

**COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN**  
Kalana O Maui, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Conference Room  
Tuesday, April 20, 2010  
Minutes

**I. Call to order and establishment of quorum**

Chair Potopowitz called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Present: Chair Barbara Potopowitz, Vice-Chair Margaret Bruck, Debra Cabebe, Suzanne Hobbs, Maria Ornellas

Excused: Lois Prey, Jenilynne Salvador

Staff: Marian Feenstra (Mayor's Executive Assistant)  
Jeff Ueoka (Deputy Corporation Counsel)  
Emme Cabacungan (Administrative Assistant)

**II. Welcome New Members Debra Cabebe and Maria Ornellas**

New members Ms. Cabebe and Ms. Ornellas introduced themselves to the Committee.

**III. Update on Baldwin High School Girls Softball Team Field Issue**

Chair Potopowitz amended the agenda to move Item VIII to become Item III.

Director of Parks and Recreation Tamara Horcajo discussed the Title IX suit between the Baldwin High School Girls Softball team and the State Department of Education and the County of Maui. Director Horcajo explained to the Committee that the County owns a lot of the properties on which public schools are built. The County has a joint use agreement with the State providing that the properties are to be used for educational purposes, which is also why many of the schools are built next to parks. Many schools have been provided the opportunity to use County property for sports purposes. However parks on Maui are well used by the public and other organizations and Maui County does not have a lot of fields or facilities to meet everyone's needs.

Director Horcajo then stated that the County is pleased with the agreement the State and County reached with the plaintiffs. The State will release funds to construct a new field for the BHS Girls' Softball team and the girl's will be playing their games on State fields from now on. The boy's baseball team will be permitted to remain at the current field it is using. The agreement is good for all parties, according to Ms. Horcajo.

Ms. Hobbs then asked why the girls softball team will receive \$1 million to construct a field when there is not enough money in the State eliminate "Furlough Fridays" at the public schools. Mr. Ueoka clarified that the funds used for the softball team are from a separate type of "gender equity" fund, and cannot be used for other purposes. The \$1 million in question had already been budgeted by the legislature and was just sitting on the Governor's desk waiting to be released.

Vice Chair Bruck appreciated the fact that there was such a speedy resolution.

Director Horcajo advised the Committee that the Mayor was really on top of this issue. She called everyone together quickly, identified key counsel to assist, and worked with the school quickly.

Ms. Mayeda questioned whether the issue could have been resolved in a different manner. Mr. Ueoka informed the Committee that the County cannot discuss the content of its negotiations.

Director Horcajo also informed the Committee that there is a bigger issue with scheduling of the sports seasons and that there needs to be more facilities. She stated that the Department of Parks and Recreation is really trying to accommodate everyone. County priorities are youth first, seniors second, adults third, and then the number of participants.

Committee members thanked Director Horcajo for updating them on the status of BHS Softball Girls team field issue.

#### **IV. Public Testimony**

There was no public testimony presented.

#### **V. Approve Minutes from the March 16, 2010 Meeting**

Ms. Hobbs moved to approve the March 16, 2010 meeting minutes. Vice-Chair Bruck seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

#### **VI. Correspondence Received**

- **Letter to Chair Lois Prey from Governor Linda Lingle – Thank You Letter For Being Honored at the Women’s History Month Event**

There was no discussion under this agenda item.

- **Letter to Chair Lois Prey from Karen Fisher – Thank You Letter For Being Honored at the Women’s History Month Event**

There was no discussion under this agenda item.

- **National Association of Commissions for Women Invitation to Attend 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and Business Meeting**

Chair Potopowitz informed the Committee that the National Association of Commissions for Women has a national website and that the Committee will be able to keep apprised of what they are doing. There is supposed to be someone on their advisory counsel that represents this region. The Committee could make contact and stay updated on issues.

**VII. Report from State Commission on the Status of Women Representative Anna Mayeda**

Ms. Mayeda stated that she has not been to a State meeting since February of this year. The next State meeting will be held on June 10, 2010. Ms. Mayeda will be sharing the Women's History Month Booklet with the State Commission during that meeting.

Ms. Mayeda has had some communication with Sharon Ferguson-Quick regarding the lawsuit involving BHS Girls Softball team. Ms. Ferguson-Quick thought that it was well taken care of and she was happy there was a resolution. Ms. Ferguson-Quick also thought that more education on Title IX could be beneficial.

Chair Potopowitz informed the Committee that she had received an email from Ms. Ferguson-Quick regarding reimbursement for Women's History Month. Ms. Ferguson-Quick stated that she would not be able to reimburse the Committee for the Costco purchases. Chair Potopowitz will e-mail Ms. Ferguson-Quick back stating that the receipt from Costco's was to purchase supplies.

Chair Potopowitz thanked Ms. Mayeda for helping to get funding from the State Commission. Ms. Mayeda advised the Committee that she is willing to help with that but the Committee should have plans in place before she can request funding.

**VIII. Discuss Equal Pay Equity Day – April 20, 2010**

Chair Potopowitz handed out an informational flyer with a cookie attached. The cookie which was not whole represents the amount of pay women earn compared to the amount men earn annually. The flyer consisted of statistics within the United States of pay gaps between men and women.

Chair Potopowitz created a Pay Equity Day flyer and inquired if the Committee would like to have that flyer on the Committee's website. Chair Potopowitz also stated that she would like to have links on the website to national organizations for information such as Title IX.

Ms. Cabebe moved to have the flyer on the website. Ms. Hobbs seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Ms. Feenstra stated that she will present the flyer to the Mayor's Public Information Office for approval prior to it being posted on the website.

Chair Potopowitz then handed out a multiple choice questionnaire regarding the Coalition for Equal Pay. The Committee members answered the questions. Chair Potopowitz passed out the answers and went over the answers with the Committee members.

**IX. Discuss Women's History Month 2010**

- **Review of Women's History Month Event**

Chair Potopowitz briefed the new members on the Women's History Month reception in March and the booklets that were produced for the event.

Vice-Chair Bruck inquired if the booklets were sent out to the women that were honored and unable to attend the reception. Ms. Cabacungan advised Vice-Chair Bruck that they were sent out. Vice-Chair Bruck then asked whether family or friends of the honorees that are deceased were given the items. Ms. Cabacungan stated that they were not contacted because there is no contact information for them. Vice-Chair Bruck volunteered to find contact information of family/friends of deceased honorees to send items to.

Chair Potopowitz suggested doing a bookmark next year for Women's History Month that will have key points in history possibly of women in Maui County.

Chair Potopowitz inquired about the nine extra leis from the event. The Committee decided to save the leis for future events.

Vice-Chair Bruck asked whether the Committee could have pictures of the event on the website. Ms. Cabacungan informed the Committee that Ms. Pellegrino is currently working on getting the pictures on the website.

Ms. Ornellas moved to post the pictures of the Women's History Month Event on the Committee on the Status of Women's website. Ms. Cabebe seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

- **Distribution of 2010: Writing Women Back into History Booklet**

Chair Potopowitz asked the Committee if more booklets should be distributed out into the community. She also recommended that the Committee should keep at least 10 booklets for its files.

Vice-Chair Bruck suggested that the Committee use the booklets for next year in terms of offering a curriculum for the schools in Maui County. The Committee could possibly call some honorees to go to the schools and meet with students. Vice-Chair Bruck suggested holding onto the booklets for that purpose.

Chair Potopowitz stated that the Committee will keep the supply of booklets that the Committee has and plan during the next meeting on how the Committee will use the booklets.

## **X. Discuss Women's Health Fair 2010**

Chair Potopowitz advised the Committee Queen Kaahumanu Center has been reserved for September 11, 2010.

Chair Potopowitz stated at the last meeting the Committee discussed the possibility of doing something other than a health fair. The Committee discussed having a health fair this year.

Ms. Mayeda suggested doing different types of workshops or partnering with other agencies and/or organizations during Women's Health Month. The Committee discussed holding workshops dealing with a variety of health issues (e.g., financial, spiritual,

nutritional). Chair Potopowitz suggested that these workshops could be held on September 11, 2010 at the University of Hawaii Maui College.

Chair Potopowitz inquired if there would be a cost to use the University of Hawaii Maui College facilities. Vice-Chair Bruck informed the Committee that there is no cost for the use of the facilities.

The Committee decided not to have a health fair this year. Chair Potopowitz agreed to call Queen Kaahumanu Center and cancel the reservations for September 11, 2010. Chair Potopowitz will also contact Alvin Tagomori at the University of Hawaii Maui College to reserve the student lounge on September 11, 2010.

Chair Potopowitz asked the Committee to think of some ideas for the next meeting of the type of workshops they would like to hold.

#### **XI. Discuss Women's Resource Guide**

Chair Potopowitz assigned Ms. Cabebe and Ms. Ornellas sections of the resource guide to update contact information.

Chair Potopowitz stated that Ms. Salvador has volunteered to put the layout together and finalize it for printing.

- **Sources of Funding**

Chair Potopowitz informed the Committee that the State Commission will be funding the resource guide. There is a deadline to get the invoice for the printing of the resource guide in to the State Commission by the end of May.

Ms. Mayeda reminded the Committee that it will need to have some sort of voter information on the resource guide to receive funding from the State Commission.

- **Action Plan for Distribution**

There was no discussion under this agenda item.

#### **XII. Discuss Committee Involvement in Voter Registration and Education**

Chair Potopowitz advised the Committee that this item is on the agenda because it is a goal of the State Commission. Chair Potopowitz contacted American Association of University Women (AAUW) and League of Women Voters to see if they would like to collaborate with the Committee somehow.

#### **XIII. Discussion on Goals of the Committee**

- **Review Committee Mission Statement**

There was no discussion under this agenda item.

**XIV. Determine next meeting date and agenda**

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 18, 2010 in the Mayor's Conference Room from 12:00-2:00 p.m.

Items to add to the agenda - mission, goals, projects and funding.

**XV. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:32 p.m.