COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
KALANA O MAUI, 9TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2011
MINUTES

I. Call to order and establishment of quorum

Chair Potopowitz called the meeting to order at 12:25 p.m.

Present: Chair Potopowitz, Debra Cabebe, Suzanne Hobbs, and Susan “Netra” Halperin

Ex-Officio: Anna Mayeda

Excused: Maria Ornellas, Dennyse Grace and Carol Reimann

Staff: Mercedes Neri, Mayor’s Executive Assistant
Gary Murai, Deputy Corporation Counsel
Colleen Chang, Administrative Assistant

II. Public Testimony

There was no public testimony.

III. Welcome New Members Susan “Netra” Halperin and Carol Reimann

Chair Potopowitz introduced new member Susan “Netra” Halperin to the committee and staff. Commissioner Halperin gave a brief introduction of herself. The committee and staff also introduced themselves and gave a brief introduction also.

Commissioner Reimann was excused from this meeting and the committee will welcome her at the next meeting.

IV. New Business

* New Members Orientation
* Review of Sunshine Laws

Gary Murai, Corporation Counsel gave an over view of the Code of Ethics and Sunshine Laws. Handouts were also distributed among the Committee members for their information and review.
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He also clarified to the committee in regards to sharing information or talking to members outside of a committee meeting on committee issues. Doing so is in violation of the Sunshine Laws.

It was advised that sending correspondence to the secretary of the committee to distribute to the members would be a more orderly fashion.

V. Approve the Minutes from the April 12, 2011 Meeting

Commissioner Hobbs made a motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Cabebe seconded the motion. Commissioner Halperin abstained. The minutes were approved by the Committee.

VI. Review and Discuss Correspondence Received

* Correspondence received from Joshua Stone, Chair, Maui County Charter Commission dated May 10, 2011, requesting for submittal of proposed Charter Amendments and/or Recommendations.

Chair Potopowitz asked the committee to review the letter received from Joshua Stone, Chair, Maui County Charter Commission and to bring their recommendations to the next committee meeting. Deadline for submission to the Charter Commission is June 30, 2011.

Mr. Murai reiterated to the committee that Commission of the Status of Women is not part of the County Charter but required by State Law. The State Law states that each county form their own committee.

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

Chair Potopowitz informed the committee that Ms. Mayeda’s term ends with the State’s fiscal year end, June 30, 2011. She will remain on the committee until such time.
Ms. Mayeda informed the committee that if they had any concerns at the State level, to let her know since she will be attending their meeting on June 3, 2011 on Oahu. Ms. Mayeda suggested that the committee might want to invite Sharon Ferguson-Quirk to our meeting in July since the new Ex-Officio will be attending her first meeting and at the same time explain the State-wide initiatives to the committee.

Ms. Mayeda informed the committee that Leslie Wilkins will be the next Ex-Officio and will take effect July 1, 2011.

Chair Potopowitz asked Ms. Mayeda, to again, extend the committee’s gratitude to Ms. Ferguson-Quirk for allotting funds to pay for the Women’s Resource Guides and StressLess Cards.

VIII. Report from Women’s History Month 2011 Subcommittee

Chair Potopowitz informed the committee that her Viewpoint on Pay Equity was published in the Maui News.

IX. Discussion Items:

A. Governor’s International Women’s Leadership Conference 2011

Motion made by Commissioner Cabebe to go into Executive Session at 1:25 p.m. and was seconded by Commissioner Halperin.

B. 2011 Women’s Health Week Event

Ms. Audrey Inaba from State Department of Health did not attend the meeting so there was no update regarding the Women’s Health Week event on May 13, 2011.

The committee tried to coordinate a joint effort with the Wednesday Mayor’s Walk on May 11, 2011 but the turnout was poor due to poor communication and media coverage. The committee will try harder next year.
C. Cost of Government Committee Update

Chair Potopowitz will contact the Chairman of the Cost of Government Committee to find out what their intentions are and what their time frame for submission is in regards to charter amendments.

D. Review and Discussion of Committee mission and yearly plan

* State Commission Mandate
* CSW Mission

The Maui CSW Mission will be folded-in with the Cost of Government’s findings and results.

X. Determine Next Meeting Date and Agenda

The next meeting date is Tuesday, June 21, 2011.

XI. Adjournment

Commissioner Halperin made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Hobbs seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.