

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT
COMMISSION FOR WOMEN**

Norma Pipkin, Commission Chair

Cynthia Brown, Commission for Women Liaison



Francis Jack Russell, President
Kenneth R. Dement, Commissioner
Lawrence D. Jarboe, Commissioner
Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr., Commissioner
Daniel H. Raley, Commissioner

**St. Mary's County Commission for Women
Minutes April 19, 2010
*Writing Women Back into History***

The meeting was called to order by Norma at 5:35. Members present were Norma Pipkin, Juanita Nether, Meredith Wilkins-Arnold, Candace Butler, Sue Gough, Pat Friend and Denise Krumenacker. Also present were Lynn Fitrell and Stephanie Figeroux. Krisanne Bentley, Connie Clausen, Gretchen Hardman and Marta Kelsey were unable to attend.

A motion was made to approve the March minutes by Meredith and seconded by Juanita. The minutes were approved as written.

Introductions were made as this was Stephanie Figeroux's first meeting with us.

First order of business was a budget review of the **Women's History Month Banquet** held March 18, 2010, at the Dr. James Forrest Career and Technology Center in Leonardtown (Tech Center).

According to Stephanie, we had 167 individuals register; 131 individuals who paid-in-full (129 guests, plus Cynthia, Stephanie and Jackie); and 118 individuals in attendance at the banquet. Certificates (from the county commissioners and other officials) for the nominees not in attendance have been mailed.

Juanita questioned the amount that was charged by the Tech Center for food. Charge per person was \$9.50 and we were charged a total of \$1,662.50 (175 people @ \$9.50 per person).

Norma was told by the Tech Center that the room held 150 and we couldn't go above this number. If the Tech Center charged us for 167 people, that would amount to \$1,586.50. Norma said she will talk with the chef to see why they charged us what they did.

Juanita recommended several things:

- that we institute a pre-pay only policy for next year's banquet to eliminate paying so much for food for guests who do not show up
- that we refuse to accept payment at the door
- that we have someone on hand from the College of Southern Maryland (CSM) to collect funds for and answer questions about the scholarship

Stephanie said she had begun refusing to take phone reservations the week before the banquet because we had reached our limit of 150. Meredith suggested for next year that, a week or so prior to the banquet, we call those who have reserved a spot but did not prepay. We tell them that they must mail a check in or forfeit their reservation. This may eliminate having people pay at the door.

Stephanie presented the **Budget Summary** for the CFW. From our beginning budget of \$2,000, we had expenditures totaling \$2,024.16. But, she will take the \$91 for flowers for the banquet from the Community Services budget, leaving us with a small surplus.

Line item expenditures:

Supplies & Materials	(flowers for women veterans)	\$ 99.00
Contractual Services	(food for banquet)	\$1,662.50
Membership		\$ 100.00
Recognition		
	(awards at banquet, gift for guest speaker)	\$ 172.00

Total donations collected (from banquet tickets) amounted to \$1,930. For CFW members who have not paid for the banquet, it was suggested that we send a check for \$15 to CSM for the scholarship.

New Business:

Norma shared with the group a packet of information about **Women Build Day** that Marta had mailed to her. Habitat for Humanity is the sponsor for the event which will take place on May 8, 2010. The house is in Lusby, Calvert County. Lowe's will have one more training session on May 1.

We reviewed **applications** for the Commission and relayed our preferences to Stephanie to give to the commissioners. Sue Gough's term will expire June 2010.

Stephanie told us that a check for \$1,500 for the **Jane Hale Sypher Scholarship** will be sent to the College of Southern Maryland (CSM). The funds come from a revolving account in Community Services that pays for various community activities. Two of the office's activities, the SOSAR camps and the Freedom Fest, are no longer held, leaving some surplus funds this year, which will go the scholarship. Stephanie also has two checks from the banquet for the scholarship (one for \$10, one for \$25) to forward to CSM.

Norma has been invited by the **Rotary Club Lexington Park** meeting to talk about the scholarship. She reported that the original invitation date has been changed to May 21, 2010.

Norma reported that she will be unable to attend the next meeting of the **Family Violence Coordinating Council** on April 28, 2010 at 5 p.m. At this meeting, Kathy Beck from the Pax Naval Base will talk about military families and domestic violence. No one from the CFW is able to attend this meeting.

Sue and Pat reported that the **Oral History Project** is still in the works. The contact person for media services at the Tech Center has been slow to return e-mails and mailed Pat a packet that showed charges for various services. Pat needs clarification on the costs associated with recording the oral histories and will make an appointment to meet with him.

Discussion was held about setting a date for the annual **Planning Retreat** and a date of July 10 was agreed upon. Meredith and Norma will work together to plan an agenda. Juanita will head the **Nominating Committee**.

Stephanie told the group about the county's **Child Welfare Day** on May 7 from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the Tech Center. The theme is "Meeting the needs of children affected by domestic violence." The event is free, but you must call Stephanie to register.

Miscellaneous: Minutes through January 2010 have been posted on the website. Sarah Cannavo has updated our roster with our two newest members.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Krumenacker