

No Comments reported

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

February 2, 2021

A motion was made by Stacy Meko and seconded by Nancy Fiske to accept the February 2, 2021 minutes as read.

*Motion Passes*

**Treasurer’s Report**

Shirley Summers, Treasurer, reported the bank balances as:

CSW Account: $2,233.41

Friends of CSW Account: $2253.54

Disbursements: $156.00 for the website

**Treasurer’s Report (cont.)**

Shirley Summers reported that the application for the SLO County Board of Supervisors District Community Project Grant was approved. The amount of the grant to be disbursed is $2,850.00.

Paulla Ufferheide and Shirley Summers will both sign the contract as required by the County.

There was discussion regarding the need to have stronger financial support from the County. It was suggested that the COSW look into aquiring funds from the County outside of the Community Grant process.

Paulla Ufferheide asked Deb Geaslen to contact County Administration to request time on the agenda for late March or April 2021.

**Commissioner Vacancies**

District 2 – Bruce Gibson: One (1) Vacancy

District 3 – Dawn Ortiz-Legg: One (1) Vacancy

District 5 – Debbie Arnold: One (1) Vacancy

It is the goal of the COSW to fill all vacancies.

**2022 Women’s Wall of Fame**

Meghan Madsen reported there will be a preliminary committee meeting to discuss the details of the event. The meeting will be held on Tuesday March 16, 2021 at 2:00 pm by Zoom. Meghan will send out invites to anyone on the commission interested in attending.

There was discussion regarding whether there is a need to apply for District Community Project Grant Funds to off-set expenses associated with the event. It was suggested that the commission contact someone in Public Health Department for guidance on COVID safety requirements. Meghan will reach out to San Luis Obispo County Health Officer Penny Borenstein.

**Social Media and Other Communications**

Social Media

No Report

Newsletter

Andrea Chmelik volunteered to develop the newsletter.

There was discussion on where to post the newsletter, what content to add that is relevant to the commission, and what topics may be inappropriate. Andrea will continue to research what type’s articles other commissions are using in their newsletters. It was suggested that the contact list from the Women’s Wall of Fame be a starting point for distribution. Shirley Summers will contact District 5 Supervisor Debbie Arnold, and ask if the commission would be allowed to send out the newsletter through the County.

**Actions on Results of Survey**

Cal Poly Collaboration

See attached committee report.

Stacy Meko and Maria Escobedo reported the feedback given by Cal Poly. Cal Poly’s response was that the survey that COSW is doing every year is redundant, and that other organizations are already gathering the same information. Cal Poly suggested that we focus on one or two areas of need vs trying to cover all parts of the survey.

There was general discussion from the commissioners that this may be a good idea. There were several suggestions for areas of focus: Child Care, Mental Health for Young Women and/or Equal Pay Imitative.

The discussion also included what resources to use, how to develop and implement the resources and how to engage the Board of Supervisors in participating and following through with actions.

Maria Escobedo suggested the possibility of forming a Junior COSW committee to participate in the discussions regarding the mentioned area of focus.

Feminine Hygiene Drive

Shirley Summers reported that she had discussions with ECHO Homeless Shelter regarding a second drive. ECHO thought that the first drive was successful and welcomes a second drive.

There was discussion regarding possible distribution locations are in each district. It was suggested that possibly the county library could be a possible drop off location. Commissioners of each district would be asked to monitor and pick up the supplies. Kathy Veder volunteered to help with the organization of the details.

**Women’s Issues Survey Numbers Update**

No Report

**Board of Supervisor’s Agenda Highlights**

Dixie Walker reported: Item 12 on the March 2, 2021 agenda, appointment of Andrea Chmelik to the SLO County Commission on the Status of Women for District 5.

**New Business**

Paulla Ufferheide reported that she was contacted by Cuesta College Board of Trustee’s to participate on a task force that will focus on discrimination. The task force will be looking at the overall practices of the institution and reporting back to the Board of Trustee’s. Paulla appointed Fanny Arenas as the COSW representative to sit on the task force.

**Regular Meeting Adjourned at 6:30 pm**

Respectfully submitted by Deb Geaslen, Secretary

Adopted by the Board of Directors in the meeting of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Presiding Officer\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_